



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

“Achieving excellence through Leadership”

**Autumn
Term
Friday 9th
October
2020**

Giles Junior School News

October is here and the jumpers are out of the closet! Please see the note below about the children arriving in warm PE kits now the weather is cooler. In addition to this, some children are arriving at school without a coat. In England we always have to Begin with the End in Mind as it usually rains at some point even if the day begins without a cloud in the sky!

I know the children are excited to have the options of hot lunches from next week. Please see a slight change to the information about the long term menu which is included on the final page of the newsletter.

It was wonderful to wave year 5 off on their trip this week. As I type, the other half is still to make the visit. I have been informed by Mr Bailey that behavior was impeccable and that all the children learnt lots and enjoyed the day out.

Thank you to the families who have adjusted their timings to make sure children are not on site before 8:40, this has really helped avoid the periods of groups waiting outside.

I have been out on the gate making sure that only agreed vehicles come onto site. Please make sure this is the case when I am unable to monitor this. It really helps keep the children safe on site. We have had parents coming into the car park when there can not be an adult to supervise and this is really disappointing. There are places to park a very short walk away, ask for more information if you are unsure of these locations.

Miss Whitby
Headteacher

Year 5 West Stow Trip

Year 5 had an excellent time at West Stow's Anglo-Saxon village.

We saw lots of different Anglo-Saxon houses and learned how they were built. It was really interesting to see people living in them and making tools. They didn't have chimneys so when we went in the house with a fire it was very smoky! It was also really dark so at night it must have been hard for the Anglo Saxons to see.

The exhibits in the museum were fascinating - I especially liked their combs which were made out of bone and antler. It showed they also really cared about their appearance.

By Millie and Joseph in Year 5



Winter PE Kit

As the weather is now turning colder, please can all children have something warm to wear outside for PE. A pair of plain black joggers or leggings along with a school fleece or jumper would be fine. Then the usual PE t-shirt and appropriate footwear.

Alternatively, if your child has skins sportswear then they can wear this under their PE kit to keep warm.

Early finish at half term

To be consistent with the Infant School, where we know many siblings attend, we will be finishing on Friday 23rd October an hour earlier. This will mean Year 3 and 4 finishing at 1:50 and year 5 and 6 finishing at 2:00pm. Pick up arrangements will be as usual.



Autumn Diary Dates for Parents/Carers

(These dates could be subject to change)

Any dates that are highlighted in yellow are new items

DESCRIPTION	DATE	TIME
Deadline for return of flu immunisation consent forms to class TA (every child needs a form returned stating if it is a yes or no)	Mon 12th October	All Day
School photographer in to take individual shots of children	Fri 16th October	All Day
Early finish for the end of the half term	Fri 23rd October	Yr 3&4 : 1.50pm Yr 5&6 : 2.00pm
Half Term - SCHOOL CLOSED	26th October - 30th October	
Deadline to apply for a secondary school place (Year 6 students)	Sat 31st October	All Day
Flu Immunisation day (For the whole school)	Thur 5th November	All Day
Year 6 - Health Questionnaire (School nurse in school to assist Year 6 children with this)	Wed 2nd December	All Day
Occasional day - SCHOOL CLOSED	Fri 4th December	
Last day of term - Early finish	Fri 18th December	Time TBC
Christmas Holiday - SCHOOL CLOSED	21st December - 3rd January	
Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED	Mon 4th January	
First day of the Spring Term - All children to return to school	Tue 5th January	8.40am - 9.00am doors open

Secondary School Information (For Year 6)

This year Stevenage secondary schools will not be holding open evening events as planned, due to coronavirus. A lot of the secondary schools have decided that they will be offering virtual school tours only. Please check the individual school websites for further details.

Important dates – secondary school admissions

1 September 2020 : Online system opens for you to apply online.

Find individual school details in the [schools directory](#).

31 October 2020 : Deadline to apply for a school place.

1 March 2021 : National allocation day

You will be emailed (from HCC) the school you've been allocated, if you applied online and confirmed your email address.

The online allocation system will be updated with allocations and be made available only after allocation emails have been sent.

Notification letters will be posted first class only to parents or carers who applied on paper.

For further information please click on the link for Hertfordshire County Council website and click on school admissions : www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Hot School Meals are back!

Hopefully you would have seen the email that went out this week about hot lunches. We are delighted to say that we are able to start serving hot lunches again from Monday 12th October. Lunches will continue to be served in the classroom, which will be delivered to them by the lunchtime staff in a "hot box".

The menu which is below will only feature for two weeks. Hertfordshire Catering will then change the menu slightly after half term. We will put this on the website and email out to parents once this has been confirmed.

The price of a meal is £2.70 per day and may be paid using the school gateway. This can be paid for weekly, in advance, or daily if preferred. We do not accept cash payments.

Week 1 - 12 th October				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Sausages and Potato wedges	Salmon Fish fingers with diced potatoes	Roast pork with roast potatoes	Quorn hot dog and potato wedges	Cheese & tomato pizza with chips
Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans	Jacket potato with cheese
Cheese roll	Chicken baguette	Tuna roll	Ham baguette	Cheese roll
Week 2 - 19 th October,				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Cheese pinwheel with diced potatoes	Burger in a bun with potato wedges	Roast chicken with roast potatoes	Quorn patties with potato wedges	Cheese & tomato pizza with chips
Jacket potato with beans	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans	Jacket potato with cheese	Jacket potato with beans
Ham Roll	Cheese baguette	Tuna roll	Chicken baguette	Tuna roll

- Hot meals will come with carrots and sweetcorn.
- The pudding will be "pudding of the day" and will be the same for all lunches selected.

Parent Reminders

Gates shut at 9am : drop off time for your child is anytime between 8.40am-9am, classroom doors are open for this 20 minute period allowing your child to come straight into class. All gates will be closed promptly from 9am. If you are late you will need to report into the school office.

Absence Procedure : If your child is absent from school, please **contact the office** by 9:30am to inform us. For safeguarding reasons, we will need you to call on each day of absence. (This does not apply if you are isolating due to COVID symptoms).

School Website : Please keep an eye on the school website which includes a copy of all letters that go out, the latest information, curriculum details and lots more!

#HelloYellow
YOUNGMINDS

Thank you to all the children that wore yellow today to raise awareness and support "Young Minds". Looking after our wellbeing has never been more important! By getting involved this year, you have helped raise vital funds for YoungMinds so they can help even more young people and their families at a time when its most needed. If you would like to make a donation please click on the link below:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/head-whitby1?newPage=True>

Thank you for your support!

GILES JUNIOR SCHOOL



Vacancy: 2 x Midday Supervisory Assistants Required

- **Hours:** 12.00pm – 1.30pm, Monday – Friday, term time only
- **Deadline for application:** Midday Friday 16th October 2020
- **Start date:** Monday 2nd November 2020
- **Salary:** HB.1 (£9.25 per hour)

If you are interested or know anyone that would be interested, please collect an application pack from the school office asap!