



St Giles School News

June 2024

'Be the best you can be'

Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

www.st-gilesschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and carers,

As we approach the end of the academic year, we are excited to share with you the latest updates and highlights from St Giles School. This month has been filled with engaging lessons, successful events, and the wonderful progress of our students.

Successful Parents' Evening

We are thrilled to report that our recent Parents' Evening was a resounding success! Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended and made the evening so productive and positive. The event provided a valuable opportunity for teachers and parents to discuss students' progress, celebrate achievements, and identify areas for growth. Feedback from parents and carers has been overwhelmingly positive, with many appreciating the detailed insights into their children's academic and personal development. We are committed to maintaining this strong partnership with you, as it is vital for our students' success. Also thank you to so many of you who volunteered to join the Friends of St. Giles' School. More information to follow about this.

Summer Fayre re-scheduled: 6th July 2024 from 12pm-3pm

Prom (Year 11 leavers): 12th July 2024 from 7pm - 9.30pm

I would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to all the parents, carers, and staff for their continuous support and dedication to St Giles School. Together, we are creating a nurturing environment where our students can thrive. I would also like to thank parents/carers for their patience about the postponed Summer Fayre on 15th June 2024. Student well-being must take precedent and this was the primary reason for cancellation but we do realise that this lead to a lot of disappointment. Hopefully we will still see many of you on the 6th July 2024!

Car park information

I wish to draw all parents/carers attention to our school car park and thank everyone for their patience. We have a small car park (as I am sure that everyone knows) and that we have lots of school transport dropping our students off in the morning and after school. If there are any issues about 'drop off' or 'pick-up' please direct questions to the school office where my team will get back in contact with you. At all times I ask for your patience and support in this matter and bring any issues direct to the school office first in the appropriate manner. Once again thank you for your support in this manner.

Students who have unplanned absence

Can I ask for parents/carers to call the school student absence number before 8.00am each morning for any unplanned student absence. The school student absence number is 0208 680 2141Please give:

Your name

Your child's name

Reason for absence and

If know planned date of return to school.

Note - if you can call the school back the day before you expect your child to return the school. Also for every day of student unplanned absence can you also contact the school before 8.00am.

Leave of absence

Please can I request that the school receives all applications for leave of pupil absence at least two weeks in advance. There is a form on the school website under the parent section and this form can be collected from main reception. This will support the most appropriate course of action as in some cases applications may not be able to be fully processed in time for the correct decision to be made.

As always, thank you for your continued support in all that we do and here is to another great term at St. Giles' School, whatever it may bring. Please do not hesitate to come and speak to us should you have any questions, concerns, ideas of how we could improve further or indeed to just have a chat!

We hope you have a wonderful month ahead and look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Hehir

Headteacher

Hello I am Sarah Williams and I am the Nursery Lead here at ST Giles, I started my career in a main stream nursery and was given the opportunity to take a Level 3 NVQ diploma in The Young Children Workforce which I completed 2016.

I was able to visit a specialist provision known as The Croydon Opportunity Preschool for children with complex needs, I knew from the moment I walked into the setting this was where I would love to specialise in my career. I started to volunteer 2 afternoons a week I loved and thrived within the setting. So when a vacancy came up I quickly applied and secured a position. During my time here I completed my level 1 in BSL enabling to communicate with one of my colleagues.

We would accompany our children and parents on visits to St Giles on open days the School felt warm and inviting, so when we were taken under the wing of St Giles back in 2021 I was very happy about the move. It wasn't till the following year 2022 when we were brought up to the site here at Pamisford Road, and I was asked if I would like to take on the responsibility of the nursery lead which was quite daunting at the time but I received support from St Giles and was soon settling into my new role.

I was going into a new build and the Nursery needed to be set up from scratch, with help from the nursery staff and the wider team at St Giles we were ready for the September intake. I have taken on training for portage and many in-house training courses provided by the school. I enjoy supporting children to transition from home, building on their resilience and independence to be ready to start nursery and then onto school, and extending that support to our families as they begin a new journey as their children enter a new phase, building on trust and forming positive relationships.

The children are given lots of opportunities in the nursery and it is so rewarding to see the progress they make, the team in nursery want the very best for the children, we can have very busy days which can be challenging but so fulfilling, which constantly brings a smile to your face. The children and the staff make the school a very special place to be, I feel very lucky and privileged to be a part of it.

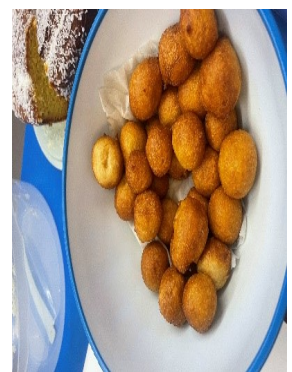


Engaging and Innovative Lessons

Our teachers have been working hard to create dynamic and engaging lessons that inspire our students and deepen their understanding of various subjects.

This month, we focused on learning about International Week, a fantastic opportunity for our students to learn about different cultures and countries from around the globe. Each class focused on a specific country, diving into its history, traditions, cuisine, and languages. Highlights included tasting exotic dishes, creating traditional crafts, and even learning basic phrases in new languages. It was an enriching experience that broadened our students' horizons and fostered a greater appreciation for the diverse world we live in.

Some of the countries flags that were part of our international week!



Some of the items produced international week! Well done!

Welcome to the July Bulletin!



We are very excited to share some interesting and exciting new events we have planned for you! All our events are free for carers. The Carers Information Service provides advice, information, and support to carers in Croydon who are looking after someone who needs their help to due to illness, disability or old age.

The Advice Desk at the Carers Support Centre is open 10am – 1pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, for carers to drop-in & get advice from our experienced Advice workers. You can also contact us by calling 020 8649 9339 (opt 1) to speak to one of our friendly team. If we are busy helping other carers you can leave a message or send us an email to enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk. One of our advice workers will get back to you ASAP. For more information on the Carers Information Service and what we offer, follow our Social Media accounts: [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) .

Carers Café

Come and join us!

We are open from 10.30am to 12.30pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Come and enjoy a free drink and chat with other carers and our café volunteers. Carers deserve a break, and this is the place you can relax with other carers who understand what you are going through.

Find us at: Carers Support Centre, 24 George Street, CR0 1PB

Bereavement Support Group

The death of the person you care for can be an extremely difficult time. You may experience powerful emotions or feel a sense of numbness, loneliness, isolation or despair.

Our monthly Carers Bereavement support drop-in is held on the **second Tuesday** of every month, 2.30-4pm and is a place where you can be with others who understand what you are going through.

9th July support Centre 2.30pm - 4.00pm

Bodyfit Classes

Join our **online** Bodyfit Classes, every **Tuesday** of the month!

Led by a fitness instructor, you can engage in various exercises, such as cardio, strength training, or flexibility work, to improve your over-all fitness levels.

2 nd July	10.30am - 11.15am
9 th July	
16 th July	
23 rd July	
30 th July	

For details on how to join, please contact us at: 020 8649 9339 (opt 1) enquiries@carersinfo.org.uk



We are part of the charity Contact. As a not-for-profit shop, every penny spent helps families. For 25 years Fledglings has been sourcing products for families with disabled children.

We are a non-profit shop that helps children and adults with additional needs by supplying products and equipment that help with everyday challenges. We provide an easy and trusted environment to find the right solutions and allow people to connect and share their experiences.

Fledglings was born in 1998 out of founder Ruth Lingard's passion and drive to help parents and carers of children with special needs find simple solutions to everyday challenges they face. As a special needs teacher and social worker, Ruth had a wealth of experience helping families and children, and Fledglings gave her an opportunity to reach more people in need.

We offer: Adaptive Clothing inc Swimwear & Shoes, Bedding, Disability & Sensory Aids & more.. Please see our website for more details. www.fledglings.org.uk

NEW SEND DANCE CLASSES IN REDHILL!

Who is ready to experience a new adventure for 2024? Start the year off in a way you will not regret. our new SEND Dance Classes! Our classes have a relaxed environment with no expectations. We help with social interaction, self-confidence and many physical, social, intellectual and mental benefits.

We are an all inclusive IDTA dance company who are looking to build confidence in individuals of all ages and abilities. Our aim is to prevent loneliness in the community and break down barriers in accessing activities. We also provide an outlet for SEND children and adults to express themselves freely. Everybody should have the freedom to show who they are in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Please see our website for more info : alldanceabilities.co.uk/



School Fayre

A very special event with lots of activities such as games, crafts, face painting and the usual Tombola.

This year we will be having a Pimms tent, afternoon tea and our delicious barbeque.

We are sending out your Raffle tickets, lots of prizes being added every day. Extra tickets are available from the School reception.

We do not have card readers, so please bring cash.

If any parents/grandparents/carers would like to help run a stall, bake cakes, help set up etc. please let Joni in the school office know.

Save money,
Save time,
Save hassle.

HELP YOUR CHILD SOAR WITH A SCHOOL MEAL!

And it could be FREE!! Check to see if your child is now eligible.

Fuel your child with energy!

All Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 meals are FREE!!

Ask at the office to find out more!

Free school meals

Every **Key Stage One** pupil is entitled to a free school meal, under a Government programme called **Universal Infant Free School Meals**. There is no need for you to apply for this, it will save you time and money every day on making packed lunches, and in our experience pupils who take up their school meals become more adventurous and open to trying new foods.

Free School Meals are available to Key Stage Two pupils whose families receive:

- Universal Credit and your household income after tax is less than £7,400 per year (not including any benefits you get)
- Child Tax Credit, as long as you are not getting Working Tax Credit and have an annual income of less than £16,190
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- The guaranteed part of Pension Credit
- Asylum seeker support.

GOOD FOR YOU



Did you know???

Eating lots of plant foods has shown to improve immune system, hormones, metabolism and brain health. No, this doesn't just mean fruit and vegetables!

You should base your diet on the super six!

Fruit, veg, wholegrains, nuts/seeds, legumes and herbs/spices.

HELPING THE PLANET ONE BITE AT A TIME



1 AVERAGE BEEF BURGER

has the same climate impact as...

MAKE A GREEN SWAP TODAY

=

10

VEGAN BURGERS

4.0 kg CO₂e

Aspens

0.4 kg CO₂e x 10