



APRIL NEWSLETTER

St Giles Junior School

St Giles Junior School
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Dear families,

Hopefully you managed to recharge and catch up with family and friends over the Easter break. It was a joy to see all the children return rested and ready for a summer term of learning, many of whom had lost their “lockdown locks!”

Thank you for the speedy drop off and pick ups, and the use of masks. We are still sanitising and social distancing as much as possible and working in class and year group bubbles but school is starting to feel a little more normal now we are able to use the outside spaces.

We are all working hard with our learning, the routines that we have established from the start of the year have continued, and so have the positive attitudes of your children – thank you. However, we are still balancing the learning with lots of physical activity and mental health and wellbeing sessions. We are committed to providing the best education possible for all the children and really appreciate all your support. Please encourage your child to read regularly and complete homework tasks.

The summer term is always busy and in usual circumstances would be full of school events, particularly towards the end of term. We are hopeful that many of the usual events will be able to go ahead. We will bring you further information as soon as we can, but please understand that anything planned will be subject to Government guidance.

If there is anything, we can do to improve our provision please feel free to contact us – we value your opinions.

Mr Mann

Absence Notification

If your child is absent from school, you must notify the office by 9.00 am on their first day of absence and inform us of the reason for their absence. You must call the office on each subsequent day of absence, unless you have agreed otherwise with a member of the office team. Please let us know if the reason they are absent is related to coronavirus symptoms. May we take this opportunity to remind you that the policy for diarrhoea and vomiting is that your child must not have had an instance of diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours before returning to school.

Free School Meal Support

If you think you may be eligible for free school meals because your circumstances have changed please apply now. Doing so will mean our school does not miss out on additional funding.

Families can apply for FSM at any time online through the Parent Portal.

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

Uniform

With the warmer weather now upon us, and hopefully here to stay, we are already accruing a collection of misplaced jumpers/ cardigans in school from lunchtimes and playtimes. If your child has lost their jumper, please ask them to look in their classroom or to inform their class teacher so together we can try to reunite jumpers with their owners. To help with this, please ensure your child's school uniform is clearly named.

Bikeability

Bikeability is a cycle training programme designed to teach practical skills and develop understanding of how to cycle on today's roads. Bikeability gives children the confidence for all kinds of cycling. NW Active have been running courses in school for Year 5 & 6 this week.

Please click on the link for more information - [Bikeability](#)



Resilience

Over this year of challenge, in school the children have started to develop their resilience and seem to have coped well during this period. Resilience is the ability to withstand challenges and bounce back from difficult life events.

Being resilient does not mean that people don't experience stress, anger, sadness and other emotions . Everyone has these feelings and it's ok to not be ok, especially if something sad or challenging has, or is happening in your life. Demonstrating resilience includes working through tough and emotional situations and 'bouncing back', again and again, with each obstacle we face.

Resilience is important because it gives people the strength needed to overcome hardship. Those lacking resilience get easily overwhelmed. Resilient people tap into their strengths and support systems to overcome challenges and work through problems.

Have a look at our useful links for more information, helpful advice and activities you can try at home.

- Mind Developing Resilience

<https://www.mind.org.uk/developing-resilience/>

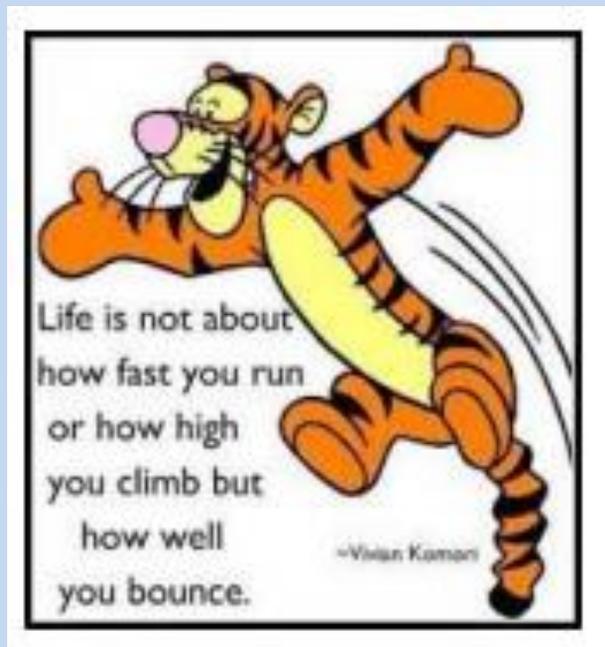
- Resilience Activities

<https://positivepsychology.com/resilience-activities-worksheets/>

- Head over to

<https://youngminds.org.uk/beano-resilience-lesson-plans/>

to watch a video of Dennis the Menace and Minnie talking about resilience.



Staff Update

We are sorry to announce that Miss Veasey will be leaving St Giles Junior School. She has made the decision to consider her future, and the various options open to her, and she will be leaving at the end of April. Class B will continue to be taught by Miss Smith. Ms Kinnersley has also left the team and we thank her for her work supporting a number of children at St Giles. Everyone at school sends them, and their families, the very best wishes for the future.

How Can You Help

We often get asked about how carers and parent can support the learning from home, especially around maths. If you would like any support as a parent/carer on how to help your child with maths, you may find this link useful. There are some short video clips that we can recommend that fit directly with the methods we are teaching in school. You might even recognise the presenter!

https://whiterosemaths.com/for-parents/maths-with-michael/?fbclid=IwAR1bYqsthxPJMNOkvbTpY_VP257rzlpOjeOXckG_omepNMVvJ8Joo2iBJiQ

The new Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched [The Big Ask](#) survey – the largest ever consultation with children aged 4 to 17 in England. It aims to find out children's

concerns and aspirations about the future, so that we can put children at the heart of our country's recovery from the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, just click on the link above.



Parents, carers and those working with children are also invited to complete the adult survey to share their views about the future for children and young people today, and what they think is holding young people back. The results from this survey will help the Children's Commissioner identify the barriers preventing children from reaching their potential, put forward solutions and set ambitious goals for the country to achieve.



Charity Work

Mya is holding her 12inch donation of hair for the Little Princess Trust. This is her third donation!

"I donated my hair for the third time and I feel really good about it, as I know I've done a good thing by helping someone with cancer!"

What an amazing thing you did Mya, you and your family should feel very proud.

@BedworthLibrary



Library
Information

Virtual Rhyme
Time

Local Information



Online Lego
Club

Craft Ideas

Story Time

Book
Recommendations

“Inspiring children, young people and their families to explore libraries and develop a lifelong reading habit means they are more likely to gain good literacy skills and all the social and economic benefits that derive from that.” What more do we need say ... go and visit Bedworth library, now!

Warwickshire School Health & Wellbeing Service have put together the resource (link below) to get the whole family walking through a range of fun activities. Discover the benefits of walking, try out walking activities for all ages, and make your walks even more magical with some family friendly nature activities. There's also information about support you can access if your child needs help getting active or making some healthy lifestyle changes, as well as where you can access support with emotional and mental wellbeing.

Just click here - [Walk This Way](#)



Polling Day

Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council have confirmed that St Giles Junior School will be used as a polling station for local elections on Thursday 6 May 2021, **therefore school will be closed.**

Learning for this day will be posted on Seesaw so that pupils are able to complete work at home. If you need IT support please contact the school office. Please be aware that school is also closed on Monday 3 May 2021 due to the May Bank Holiday.



Office News

Attendance – As things are gradually getting back to normal, St Giles will be working closely with the Warwickshire Attendance Team to regularly review pupil attendance and punctuality.

Payment for school dinners – Could all parents and carers please pay for school meals online via SIMS pay. If you need a new individual code to access SIMS Pay please contact the school office.