



St Giles' School

Newsletter

1st February 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,



Next week is Children's Mental Health week. Please click on this link to take you to the website for further details and where you will find information for parents and activities to do with your children:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk>



You will no doubt be aware that mental health is currently high on the national agenda and any child, young person or adult can be affected at any point in their lives. At St Giles' we have our 'Jigsaw' whole school approach to Personal, Social and Health Education and we also have our 'Thrive' approach and intervention to support children when they have been thrown emotionally 'off track'. We are proud and pleased of the huge impact Thrive has had since we introduced it in September 2017 as it has made a big difference to a large number of children and families in our school. For further information on Thrive, please visit

<https://www.thriveapproach.com/>

Science Dome – Space!

Just to remind you that our 'Science Dome' visit is next week. All children will have an opportunity to visit the dome and experience 'first hand' space science! We are excited about this visit and hope that the experience will feed into the children's learning back into the classroom. Please could we have any outstanding monies / forms by **Monday** - thank you.

PE Kit

Further to the piece last week about PE kit, the children may wear navy coloured jogging bottoms for outdoor PE. These are especially useful, particularly in the current cold weather.

Staffing Update

I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Lynsey Richards will be joining our Office Team from next week. Mrs Richards will be working on a Thursday and a Friday. We look forward to welcoming her to our staff team.

We are also pleased to welcome Ms Morenike Mitchell and Mr Richard Stamp to our team. Ms Mitchell and Mr Stamp are working in classes across the school.

Breakfast Boosters

We are pleased with the progress that the children are making in these sessions and it is great to see most of the children arriving at 8.20am so we have maximum learning time. However, we have noticed that some children are not attending on their allocated days. Please note we have waiting lists for these groups and so if you do not wish your child to be part of them, then please could you let the Year 2 teachers know, so that they can invite another child to join.

Thank you in advance for your support with this.

Dyslexia Workshop

Today you will receive details about a parent workshop on the subject of Dyslexia which is being held next week.

Learning for next week – week beginning Monday 4th February



Owls – Early Years Foundation Stage



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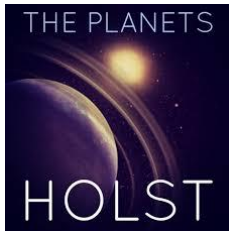
We will be carrying on our space theme focusing on the planets and the solar system.

We are looking forward to our space dome visit, many of the children are counting the sleeps! We will be reading some more space fiction, in particular 'Red Planet', one of the Biff and Chip stories.

The children will be doing some story sequencing and labelling of the planets.

In Maths this week we will be looking at height and length. We will be measuring objects around the school, using the language of shorter and taller, making estimations and problem solving. We will also look at the size of the planets and order them by size by using food as a representation!





We will be painting planets with marbles, singing some songs and listening to the Planet Suite by Holst.



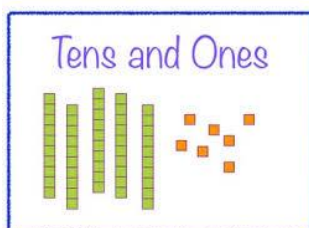
In RE we will be listening to the story of Jonah and the Whale and hot seating the character and finding out about his friendship with God.

In PSED we will be thinking about jobs we would like to do when we are older and what we need to do to reach our potential.

Finally, we will be celebrating Chinese New Year on Tuesday and having a day of Chinese fun!

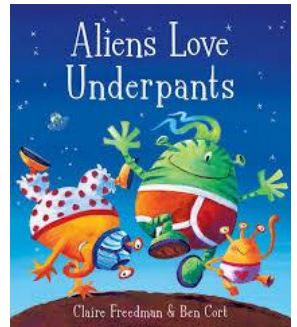


Squirrels – Year 1



Maths: Tens and ones to 20 and ordering numbers

English : 'Aliens Love Underpants' - invent and describe an alien and write questions to ask an alien who visits our class.



Design Technology:

The children will make their moon buggy using their design from last week



Religious Education:

The children will continue learning about the life of Jesus through the story of how Jesus calmed the storm

Science:

Investigating which materials are waterproof.

Geography:

Follow a map around the school on an alien trail.



Year 2 – Badgers and Rabbits

English

Continue our work on the 'Man on the Moon' books by Simon Bartram. Comparing and contrasting books by the same author. Writing diary entries and planning and creating our own fictional stories using standard story structures.



Maths

Continue applying multiplication and division knowledge to real life situations.
Using the inverse to check answers and find missing numbers.



History/topic

Looking at the work of Tim Peake and the experiments carried out on the International Space station.



Art

Studying Van Gogh's 'Starry Night' and creating our own pictures inspired by this using wax crayons and water colours.



St Giles' Stars

Well done to all of our certificate children for this week – what excellent role models you are with amazing behaviour for learning!

Owls – Teddy, Freya and Joseph S

Squirrels – Reggie, Rosie and Zivanna

Rabbits – Cecilia, Noah and Sofia

Badgers – James, Elena and Katie



Attendance

Please can I remind you that I am unable to authorise any leave of absence during term time. I am still receiving a high number of special leave requests. Absences of 5 school days or over may incur a penalty notice which will be issued by the local authority. Your support with this is much appreciated – thank you. Our attendance policy is available on our website. Our Educational Welfare Officer, Mrs Tutt, will be in school again just after half term to look at individual pupils' attendance. 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.

This week's attendance figures:

Owls – 95.01%

Squirrels – 94.7%

Rabbits – 94.05%

Badgers – 96.55%

Overall school attendance – 95% (up on last week – well done everyone!)

Well done to Badger class again – 3 weeks in a row with the highest class attendance!



Have a lovely week end everyone and keep safe and warm in the cold weather – see you next week!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Nicky Angus

Headteacher

Spring Term Diary Dates



Wednesday 6th February – Science Dome visit to school

Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February – HALF TERM

Tuesday 5th March –Parents Evening (5-8pm)

Wednesday 6th March - Year 2 assembly (Rabbits **and** Badgers) at 9.15am

Wednesday 6th March –Parents Evening (3.30-6pm)

Monday 11th March – Maths Workshop for parents with Ms Bacon (9am or 6pm)

Wednesday 13th March – Year 1 assembly (Squirrels) at 9.15am

Monday 18th March – Easter Pause Day trip to Guildford Cathedral (Owls and Rabbits) – details to follow nearer the time

Tuesday 19th March – Easter Pause Day trip to Guildford Cathedral (Squirrels and Badgers) – details to follow nearer the time

Wednesday 20th March – Reception class assembly (Owls) at 9.15am

Wednesday 27th March – Jigsaw/Thrive workshop for parents led by Mrs Tuttle, Mrs Fitzpatrick, Mrs Pirt and Mrs Angus (9am and 6pm)

Wednesday 3rd April – End of term service at St Giles' Church at 9.30am

Friday 5th April – End of term at 1.45pm

Tuesday 23rd April – Start of summer term

Monday 29th April – Key Stage 1 SATS meeting for Year 2 parents at 2.30pm (details nearer the time)