



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

**Summer
Term
Friday 29th
April
2022**

Giles Junior School News

I always tend to look through my diary to reflect on the things which have happened since the last Newsletter and despite the fact that it has been a mere 8 days since we returned from the Easter Holidays we have packed so much fun and learning in during that time. Some of the learning has been captured and can be found on the last page of this newsletter, our website or on our Twitter feed @GilesJunior.

A massive highlight was the Lighthouse Team Fundraiser where, not only did we raise money, the children really enjoyed themselves. A quote from one pupil was "I love being able to spend the whole day in the fresh air!" Thanks to Miss Robinson and her fabulous team, supported by Kennedy S in Year 6 it was amazing!

On another football related thought, Mr Stephenson has been trialling the opportunity for "free football play" twice a week at lunch for year 3/4 and year 5/6. This is the opportunity to find a space on the field to play with friends in a non competitive way and just enjoy a kick about. It can be challenging to organise and enjoy a game without the aid of an adult but Mr Stephenson, Mr Haley and Mr Bunyan have all commented what an enjoyable session this has been for the children. So far the only downside is that are jumpers being left on the field where they have used them as goal posts! This links to the plea for any parents with lost items to come and look in lost property, as again we have piles of new clothes which are unnamed.

As the information on the right relays we are looking forward to - FINALLY-being able to invite parents into their child's classroom to view the learning which can be seen in their books. Please rest assured if your child does not have an adult who is available to attend, there will be staff on hand to help them reflect on their progress and celebrate the learning journey evident in their books. Wishing you all a happy Bank Holiday!

Best wishes, Miss Whitby (Headteacher)

Open Afternoon

Thursday 5th May 2022

On Thursday 5th May, after over two years, we are going to be opening the doors to parents and carers again, inviting you in to have a look around your child's classroom and see the amazing work in their books. Your child's books will be out on their desks for you to look through.

The school will be open **from 2.00pm** and parents / carers should use the gates which are by the Year 3 classrooms where we will ask you to 'sign in' at the entrance of your child's class. You are free to stay for as long as you choose and if easier you will be able to take your child home when you have finished viewing their books. Families with multiple children in different classes will be able to visit classes in whichever order they prefer.

Given the nature of these afternoons, your child's class teacher will not be able to speak specifically about progress etc. of your child at this time as this opportunity has been given during recent consultation evenings. That being said, the teachers will be available to talk generally about the work in the class and general class life.

School CLOSED Monday 2nd May

Please be reminded that school is closed on Monday as it is a Bank Holiday.

Swimming - Year 5

On Wednesday this week, Year 5 started swimming lessons which will continue throughout the whole of the Summer term. Payment for these lessons is to be made through the School Gateway : 2nd May 2022 - Instalment 1 - £17.00, 6th June 2022 - Instalment 2 - £17.00 & 1st July 2022 - Instalment 3 - £17.00

Thank you for all the payments we have received already.

Extra Curricular Clubs for the Summer Term

All of the extra curricular clubs have started this week for the Summer term. It is still possible to sign up for one of the external clubs, so if you are interested please click on the links below :

Rock Steady : <https://www.rocksteadymusicschool.com/watch-video/>



Stevenage FC Year 3&4 :

[Book Giles Junior School \(Year 3&4 Football\) April -July 2022 from Stevenage FC \(officialsoccerschools.co.uk\)](#)



Stevenage Fc Year 5&6 :

[Book Giles Junior School \(Year 5&6 Football\) April -July 2022 from Stevenage FC \(officialsoccerschools.co.uk\)](#)



Lost Property

We do have some very full looking boxes of lost property in school, split into different year groups. If your child/children has lost any items please speak to your class TA and the boxes can be checked. Or pop by after school and parents will be able to check through for any lost items.

THANK YOU

We have been overwhelmed with generous donations of books from some of the families in our school. We would like to say a huge thank you for the donations as it helps build up our class reading libraries with quality books for the children.



Breakfast Club and Smiles@Giles After School Club

All bookings are processed through the School Gateway for our Breakfast and Smiles@Giles After School Club. For further information about these please have a look on the school website under the "Our School" tab then click on Breakfast Club or After School Club.

Lighthouse Fundraiser for Cancer Research

On Thursday 21st April Years 3 and 4 took part in our football fundraiser and on Friday 22nd April it was Year 5 and 6's turn. Below we have feedback from a member of the Lighthouse Team and Miss Robinson about the days :

"Hello! Last week, we had a football tournament to raise money for Cancer Research. All the year groups took part. Everyone had fun at the football tournament and synergised well. We hope to raise money again at the end of summer term when we do our annual Fun Run."

Bailey Carter - 2nd in command of the Lighthouse team

To say I was blown away by the sheer determination, sportsperson-ship and talent of our students, last week, would be an understatement. Everyone synergised to make the Football Fundraiser an inclusive, enjoyable, and successful event. **In total, so far, we have raised £941.00**, which will all be going towards Cancer Research. We are very happy to be able to give back to such a good cause. An important part of being a Lighthouse school means that we raise money for charities and help in the local community. The two days were filled with laughter, dancing, cheering, teamwork, and a togetherness that was much needed after recent events.

In addition to the all the amazing events of the two days, Friday finished with everyone using habit 6 (synergise) to walk the field, side by side, to search the grass until a missing bracelet was found. It was a heart-warming moment that filled the emotional bank accounts of us all and dried the tears of the child who had misplaced it.

Miss Robinson - Lighthouse Leader

Diary Dates - Summer Term 2022

Date	Event
Monday 2nd May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Wednesday 4th May	Tag Rugby Internal Fixture
Thursday 5th May	Open Afternoon from 2pm
Thursday 5th May	Tag Rugby Internal Fixture
Monday 9th - Thursday 12th May	SATS for Year 6 (Mornings only)
Monday 9th May	Football Match against Mossbury @ Giles
Friday 13th May	Outdoor Disco & Pizza for Year 6
Thursday 19th May	Year 5 Knex Challenge in school
Tuesday 24th May	Class Photo Day
Thursday 26th May	Year 5 RAF Museum Trip
Thursday 26th May	Parent Coffee Morning
Friday 27th May	Queens Jubilee Picnic Lunch
30th May - 3rd June	Half Term - School Closed
Monday 6th June	Inset Day - School Closed
Thursday 23rd June	Year 4 Trip to Paradise Wildlife Park
Monday 11th July	Sports Day - times TBC
Thursday 14th July	Transition Day (Y6 to spend the day in new secondary school & younger years to spend time in their new class)
Monday 18th July	Year 6 end of term trips
Tuesday 19th July	Year 6 end of term trips
Wednesday 20th - Thursday 21st July	Year 6 Big School Camp Out Experience
Friday 22nd July	Last Day of term - early finish 2pm

Reminders for the New Term

Big School Camp for Year 6 - The payment deadline was the 31st March 2022, if you have been unable to make payment please contact the school ASAP (if you haven't already).

Parent Post Box - Please can we encourage parents to use our post box in Reception. Any reply slips or forms coming into school can just be posted, as it is emptied daily.

Application for leave of absence - Any time off requested during term time will not be authorised, unless it is for exceptional circumstances. If you need to request time off, please complete a leave of absence form and hand into the school office (these can be found in the reception area).

Medical Appointments - We require proof for all medical appointments that are within the school day (copy of the appointment letter or please show the office the confirmation text message). Please can appointments be made after school time, wherever possible.

Looking at learning ...

We stepped back in time to become Stoneage people for a day. We did a hunter gatherer activity and made a delicious Stoneage menu. Then we created cave paintings in our own caves.



A peek into ... Year 3



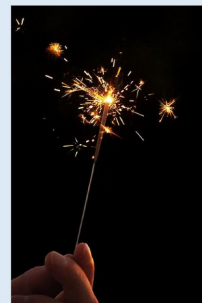
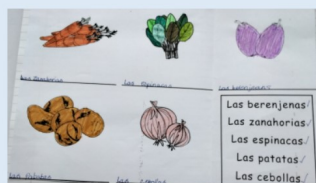
We also practised grating, peeling, chopping and cooking skills in D&T while making Chinese style noodles.



A peek into ... Year 4

Our new class reader is The Fireworkmaker's Daughter.

We are learning the names of vegetables in Spanish lessons.



We used sparklers to help us see, smell and hear the fireworks linked to our writing unit.



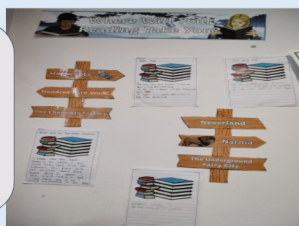
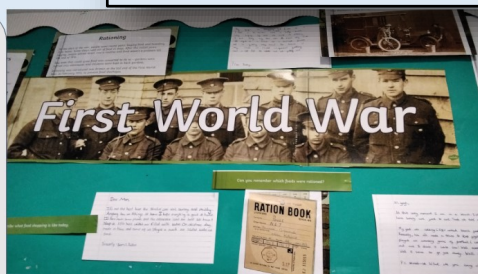
A peek into ... Year 5

We are learning about World War 1 in History and thought about the conditions the soldiers would have experienced. We wrote letters home from the soldiers perspective.



Our class reader is Beetle Boy!

We are encouraged to write book reviews in 5 France and display them in our book corner to help other select a book.



A peek into ... Year 6

We learnt how to take care of our mental health in PSHE



Our class reader is Kensuke's Kingdom.

We have been classifying living things in our new Science unit - Animals and their habitats.

