



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

“Achieving excellence through Leadership”

**Autumn
Term
Thursday 8th
December
2022**

Giles Junior School News

Mr Gray is working his way through his variety of Christmas Jumpers and we will be amused to see the creations when the children come in on Thursday “Christmas Jumper Day” (which will be in full festive swing by the time you are reading this).

We have enjoyed seeing lots of parents for various events and still have more to come! Please do take the time to give feedback to the school via our Parent Survey which can be accessed by clicking this [LINK](#) we have had 38 responses so far and would like a few more views before the survey is closed by Monday 12th December 2022. We will collate and share the results of this.

The Choir went (with Miss Robinson today) to sing to Martins House Care Home, to spread some Christmas Cheer. The children were really excited to fill up some other people’s emotional bank accounts by taking their time to bring joy to others in the local community.

Year 3 are rehearsing for their Carol Concert and at this point it is a wonder any of them have any voices left! I am sure that parents can testify that their vocals will be in full swing ready for the concerts next week.

Thank you to all the kind comments from families about the Year 4 Christmas performance. Mrs F. Jones was thrilled that a younger sibling who came along to watch had asked for “more” when it ended. What an accolade. Thanks for making the time to come along, the children always enjoy having an audience.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend and hoping everyone wraps up warm!

Miss Whitby (Headteacher)

Christmas Fair



Our Christmas Fair on Thursday 1st December started Giles Christmas celebrations. Every class made various items to sell and the choir were getting us all in the Christmas spirit performing some carols.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the whole school community, from the Lighthouse team. The turnout for the Christmas Fayre was wonderful. It was great to come together to marvel at and purchase all the festive treats the children had made. Due to your generosity, we were able to raise £600 for two great causes!

We are already thinking about how we can make next year's fayre even bigger and better! The Lighthouse team and I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas.

Miss Robinson & The Lighthouse Team



Punctuality



Lateness will be monitored very closely over the coming months, so please aim to be in school on time every day.

Lateness to lessons disrupts teaching and hinders learning. Students must be within the school grounds no later than 9:00am and in their first lesson ready to learn by 9:00am. Aiming to arrive at 8:50am means that any complications that delay students in the morning can be dealt with and still leave students enough time to arrive promptly.

Diary Dates - Autumn Term

Date	Time	Event
Mon 12th December	9.15-10.00am	Year 4 Merit Assembly (For invited parents only)
Mon 12th December	2.30pm	Year 3 Wales Carol Concert
Tue 13th December	2.30pm	Year 3 Italy Carol Concert
Wed 14th December	10.00am	Last swimming lesson for Year 6
Wed 14th December	9.15-10.00am	Year 3 Merit Assembly (For invited parents only)
Thur 15th December	9.15-10.00am	Year 5 Merit Assembly (For invited parents only)
Thur 15th December	2.30pm	Year 3 Sweden Carol Concert
Fri 16th December	9.15-10.00am	Year 6 Merit Assembly (For invited parents only)
Tue 20th December	2.00pm finish	Last Day of Term
Mon 2nd Jan	All Day	Year 6 - 7th PGL Instalment Due
Thur 5th Jan		First Day of Term - All children back to school

Spring Term 2023 Clubs

All Giles managed clubs have now been booked up for Spring Term 2023 and these will be starting the week beginning 16th January. You will receive a confirmation email in the new year confirming your place.

Training sessions have already been arranged for Tag Rugby, Football and Netball which are also running next term. These are for selected children only. If your child has been chosen for these selected clubs, you would have already received a paper copy and email letter about these sessions inviting you to join.

For more information about booking onto any of the outside clubs (Stevenage FC, Rock Steady and Art Club) please click the link to our website:

<http://gilesjm.herts.sch.uk/about-us/clubs/>

Anti Bullying Workshops

At the end of November the whole school took part in an anti-bullying workshop, which were run by One Day Creative.



The children became Anti-bullying champions by understanding that bullying is something that happens several times on purpose.

Through games and drama the children learned about empathy, the different types of bullying (online/cyber, verbal and physical) and what to do if they are experiencing bullying. The children were taught the messages 'Stay strong, walk away' and 'reach out' to tell an adult. Together we talked about how we can support our friends by appreciating our differences and by being kind.

Christmas Lunch **Wednesday 14th December**



Christmas lunch for pupils this year will be on Wednesday 14th December. To order a Christmas lunch children will just need to order lunch as normal on the day. Payment is to be made through the School Gateway and the cost of a meal is £2.78.

Year 4 Christmas Performances

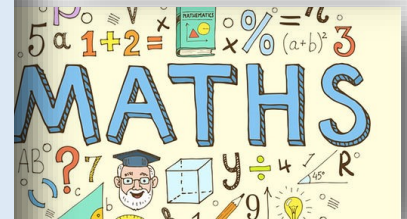
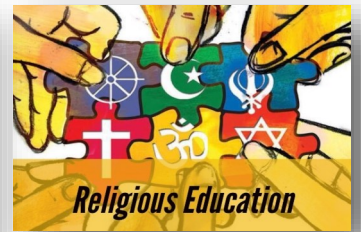


We are so impressed with how hard the Year 4 children have practised to learn all their lines, songs and dances for their Christmas performances. The two performances this week were extremely enjoyable and we learnt a lot about how Christmas is celebrated around the world.

In D&T, we practised chopping and grating skills while making a vegetarian noodles dish.

A peek into ... Year 3

In D&T, we used levers to create a reindeer with moving antlers on Elf Day.



A peek into ... Year 4



During D&T, we used a lever to create a waving Santa card on Elf Day.



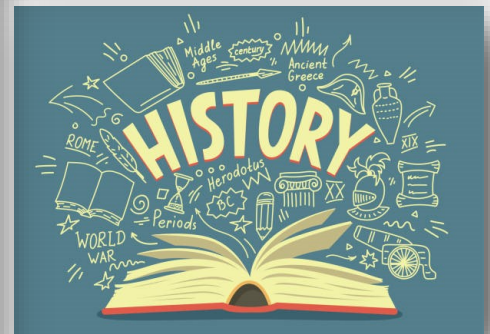
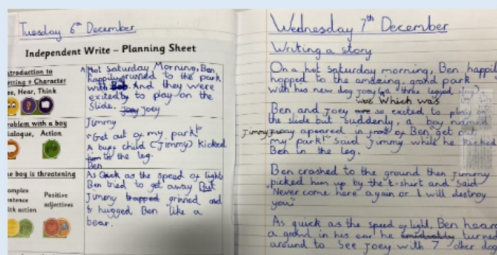
We worked hard in class to create items ready for our Christmas Fayre last week.



A peek into ... Year 5

During D&T, we used a lever to create a waving Santa card on Elf Day.

Year 5 have also finished their writing unit and are producing their story inspired by the short video - The Present.



A peek into ...

Year 6

In D&T, we used levers to create a Christmas card showing Santa flying over the night sky.

