



Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

**Spring
Term
Friday 11th
February
2022**

Giles Junior School News

A warm "Hello" to families reading this newsletter.

I would like to start with thanks for your cooperation in keeping siblings at home and continuing to covid test your children. This has made a considerable difference in reducing numbers of children testing positive and having to be at home. We are hoping everyone can have a relaxing half term and there is no need for families to isolate during this time!

The Spring Term always flies by and this one is no exception. With trips, themed weeks and lots of exciting learning happening across the school, it has been a busy and productive few weeks.

Information will be coming out after half term about the booking procedure for video parent's evening appointments on 14th & 16th March. We know families have expressed that they prefer face to face meetings and we hope to return to these or give a hybrid option. Those families who have received Seesaw logins will see some school work appearing on your child's page. We are currently trialling the use of Seesaw in school to provide audio feedback to children about their writing so you may wish to get logged in if you haven't already. This will give parents an additional opportunity to view their child's learning which is being completed in school.

I have been alerted that February 22nd is "World Thinking Day". World Thinking Day is a celebration of ten million girl guides worldwide, that has taken place on 22 February since 1926. It remains a day for all Guides and Girl Scouts to think of each other and celebrate their sisters all around the world. We would therefore like to invite any members of the Girl Guides or Girl Scouts to come dressed in their uniform on this day. This will be a lovely opportunity to find out how many girls we have participating outside of school. The uniform has certainly come a long way from the brown dress and bobble hat I used to wear when I was a Brownie!

Happy half term

Miss Whitby



World Book Day Thursday 3rd March Reading Bingo Fundraiser

This year World Book Day will be celebrated on 3rd March 2022. We will be encouraging the children to dress up in costumes representing their favourite character, author or book. If they would rather, children can also choose to come to school in comfortable clothes to join in the fun. We are holding a sponsored Reading Bingo fundraiser on this day too, as we would like to add some exciting, new books to our class libraries.

Please can all sponsorship money be paid into the payments section of the school gateway, by Friday 11th March 2022, under : "World Book Day 2022 Sponsorship Money".

We are all very much looking forward to the Reading Bingo and all the other fun activities that will be taking place on this day. Thank you for your continued support.



Twitter

Please do join us on Twitter @gilesjunior where we hope to share all the wonderful things that are happening at Giles Junior School, giving parents an insight to life in school.

Diary Dates

Date	Event	Time
14th-18th February	Half Term - School Closed	
Tuesday 22nd February	World Thinking Day (Girl Guides or Girl Scouts to come to school dressed in their uniform)	All day
Tuesday 1st March	Year 6 Secondary School Allocation Day - Secondary school allocations emailed to parents direct from Hertfordshire CC	All day
Thursday 3rd March	World Book Day - Reading Bingo Fundraiser	All day
Friday 4th March	A-Life Healthy Workshops for Year 3 & 4 (In school)	All day
14th-18th March	Science Week	
Monday 14th March	Parent Consultations - video appointments	4.30-6.30pm
Tuesday 15th March	School nurse in school for Year 6 Heights & Weight	am
Tuesday 15th March	Year 4 Sonic Science Workshop	am
Wednesday 16th March	Parent Consultations - video appointments	3.30-5.30pm
Thursday 17th March	Year 6 Stem Discovery Local Trip	All day
Thursday 24th March	Year 5 Stem Discovery Local Trip	All day
Thursday 24th March	Year 6 Drug & Alcohol Awareness Workshop	All day
Monday 28th March	Year 4 Merits awarded in class	
Monday 28th March	Rock Steady Concert (Details TBC)	2.00pm
Tuesday 29th March	Year 6 Merits awarded in class	
Wednesday 30th March	Year 3 Merits awarded in class	
Thursday 31st March	Year 5 Merits awarded in class	
28th March - 1st April 2022	There will be no after school extra curricular clubs running in the last week of term	
Friday 1st April	Last Day of Term	2pm early finish
4th-18th April	Easter Holidays - School Closed	
Tuesday 19th April	Inset Day - School Closed	
Wednesday 20th April	First day of Summer Term for all pupils	



Mental Health Week / Feeling Good Week Report

This week has been Children's Mental Health Week and Feeling Good week.

The children have participated in Boxercise lessons during PE, which was thoroughly enjoyed. The feedback from the children was consistent..... "It was so much fun." "Amazing!" "Exciting!" "Can't wait to do it again!"

Boxercise is an inclusive sport that builds friendship and trust. Mr Stephenson was impressed with the children's drive and enthusiasm.

Other workshops included talks on healthy lifestyles followed by activities, the favourite being food tasting. The children were adventurous in trying new foods and finding foods that they hadn't tried before and they liked.

Year 6 participated in a Body Positive workshop and the impact that Social Media can have. The children fully engaged in the activities and discussions. The feedback from many of the children was "I'd like to learn more." "That was good." "I've learnt so much."

More photos that captured the week will be added to Twitter.

Website Information / Reminders

Please keep an eye on our website for updated information, you may find the following pages particularly useful :

News & Events Tab

Diary Dates - This page is updated every two weeks when the newsletter goes out. It gives you a list of events happening in school and any important dates that are coming up.

Communication - At the bottom of this page, copies of letters that are sent out are all uploaded here, so if you think you have missed anything please check it out.

Term Dates - Listed here are the current term dates, as soon as we have the date confirmed for returning to school in September 2022, it will be added here and we shall let you know.

Calendar - All the diary dates and term dates are added into our school calendar, if this is your preferred way of looking up the information then just have a click through.

Please click on the link below to take you straight to our website :

<https://www.gilesjm.herts.sch.uk/news-and-events/>



Gentle Reminder about Payments

We have a lot of trips and workshops happening at the moment so please see below a list of payment deadlines. All payments are done through the School Gateway as we are a cashless school.

Thank you to those that have made payments already. If you have any questions or concerns about payment please contact the school office as soon as possible or email us on :
admin@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk

For full information please refer to the payment section on your School Gateway app.

Event	Payment Deadline	Amount
Year 6 Swimming - Spring Term 1	11th February 2022	£20.60
Year 4 Sonic Science Workshop	11th March 2022	£2.45
Year 6 STEM Discovery Centre Trip	8th March 2022	£10.40
World Book Day - Reading Bingo Fundraiser	11th March	Donations of any amount possible
Year 5 STEM Discovery Centre Trip	15th March 2022	£10.40
Year 6 - Big School Camp	31st December 2021	£16.50
	31st January 2022	£16.50
	28th February 2022	£16.50
	31st March 2022	£16.50
	If you have missed an instalment deadline that is fine! Please ensure the full amount is paid by 31st March 2022	

Year 3 Trip to Tring Museum

On Friday 28th January Year 3 visited Tring Natural History Museum, as part of their Science curriculum. They all took part in a workshop about skeletons, using their scientific knowledge to guess which animal they thought each skeleton belonged to. They also enjoyed looking around the different galleries in the museum. Everybody represented Giles brilliantly throughout the day and we are very proud of them!

