



MAY NEWSLETTER

St Giles Junior School

St Giles Junior School
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Dear Carers and Parents,

As you may have heard, everyone is very busy preparing for the re-opening of the school to children in Year 6. This involves many key decisions about staffing, routines and procedures, amending key policies for the safety of everyone at school, preparing rooms, outside spaces and resources. We will continue to keep you up to date with information as it is available.

As we are one of a few schools in the consortium area which is open during the half term holiday so we are well ahead in our plans – a huge thank you to all the staff for giving up another holiday to support the school and to get it ready.

I have shared our plans and risk assessments with Warwickshire County Council, as well as with the local schools in our area. Whilst we have taken into consideration all guidance and advice given to us, we have made all decisions based on the best interests of our children, and our ability to maintain some education provision for every child at St Giles.

Year 6 pupils will progressively begin to return to school from the week beginning 1 June 2020.

I have to ask that Year 6 parents and carers do not make requests for specific days of the week in school. All Year 6 parents have been informed of their child's allocated days and start and finish times. I appreciate this may be difficult for many of you and everyone has their own personal circumstances to manage at this difficult time. However, these arrangements have been put in place to support social distancing through contained small groups or 'bubbles' to ensure that we can continue to provide a safe environment as pupil numbers increase in school.

Once again, thank you for your support during this time.

Mr Mann

Regular Communication

Remember to check your emails, we will try to keep to this schedule

Every Tuesday - home learning for the week ahead

Every week - school nursing team health & well being newsletter / welfare support

Every Sunday - message goes out on the app

Every other week - targeted communication to those eligible to book a place in our Nightingale Classes for key workers and vulnerable children.

Free School Meal - Updates as we receive information from the Local Authority.

The admin email box is also checked every day, so please continue to use if have questions or queries.

Online Learning

I hope you will agree that our staff have done an amazing job in providing you all with high quality and quantity home learning resources over the last 8 weeks. One of the positive benefits of the staff being on a rota in class, is that it allows them time to dedicate to online learning for the rest of the week. We have done everything we can to help you with home schooling your children and given plenty of ideas for how to do this in a fun, engaging and successful way.

With the school about to open to wider numbers of children, we will endeavour to maintain this standard.

Classes for September

Although September seems like a long time away, we are starting to consider our classes for the next academic year. You will appreciate, that although this is always a carefully managed process, we face additional challenges this year. Consultation between the staff in our decision-making is key, as well as preferences your child might have regarding friendships and who they work well with. I would like to invite you as parents and carers, to contact us if you or your child have any particularly strong views about the class organisation for September. We particularly need a list from each child of a possible five friends they would like to be with next year, we will endeavour to ensure that they get some of their choices.

Please be aware that classes will not necessarily change. Any requests for consideration must be submitted via email to our office email address: admin2571@welearn365.com

Requests need to be received no later than Friday 19th June.

Changes Around School

This is just a reassurance that the school will largely look the same when pupils return. There are pictures in the press of how some schools have been required to totally re-organise the layout, but these tend to be for schools that have younger children.

Some areas of the school might have tape around just to remind children, and the classrooms will have less desks, but we are fortunate to have older children who understand and can largely keep to the new rules.

From 1 June 2020 we have a new entry and exit routine with staggered start and finish times. There are yellow lines on the main path into school to support social distancing and we ask that only children go past the main school gate on Hayes Lane during the staggered entry and exit times. I am sure that some pupils will forget the 2m rule sometimes, who hasn't, and a gentle reminder from staff and their friends, will ensure that everyone will be trying their hardest to be safe.



VE Day

Although it seems a long time ago now, the school took part in its own VE Celebrations with activities and games, and for those of you at home, we are sure that you also took a little time to commemorate the importance of this day. Sandra in the kitchen took the opportunity to bring a bit a bit of 1940's British flavour into school, and bake some special cakes for everyone – they were delicious! Thank you.

