



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!



**STEM
DISCOVERY
CENTRE**
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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 in the last week of term - Year 6 Tutoring will still go ahead.	
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

Celebrating World Down Syndrome Day

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.**

Menu Week One

Served Week Commencing:

19th April - 4th May - 6th June - 27th June - 18th July - 1st September - 19th September - 10th October

Pupils' Choice Extra Menu Summer 2022

Monday

Macaroni Cheese with Tomato Bread (V)
Vegan Chili (Ve)
Topped Potato Wedges

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Cheese Sandwich

Tuesday

Chicken Pie with Roasted New Potatoes
Mild Vegetable Curry (Ve)
with Rice

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Chicken Mayo Wrap

Wednesday

Roast Pork Loin with Stuffing
Vegan Sausages (Ve) with Gravy
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Tuna Baguette

Thursday

Beef Burger in a Bun with Baked Potatoes
BBQ Quorn Fillet (V) with Savoury Rice

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Ham Roll

Friday

Battered Fish
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)
with Low Fat Chips or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Egg Roll

Menu Week Two

Served Week Commencing:

25 April - 16th May - 13th June - 4th July - 5th September - 26th September - 17th October

Monday

Pork Sausages with Gravy and Creamed Potatoes
Roasted Vegetable Lasagne (V)
with Garlic Bread

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Tuna Baguette

Tuesday

Organic Beef Bolognese with Pasta
Tomato and Cheese Tart (V)
with Potato Wedges

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Chicken Mayo Wrap

Wednesday

Roast Chicken with Stuffing
Veggie 'Meat-Free Balls' (Ve)
with Homemade Tomato Sauce
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Ham Roll

Thursday

Quorn Pattie in a Bun (V)
with Potato Wedges
Mild Mexican Rajita (Ve)
with Rice

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Cheese Sandwich

Friday

Fish Fillet Fingers
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)
with Low Fat Chips or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Egg Roll

Menu Week Three

Served Week Commencing:

3rd May - 23rd May - 20th June - 11th July - 12th September - 3rd October

(V) = Vegetarian (Ve) = Vegan

Monday

Chicken Grill with Potato Wedges
Italian Pasta Bake (Ve)
with Crusty Bread

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Tuna Baguette

Tuesday

Quorn Hot Dog (V)
with Baked Potatoes
Roasted Tomato Ragù (Ve)
with Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Cheese Sandwich

Wednesday

Gammon Roast
Cheese & Broccoli Bake (V)
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Chicken Mayo Wrap

Thursday

Organic Beefy Pasta Bake with Mixed Salad
Savoury Quiche (V)
with New Potatoes

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Ham Roll

Friday

Salmon & Sweet Potato Fishcake
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)
with Potato Wedges or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

Chilled Option:
Egg Roll

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.

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.

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

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	25th April - 11th July (9 sessions)	Hall	Book direct through Rock Steady (see details in letter)
Mon	Stevenage Football Club	3.10pm - 4.10pm	Years 3&4	£4 per session (£36 for the term)	Football coach from Stevenage FC	25th April - 11th 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	25th April - 11th 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	25th April - 11th 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	26th April - 12th 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 Buryon & Mr Holey	27th April - 13th 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	28th April - 14th July (11 sessions)	Playground	School Gateway
Fri	Stevenage Football Club	3.10pm - 4.10pm	Years 5&6	£4 per session (£44 for the term)	Football coach from Stevenage FC	29th April - 15th July (11 sessions)	Astro (Hall if bad weather)	Direct through Stevenage FC (see details in letter)

AN EASTER EGGS-PERIENCE

FRIDAY 8 APRIL 2022 11AM - 3:30PM
TOWN SQUARE, STEVENAGE

MEET PETER RABBIT™
11AM AND 3PM
& STORY TIME
12PM, 1PM, AND 2PM

PLUS FREE FACE PAINTING, ARTS & CRAFTS AND MEET REAL LIVE BUNNIES!

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TechSafe

Registered Charity 1193331 www.techsafe.org.uk

Keeping Under 7s Safe Online
Wednesday 23rd March 7.00pm - 9.00pm

48% of 3 - 4 year olds and 57% of 5 - 7 year olds have their own tablet

In this interactive workshop, delivered via Zoom, we will look at:

- Setting parental controls
- Tips to help manage the amount of time your child spends online
- Resources to help talk to your young child about online safety
- Where to go if you need help

To book please email hansen@angelshuggerpartnership.org.uk and you will be sent the link for the session.

Angels UK Council for Internet Safety
A UNICEF Associate and CEOP Ambassador

DSPL2 Parent / Carer Newsletter

March Edition Covering Stevenage, Aston, Benington, Datchworth, Graveley, and Knebworth.

Who? What? Why? When?

We are a Hertfordshire-wide partnership. We are here to help Parents, Carers, Early Years settings, Schools, Further Education, the Local Authority as well as Charities and organisations to work together. Our aim is to offer a wide range of provision within the local Community, that can offer advice and support, when you most need it.

The main focus is:

- To meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), aged 0-25.
- Improve outcomes for wellbeing and attainment.
- Offer more choice for children and parents/carers.
- Removing barriers for learning and to ensure resources are used effectively.

If you would like further details about the service, please visit www.stevenagepsd.org.uk, alternatively visit us on Facebook.

Have your say!

Can you share any information that may be useful for others? Contact d.hansen@pearreespring.herts.sch.uk

Wellbeing Quote

Sometimes we are tested not to find a weakness but to discover a strength.

Some of the forthcoming events

Parent / Carer course on Supporting your child with anxiety	Starting on
Tuesday 26/4/22	Between 9.30 - 11.00
Tuesday 03/5/22	
Tuesday 10/5/22	

More details to follow

Science Week

Science week in ... Year 3

I don't think it is operated by the mouse - but maybe next year!



A bow and arrow made out of K'NEX!



Learning about static electricity. See the effects of this to the left!



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!

Science week in ... Year 4



The science behind the Fire Brigade!



Virtual reality environments - who needs a rocket to go into space?



Science week in ... Year 5



Mad Science Assembly got a little heated!

Space became a reality in the Space Dome!



Science week in ... Year 6



India's very own Millie and Kade helped out during the Mad Science assembly on Monday!

We loved creating different objects with K'NEX, making coke explode with Mentos and exploring the planetarium - where we learned about the different planets!

