



St Giles' School

Newsletter

17th May, 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

This week the children have been working incredibly hard across the school.

Ms Bacon and I are very proud of how well the year twos have been demonstrating their knowledge of maths and reading. They have also been enjoying the sunshine, working in groups to complete maths puzzles and games.

Year One have been learning about halving by making banana sandwiches. They have also enjoyed acting out the story 'Giraffes Can't Dance' and this morning they enjoyed a lovely Shabbat meal as part of their R.E. unit on Judaism.

Reception have started their new morning jobs including letter formation skills, spelling, name writing and fine motor practise. The pictures speak for themselves but look at how engaged they all are!





ATTENDANCE MATTERS

every school day counts.

Attendance

Please note your child's attendance percentage will form part of the end of year report process to parents. The Government recommend yearly attendance for any pupil is 95% or above for the academic year.

I am unable to authorise any leave of absence during term time **unless the request meets our exceptional circumstances criteria** (please see our Attendance Policy on our website). **Absences of 5 school days or over may incur a penalty notice which will be issued by the local authority.** As I mentioned last week, our school currently has the highest level of Special Leave of Absence requests compared to other local schools.

Please ensure that if your child is absent from school, that you phone the office first thing **each day by 9.15am** to report the absence – thank you. Please could we also remind you that the doors close for the beginning of school at 8.55am, with the registers being taken by 9am. Any child that comes in after this time will have a late mark on the register.

This week's attendance figures:

Owls – 90.4%

Squirrels – 95.8%

Rabbits – 95.9%

Badgers – 96.9%

Overall school attendance – 94.3%

Well done to Badgers class!



Sickness bugs

We have had several children off sick over the last couple of weeks due to sickness bugs. Can you please ensure your child is kept off school for **48 hours after** their last bout of sickness/diarrhoea and inform the school office of any absence.

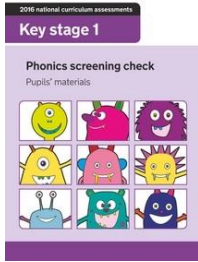
This NHS website contains helpful guidance on when your child is still able to come to school if unwell (<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>).

St Giles' Church car park – Wednesday 22nd May

Please note there will be a funeral taking place at 2.30pm on Wednesday 22nd May, which means that there will be no parking in the church drive at pick up time on that day. Please allow extra time for parking if necessary.

Alternative pick up arrangements

There is some concern that children are being picked up by people other than their usual parents/carers and staff are not being made aware. From next week, there will be small communications book available in each classroom for you to write in if somebody else will be collecting your child at home-time.



Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

Please note that the designated week for the Year 1 Phonics screening check for 2019 is the week beginning Monday 10th June. There will be a brief meeting about the Phonics screening on Monday 3rd June at 2.30pm with Mrs Teasdale.



Parent Volunteers for Reading

Please do let your child's class teacher know if you are able to come into school this term and help with reading. Although the afternoons are preferable (due to Maths and English lessons in the morning), we appreciate any offers of help, so if an early morning slot suits you better, then that is absolutely fine.



Water bottles

As we are now in the summer term, we would like to remind you that all children need a water bottle (named) in school every day please. It can get exceptionally hot in school at times, and although we will always provide cups where necessary, it is much easier if the children have their own water bottles.



P.E. Kits

Please can P.E. kits be kept at school all week; they do not need to go home after every session, as they are then often not in school for the following week and children miss out on doing P.E.. It is fine for them to go home at the end of every half term.

Head lice

Please could parents/carers ensure that long hair is tied up for school. This will help avoid a rise in cases of head lice as having hair tied up reduces them from spreading. Thank you.

Talk: Managing Screen Time: 3rd July

There is a talk open to all parents/carer given by St Christopher's School entitled "Managing Screen Time/Preventing Screen Dependency in Children", which will take place on at 7pm on Wednesday 3rd July 2019 at Epsom College.

Entry is free but tickets must be booked in advance by emailing office@st-christophers.surrey.sch.uk. There are leaflets with more information available in the School foyer.



Saturday 6th July – St Giles' Summer Fair

Our theme for this year's Summer Fair will be the Circus! On Friday 5th July, the children will be taking part in a circus skills workshop during the school day, there will then be the opportunity to see the circus perform at the summer fair.

Tickets are now on sale.

Have a lovely weekend everyone!

Best wishes,

Miss Mutch

Summer term 2019



Weeks beginning 13th and 20th May – Year 2 SATS

Friday 24th May – INSET day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 27th – Friday 31st May – HALF TERM

Monday 3rd June – Year 1 Phonics screening check meeting for Year 1 parents at 2.30pm

Week beginning Monday 10th June – Year 1 Phonics Screening check

Monday 10th June – class photographs

Tuesday 11th June – Sports Day (1pm – 3pm)

Tuesday 11th June – new Reception parents meeting

Week beginning Monday 8th July – End of Year reports out to parents

Saturday 6th July – St Giles' Summer Fair Circus

Wednesday 24th July – End of Year Church Service at St Giles' church at 9.30am

Wednesday 24th July – END OF SUMMER TERM (finish 1.45pm)



Autumn term 2019

Wednesday 4th September – INSET day (school closed to pupils)

Thursday 5th September – Children in Years 1 and 2 return to school

Monday 9th September – New Reception children start school