



# St Giles' School

*Newsletter*

29<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are fast approaching the end of another term and once again, we have achieved so much in our school! We have had some amazing 'Wow' moments with the children, in particular their impeccable behaviour and learning on the Cathedral trips (on both days we had members of the public and Cathedral volunteers commenting on how polite and well behaved the St Giles' children were), their outstanding performances in their assemblies and their daily thirst for learning. This week I have been discussing the progress of all our children with the teachers and we are amazed at how much the children have come along this term, since January. Next term will be a busy term, as we head towards the Year 2 SATS and the Year 1 Phonics Screening check. We will also have our Sports Day, our summer fair and our end of year reports to parents, so there will be lots going on!

Whilst we do not expect children to complete homework during the holiday, it would be fantastic if you could continue to hear your child read regularly. Even just five or ten minutes a day can make a difference - thank you for your support with this.



## **Easter Service at St Giles'**

We have our end of term Easter service on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 9.30am. As usual, we will be walking up to the church with the children from about 9.10am. Please could you indicate to your child's class teacher if you are able to walk up with us to the church. We look forward to seeing you there.



## **Year 2 Ashtead Music Festival**

Year 2 will be attending the Ashtead Music Festival at St Peter's Catholic Primary School. We will be leaving after the church service on Wednesday morning. A number of staff will be attending the festival with the children and we will travel by coach to St Peter's and be back to school in time for lunch. The children have been practising their songs and sound amazing!

## Parent Governor

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Trendell O'Keefe has been appointed as the new Parent Governor following our recent request for nominations. As a former pupil of St. Giles', and with her son James in Year 1, Mrs Trendell O'Keefe is passionate about the success of the school and I am sure she will be a welcome addition to the Governing Body.



### Easter Mufti Day

Next Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> April we have an 'Easter themed' Mufti Day. Children are welcome to come in their own clothes and if they wish to wear something Easter themed, they are more than welcome (Easter bonnets, T-shirts etc.) but this is not compulsory. We would ask for a suggested donation of £2.00 for our outdoor area. Just to remind parents that we finish at 1.45pm next Friday for the Easter holiday.



### Reception Swimming

After the Easter holidays, Reception class will have their block of 10 swimming lessons which begin on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April and end on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> July. Letters will be sent out in book bags today – please return consent forms as soon as possible next week. We will need a number of parent volunteers to help with walking the children to and from Freeman's school. Please could you email Mrs Peachey if you are able to help with this (even if just for one or two sessions) at [info@stgiles.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:info@stgiles.surrey.sch.uk) - thank you in advance.

There will be two instructors in the shallow end of the pool with the Reception children, plus a staff member when needed.

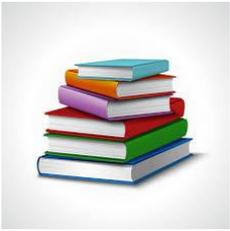


## Lunchtime Activities



We are trialling a new initiative at lunchtime. We would like to offer the children alternative optional play activities during the lunchtime break such as craft, puzzles, gardening and other 'quiet' activities (as well as our normal ball games, skipping ropes, hoops, trim trail etc.).

The 'activity station' will run on a Monday, Wednesday and Thursday each week from 12-1pm. We would very much welcome parental support with this; if you are able to give up an hour of your time to come and supervise the 'activity station', please do let the office know so we can sort out a parent rota.



## Parent Volunteers for Reading

Please do let your child's class teacher know if you are able to come into school next 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.

## Year 2 Breakfast Boosters

One of the purposes of Pupil Progress meetings, is to look at progress and attainment of all children. From these discussions, the teachers and myself ensure that any interventions/ booster groups are set up ready for the next term, to support the children's learning. The Breakfast Boosters have proved to be very successful, so they will be continuing next term. I will be running an additional Writing group next term on a Tuesday morning for identified children and parents will receive a letter about this new group next week. Please can we just remind parents that it is very important the children arrive on time; the time goes extremely quickly each session, and we need to maximise the learning opportunities for the children.

There are some changes to the existing Breakfast Booster groups and parents will be informed of these changes next week if applicable. If you do not receive a letter, and your child is already in a group, then please assume that their Breakfast Booster group arrangements stay the same.

Any queries, please do speak with Miss Mutch or Ms Bacon in the first instance.



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 – 92.2%

Squirrels – 95.4%

Rabbits – 91.1%

Badgers – 98.8%

Overall school attendance – 94.2%

Well done to Badgers class!



This is the last newsletter for this term – thank you again for your ongoing support and partnership. Wishing all of our families a peaceful, safe and happy Easter holiday. We look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April!

Best Wishes,

Mrs Nicky Angus  
Headteacher

## Spring Term Diary Dates



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

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April – Year 2 to the Ashted Schools' Music Festival

Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April – Mufti Day / End of term at 1.45pm



## Summer term 2019

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April – Start of summer term

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April – Reception swimming starts

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Key Stage 1 SATS meeting for Year 2 parents at 2.30pm

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – INSET day (school closed to pupils)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May – HALF TERM

Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June – class photographs

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day (1pm – 3pm)

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June – new Reception parents meeting

Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> July – St Giles' Summer Fair

Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – END OF SUMMER TERM (finish 1.45pm)