



February NEWSLETTER

St Giles Junior School

St Giles Junior School
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Dear Carers and Parents,

Despite the fact this February is a short month, and this is without taking out half-term, we have still managed to squeeze in a lot in.

Thank you for taking up the New Year resolution we mentioned in January's newsletter. We have had lots of students saying that they are enjoying the extra reading time at home, and this is having an impact in the classroom. We know it can be a challenge to fit this in but the benefits are huge for your child, and yourself

You can read in this newsletter how students are promoting reading in school through the use of our reading wagons in a leaflet put together by two Y6 students – Mia and Joban. As Walt Disney said – ***“There is more treasure in books than in all the pirate’s loot on Treasure Island”.***

SATS Week

Here is a reminder of when Year 6 take their SATs. All students will be expected to be in for the whole week. We are holding a meeting for carers and parents on Thursday 26 March at 5.00 pm. It will give you some background information on the week, and some hints on how to prepare your child. Here's a link if you want more information of what to expect.
<https://exampapersplus.co.uk/key-stage-2-sats-parents-guide/>

Monday 11 May

English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling Test
Paper 1 - questions. Paper 2 - spelling.

Tuesday 12 May

English Reading Test
Mathematics

Wednesday 13 May

Paper 1 - arithmetic.
Paper 2 - reasoning.

Thursday 14 May

Mathematics
Paper 3 - reasoning

Learning in the Woods



We now aim to give all students in Year 4 and Year 5, 12 week sessions of outdoor learning through our Forest School programme that take place on the school site. The benefits can be found on the opposite page.

FOREST SCHOOL SUPPORTS ...

Social skills

Activities such as sharing tools and participating in play help teach the children to work together as a group, which strengthens their bonds and social ties.

Communication

The sensory experiences provided by Forest School helps prompt language development. Improving communication skills has a positive effect on a child's self-esteem and is a crucial part of their development.

Motivation and concentration

High levels of interest lead to high levels of attention. Spending time in the outside is exciting for a child. It tends to fascinate them which develops a strong will to participate and concentrate over long periods of time.

Physical skills

The increase in outdoor activity is bound to have a positive physical impact. Not only does the development of physical stamina improve but also gross and fine motor skills.

Knowledge and understanding

Children develop an interest in the great outdoors and respect for the environment. Encouraging children to develop a relationship with the natural world will help in protecting the environment for generations to come.

New perspectives

Forest School isn't just beneficial to children it is also beneficial to staff. Observing their class in a different setting allows them to gain a new perspective and understanding of their class.

Ripple effects

When children really engage with Forest Schools they will take their experiences home to share with friends and family. This will often encourage families to visit their local woodlands more frequently.

Levels the playing field

Taking children outside of the classroom removes the pressures of academia and allows them to play to their strengths. This is beneficial to children who struggle in the classroom because there is more of an opportunity for them to learn at their own pace.

Enjoyable for the children

Forest Schools are fun! It is educational whilst also allowing children to play, explore and discover. Children who participate in Forest Schools are generally observed to be happier. The fresh air, the excitement, getting mucky – it doesn't get more child friendlier than that.

A Chance to Frame Music Education for the Future

The Government are seeking your views on music education in school to inform proposals for a refreshed national plan for music education. Music is such a vital part of our lives, and we urge you to complete this consultation as it is important that music, and the Arts in general, are not forgotten in the drive for academic excellence.

<https://consult.education.gov.uk/curriculum-implementation-unit/music-education-call-for-evidence/consultation/subpage.2020-02-05.2902145721/>

Rubbish Collecting

Thank you to Annie and Sophie, a couple of our Year 5 students, who decided to take action with the amount of rubbish around the local area. They went on a rubbish collection themselves!

Whilst we applaud your efforts - a whole bin bag was filled, perhaps if more people disposed of their rubbish correctly, you could enjoy where you live more.



Celebrating People Who Keep Us Safe

It's always good to stop and appreciate those unsung heroes of our community. After a recent incident, we all took the time to say thank you to Angie, our crossing control person, for the work she does in ensuring our students arrive and return safely.



Time Tables Rock Stars Day

We had lots of 'Rock Heroes' rock up at school this week – thank you for supporting the dressing up. As well as a bit of fun, the aim was to get the students to engage even more with their times tables skills. Please encourage your child to practise at home - <https://play.trockstars.com/auth/school/student>



Read All About It!

You **HAVE** to read this book!

Book: Captain Underpants

Author: Dav Pilkey

Recommended by: Janusha , year 3

Suitable for: Year 3 and Year 4

What's it about?

It is about two children that buy a hypno-ring. They turn the principal into an under pants hero!

Reading Top Tips

- Set aside some time to read every day
- Find a quiet space to avoid distractions
- Point to the pictures with your child and talk about the book

Reading Wagons

Every Tuesday break time in 6F

You can....

- Come and read in peace
- Choose a book from our wagons to take home
- Bring in any old books you have finished with
- Talk to our class reading reps about books
- Suggest your own book recommendations for this page



Reading Top Tips

- Get your child to choose a book from the library
- Encourage your child to talk about the book
- Give your child your full attention

You **HAVE** to read this book!

Book: Wonder

Author: R. J Palacio

Recommended by: Mia in 6F

Suitable for: Year 5 and Year 6

What's it about?

It is about the life of a boy who was born with a disfigured face and the troubles he goes through because of it.

'Read All About It' produced by Mia and Joban

It is your **be**dworth

...**be** involved

Take Part in the Be Nu Public Consultation for Nuneaton and Bedworth

We have been asked to share with you the chance to give your views on how to improve Bedworth. The local council want a fresh new look for the town with better links and shopping. You can have your say on what new looks like, so use your voice and help make this happen...

Take one of their very quick surveys - simply click on the link below to get started.

<https://www.be-nu.co.uk/bedworth>

Y4/5 Greek Day

Just before the half term break, Year 4/5 had a very successful Greek day. The students took part in a number of different learning activities inspired by the work they had done on the Ancient Greeks. They were able to come to school dressed as a character from Ancient Greece and they all put lots of effort into their costumes – thank you for your support. The Greek dancing was liked by everyone!



1st Bedworth Girls' Brigade

The Girls' Brigade (GB) is an international charity working alongside girls and young women of every background, ability and culture.

Since their foundation in 1893, GB has become known worldwide as a fun, interesting, challenging and relevant provider of activities and skills for hundreds of thousands of young people.

The 1st Bedworth Girls' Brigade company meet on Tuesday evenings at Bedworth Baptist Church. They start at 6.30 pm every week during term time. For more information contact Lisa Crankshaw on 07709 497 495 or email at 1stbedworthgb@fsmail.net



Explorers N:vestigate

Reception to Year 2

6.15pm – 7.30pm

Juniors N:gage

Year 3 to Year 5

6.15pm – 8pm

Seniors N:counta

Year 6 to Year 8

6.15pm – 8pm

Brigaders N:spire

Year 9 upwards

6.15pm – 8pm

Parking Reminders

What are SCHOOL KEEP CLEAR signs for?

For safety - to ensure clear sight lines for both motorists and children, as well as for other road users, outside schools. They provide a clear area in which families can cross more safely. The no stopping times on the yellow zig zags outside most school entrances are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday to Friday, except August.

If you stop on the School Keep Clears you will be liable for a penalty charge notice.

School 'keep clear' markings should always be kept clear of all traffic. Inconsiderate and dangerous parking is increasingly causing problems around our school, putting the safety of children and others at risk. Cars parking inconsiderately or on zigzag lines cause visibility issues for pedestrians of all ages who are crossing the road network to get to and from school.



School Disco

Thank for the amazing support for our school disco. I think it was the best attended disco we have ever had. Huge thanks goes to the Friends, again, we raised **£247.93!**



Parents Events Calendar - Spring Term 2, 2019/20

Week b/g	Event
24.02.20	<p>Monday 24th - Students' return to school at 8:45 am</p> <p>Monday 24th - Football tournament at St. Michael's - selected students only</p> <p>Monday 24th - Round 1 of Spelling Bee - this week</p> <p>Tuesday 25th - Year 3 D&T day</p> <p>Wednesday 26th - Class C - Bedworth Library Visit</p> <p>Thursday 27th -</p> <p>Friday 28th -</p>
02.03.20	<p>Monday 2nd - Round 2 of Spelling Bee - this week</p> <p>Monday 2nd - Ash Green - Anti-bullying workshop with Y6 - in the afternoon</p> <p>Tuesday 3rd - Children favourite menu Educaterers</p> <p>Wednesday 4th - Year 3 D&T day</p> <p>Thursday 5th - World book day - letter issued with details</p> <p>Friday 6th - Parents meeting for the Year 3 & 4 residential at 2:30 pm</p>
09.03.20	<p>Monday 9th - MOCK SATs week in year 6</p> <p>Monday 9th - Spelling Bee final this week</p> <p>Monday 9th - Science week</p> <p>Tuesday 10th -</p> <p>Wednesday 11th - Year 4 parents meeting for Times Tables Efficiency Tests 2:45 pm</p> <p>Thursday 12th -</p> <p>Friday 13th -</p>
16.03.20	<p>Monday 16th -</p> <p>Tuesday 17th -</p> <p>Wednesday 18th - Road safety assembly 10:45 am led by Louise Newham</p> <p>Wednesday 18th - Class D & E - Bedworth Library Visit</p> <p>Thursday 19th - Y6 Parents meeting RE: SATs (time to be confirmed)</p> <p>Friday 20th - Mother's day craft activity afternoon - 2:15 pm start (details to follow)</p>
23.03.20	<p>Monday 23rd -</p> <p>Tuesday 24th - Children's favourite menu Educaterers</p> <p>Wednesday 25th -</p> <p>Thursday 26th -</p> <p>Friday 27th -</p>
30.03.20	<p>Monday 30th - Years 4&5 Greek performance (Tickets and times to follow)</p> <p>Tuesday 31st -</p> <p>Wednesday 1st - Students leave for Residential (Y3&4)</p> <p>Thursday 2nd - Students on Residential (Y3&4)</p> <p>Friday 3rd - Students return from Kingswood Residential (Y3&4)</p> <p>Friday 3rd - School report out to parents</p> <p>Friday 3rd - Students break up for Easter Break at 3:15 pm</p>
	End of Term