

Newsletter

Giles Junior School

"Achieving excellence through Leadership"

Spring Term Friday 18th March 2022

Giles Junior School News

I am looking out of my window at the sunshine and feeling a little bit of spring in the air. It certainly seems to have given the children a spring in their step! The start of this week began with a bang (literally) as Mad Science introduced Science Week by starting with a fun assembly.

This newsletter won't do the whole week justice as there has been so much going on. The children have been on their best behaviour and have really enjoyed the opportunity to immerse themselves in one subject for a whole week.

A big THANK YOU to all our wonderful families who have supported us so much by adhering to the uniform policy. It has made a noticeable difference to the school as a whole and certainly I can see a sense of pride among the pupils when they are learning in class. As the weather gets warmer we will welcome summer dresses and shorts to suit the warmer (hopefully) weather. A reminder that we do not allow open toed sandals for school wear to protect little feet from busy playgrounds.

I know Miss Robinson is busy planning future fundraising events, supported ably by The Lighthouse Team. We will be fundraising for an adventure trail and will soon be installing a target board in the lobby to track how far away we are from our target total of £12,000. When we collected pupils views about making Giles Junior School even better, this was a popular feature among what the children felt would make their break and lunch times more fun!

I hear that the sun is going to keep shining for the weekend; so I wish you all lots of outdoors fun!

Miss Whitby

Last Day of Term - Traditional Games Day

Friday 1st April is the last day of term and we will be holding a traditional games day again. The children are invited to bring in a board game, puzzle book or card game they would like to play together with their friends. We will not be allowing electronic devices on this day.

Please be reminded that school finishes early at 2pm on the last day of term.

All children are to return to school on Wednesday 20th April as the Monday 18th is a Bank Holiday and the Tuesday 19th is an Inset Day.

Year 6 Trip to The STEM Discovery Centre

Yesterday, Year 6 had an amazing time at the Stem Discovery Centre. We created our very own slime, looked at prototypes of the Mars Discovery Rover, identified constellations (Orion was a favourite!) and explored their exhibitions.

In one of the exhibits, there was a plasma ball! If you stood on a stool and touched someone, you could zap them with an electrical shot! Many children tried to zap their teachers and a few of them actually succeeded!

We can't wait to go back!



We hope that Year 5 enjoy their trip to The STEM Discovery Centre next week, as much as we did!

Diary Dates

(Events in yellow are new events that have been added since the last newsletter)

Date	Event	Time	
Monday 21st March	Lost of Socks Day to celebrate World Down Syndrome Day	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 (performance to be recorded for parents)	2.00pm	
Tuesday 29th March	Year 6 Merits awarded in class		
Wednesday 30th March	Year 3 Merits awarded in class		
Wednesday 30th March	Year 4 Sonic Science Workshop	am	
Thursday 31st March	Year 5 Merits awarded in class		
28th March - 1st April 2022	There will be no after school extra curricular clubs running i term - Year 6 Tutoring will still go ahead.	n the last week of	
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		



Lots of Socks

<u>Celebrating</u> <u>World Down Syndrome Day</u>

On Monday 21st March we will be looking to raise awareness and celebrate World Down Syndrome Day.



All you need to do is choose some socks that are going to get noticed - they might be mismatched socks or your craziest and most colourful socks, whatever takes your fancy!

The idea was created because chromosomes are shaped "like socks" and people with Down Syndrome have an extra chromosome.

Sports Report

We have had quite a few sporting fixtures over the past few weeks. Giles Boys' teams have had a difficult few games with the opposition just having the edge on us. The boys tried their hardest and never gave up. We look forward to the next game and go again.

Our Girls' team have gone from strength to strength, winning games against Round Diamond, St. Nicks, Woolenwick and Ashtree over the last few weeks.

Overall, Giles have been fortunate to have played so many games this year as some schools have found it difficult to get games on. Credit to the staff and children for their efforts.



New school Lunch Menu and Price Increase for after the Easter Holidays

When we return to school after the Easter holidays, we will be starting a new summer lunch menu. There is also a copy of this on our website under the parents tab, then click on school meals.

Please note, the only change will be in week 3 on a Friday - the red choice will be crispy coated salmon and not the salmon and sweet potato fishcake as stated in the poster.

This menu will be running from 20th April through to the end of October 2022. The cost of a school meal has been increased by HCL from £2.70 up to £2.78.



Extra Curricular Clubs for the Summer Term

We are pleased to let you know that extra-curricular clubs will be available again after the Easter holidays. A letter will be going out next week with a brief description about each club and the booking procedure.

Please see the Summer Term club timetable or please refer to the clubs page on our website. There has been a couple of changes from the Spring Term.

We would ask families to be mindful that if they are booking children for several clubs we may ask you to relinquish your place to enable as many pupils as possible to take part in these sessions.

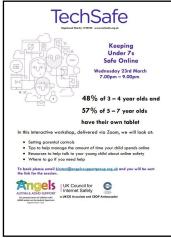
DAY	CLUB	TIME	YEAR GROUPS	COST	TEACHER	DATES	LOCATION	BOOKING PROCEDURE
Mon	Rock Steady	During school day (in the afternoon)	All Years	£34,85 per month	Sam Gifford - Band Leader	25 th April - 11 th July (9 sessions)	Hall	Book direct through Rock Steady (see details in letter)
Mon	Stevenage Football Club Yr3&4	3.10pm - 4.10pm	Years 3&4	£4 per session (£36 for the term)	Football coach from Stevenage FC	25 th April - 11 th July (9 sessions)	Astro (Hall if bad weather)	Direct through Stevenage FC (see details in letter)
Mon	Netball Training Session (selected children)	3.10pm - 4.10pm	All Years	Free	Mr Stephenson	25 th April - 11 th July (9 sessions)	Playground	Selected children will receive a letter inviting them to take part in these sessions. (No booking through School Gateway)
Mon	Rugby Training Session (selected children)	3,10pm - 4,10pm	All Years	Free	Mr Glennon	25 th April - 11 th July (9 sessions)	Field	Selected children will receive a letter inviting them to take part in these sessions (No booking through School Gateway)
Tue	Tag Rugby	3,10pm - 4,10pm	All Years	Free	Mr Glennon	26 th April - 12 th July (11 sessions)	Playground / Field	School Gateway
Tue	Netball	3,10pm - 4,10pm	All Years	Free	Mr Stephenson	26th April - 12th July (11 sessions)	Playground	School Gateway
Wed	Girls Football Club	3,10pm - 4,10pm	Years 3&4	Free	Mr Bunyan & Mr Haley	27 th April - 13 th July (11 sessions)	Astro	School Gateway
Wed	Cheerleading	3,10pm - 4,10pm	All Years	Free	Miss B Sewell	27th April - 13th July (11 sessions)	Hall	School Gateway
Thur	Basketball	3.10pm - 4.10pm	All Years	Free	Mr Stephenson	28 th April - 14 th July (11 sessions)	Playground	School Gateway
Fri	Stevenage Football Club Yr546	3.10pm - 4.10pm	Years 5&6	£4 per session (£44 for the term)	Football coach from Stevenage FC	29 th April - 15 th July (11 sessions)	Astro (Hall if bad weather)	Direct through Stevenage FC (see details in letter)

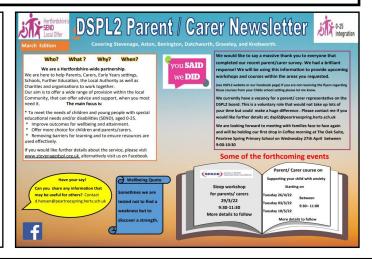
Clubs and Training Sessions that are running in the Summer Term 2022

New Training Sessions

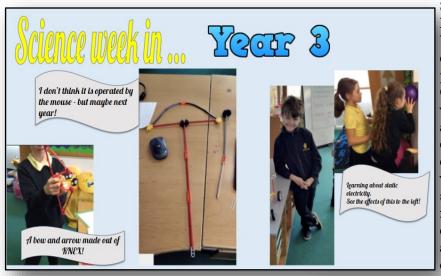
The two new training sessions for Netball and Rugby that have been added onto the timetable are for selected children only. If your child has been chosen for these, you will receive a letter about these sessions and you do not need to book into the usual club e.g. If you have been chosen for the Netball Training Session you do not need to book in the Netball Club and the same with Rugby. You will receive an invite to join and you will just need to return the reply slip ASAP to the school office.







Science Week



Science Week has literally been a BLAST at Giles all week! There's been rocket launches, hoverboards, explosions, Fire Engines, planetarium expeditions, trips, Crime Scene Investigations, workshops, endless experiments and most importantly... enthused, ear to ear grins across all our children's (and adults') faces the whole week. It has been great to see our young scientists get stuck into everything that's been going on. It's been a great week and we're already looking forward to the next one.

Thank you for all the help and support to enable us to give the children of Giles a truly WOW week!



