



NEWSLETTER

St Giles Junior School

September 2019

St Giles Junior School
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Welcome back to the Autumn Term! Where did the summer go?

From talking to your children it certainly seems that everyone was equally busy; enjoying quality family time, visiting exciting places and recharging batteries! The staff and I have enjoyed catching up on all of their news and as always it has been lovely to welcome everyone back, including some new staff members; Mr Burch, class teacher and Mrs Crutchlow, who supports in the morning.

The classrooms have been buzzing with year groups starting new topics and activities to support their learning. I must say that I have been incredibly impressed with our new Year 3 cohort who have almost seamlessly transitioned into the junior school life! I must also mention our brave Year 3 carers, parents and families who dropped off on that first day, as I appreciate that you can have worries - but your children really did you proud and, I for one, only saw two short lived wobbly lips which were quickly turned into smiles!

Communication between staff and parents is absolutely key for our partnerships and it was nice to see parents join us for our Welcome sessions. As communicated to you, these meetings were an opportunity for parents to meet their child(ren)'s class teacher and year group team, to find out about the forthcoming curriculum topics as well as reminders about home learning, timetables and routines. If you can support whenever there are similar events it would help increase that vital connection between school and home.

ATTENDANCE

The expected attendance for the school this year is 96% or higher. We are having a weekly competition to see which class has the class mascot, St Jowls, in their classroom. Points are awarded for the highest 90% of attenders each week and for those that arrive on time. So far classes G and C have had been the winners.

Reducing Single Use Plastic Materials

One of our Forest School sessions had the students do a litter pick up around the school site.



Two things became clear once they collected the rubbish up –

1. Not everyone puts their rubbish in the bins around the school.
2. There was a lot of single use plastic material in the rubbish.

With this in mind, can you try to send less items into school that have this type of wrapping. We know it's a little more hassle, but you might want to get your child involved as it's their world that will benefit in the long run.

We've included a few suggestions -

Stop using plastic straws.

Use a reusable produce bag.

Purchase or make your own reusable produce bag and be sure to wash them.

Reuse containers.

Use a reusable bottle.

Make fresh squeezed juice or eat fruit instead of buying juice in plastic bottles. It's healthier and better for the environment.

Buy a large bag of crisps and put a few in reusable box each day, rather than buying lots of smaller packets.

For more ideas click on the happy Earth



Future Olympian



Ollie is all set to be a future star of the Olympics as he is already on the way to be selected. He's been picked by Team GB for Martial Arts to compete in October's World Games for his age group, and he has also qualified for the European Games in Germany in 2020. We all wish him luck with his current and future competitions.

Warwickshire County Council is developing a new plan to take the county through to 2025 and it wants residents to help make Warwickshire the best it can be. There are two ways members of the public can give their views about the plan. Roadshows will be taking place across the county in the coming weeks and there is also a questionnaire which is now available online.

<https://news.warwickshire.gov.uk/blog/2019/09/25/make-your-voice-heard-over-the-future-of-warwickshire/>

We are always keen to hear about how we can better support your children, please feel free to come in and share your ideas, or email them to admin2571@welearn365.com. From our recent OFSTED, the inspectors made us aware of comments spoken to them by parents about the school that hadn't been raised with us. If we don't know, we are going to struggle to help, so don't let issues just stay at the school gate, please.

Thank you to those carers and parents who attended our OFSTED information meeting. We thought that the session was incredibly beneficial as it allowed us to give you valuable context to the report, outline our plan for the future and answer your questions and concerns. The school will now continue to focus on driving the school improvement plan and we will also give some thought about how best and how frequently to communicate with you all going forward.

Behaviour Expectations Update

We have reviewed our behaviour policy, focussing on the students following the three rules of being SAFE, RESPECTFUL and READY. Staff have also received training on the consistency when supporting the students with these themes. We will continue to update our procedures to ensure all students feel safe and that they are willing to share when they have concerns.

OFFICE NEWS

Hot School Meals - Reminder that meals cost £2.25 per day. If you feel you are eligible for Free School Meals please apply.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/education-learning/apply-free-school-meals>

Student's Mobile phones - Only bring in if absolutely necessary.

Administering Medication – The office need instructions in writing and medicine labelled before we take responsibility for dispensing medicine.

Groupcall – If anyone is not signed up please contact the office so you don't miss out on any important information.

Parents Events Calendar - Autumn Term 2019/20

| Week b/g | Event |
|--------------------------|--|
| September 30th | Friday 4 th Oct: Puppet assembly (children only) |
| October 7 th | Fri 11 th Oct: Class G assembly at 9:10 am |
| October 14 th | Friday 18 th : Class F assembly at 9:10 am |
| October 21 st | Tuesday 22 nd : Parents evening (3:30 - 5:30 pm) Thurs 24 th : Parents evening (4:00 - 7:00 pm) Thursday 24th: children break up for half-term Fri 25 th : INSET day |
| | Half-Term Holiday back to school Monday 4 th November |