



# OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

## St Giles Junior School

St Giles Junior School  
Hayes Lane, Exhall, Warwickshire, CV7 9NS  
Tel : 02476 313375  
Email : [admin2571@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2571@welearn365.com)

### **We hope everyone is well.**

The children have really settled in well into their classes this half term and the teachers have had the time to monitor and assess every child's learning.

Baseline assessments have now been completed in reading, writing and maths for all year groups. The teaching is therefore targeted to support the pupils from their starting points this term. Some pupils may have lost learning due to the lockdown period and it is important that we enable pupils to learn and consolidate key learning skills in order to make good progress in reading, writing and maths.

We are also ensuring that the wellbeing of the pupils remains a top priority and are giving them opportunities to discuss their feelings and promoting a positive attitude in the school. Specific interventions are in place to support identified pupils and help them further with their learning.

The plans put into place for when a 'bubble' has to self-isolate have unfortunately been tested out already. Well done to Year 4/5 who have carried on with their learning online, it was good to see so many of your carrying on despite being at home – thanks to parents/carers as well for all your support.

The reason for Year 4/5 not being in school highlights the fact that we are in a pandemic. It is quite easy to sit and watch the news and feel that it is happening to someone else, but now the risk that Covid brings seems very real. If you, your child or someone in close contact with your family is experiencing symptoms.

- **Self isolate and do NOT send your child to school.**
- **Get a test and wait for the results.**
- **Do NOT let your child return to school if they have been in close contact with anyone displaying the symptoms.**
- **Keep the school office updated at every stage.**

## Heads and Deputies

Congratulations to our new Heads and Deputies. They went through a tough round of presenting to the whole of Year 6 followed by voting, before a final staff selection.

We had lots of applicants this year, and they all showed passion and skills that made the task very difficult for everyone. However, a final decision was made.

Our best wishes go to the Heads, Aman and Parneet, supported by Kristian and Mya as deputies.



## We are still looking for more Parent Governors

We have recently recruited Mr Lyall onto the governing body and it would be great if more carers/ parents could join the team. Please contact the office if you are interested.



## Here's why you're needed -

Parent governors are:

- well placed to understand parents' views and remind the governing body how matters being discussed affect parents;
- in a good position to help the governing body to communicate effectively with parents;
- a link between parents and the governing body;

You'll have the opportunity to make a difference, not only for your children, but for children in years to come, and you will learn a lot and develop new skills.

## Is there a graphic designers amongst us?

We are looking to jointly produce a brochure between ourselves and Exhall Cedars Infants. The aim is for both schools to show off what they do to support the learning journey your children experience in both schools, and how we support that vital transition between infants, juniors and into secondary school. We have the ideas, but not the skills – is there anyone you know how could help us?

Just contact the office and leave your details – [admin2571@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2571@welearn365.com)

## Online Learning

It is worth reminding everyone that the expectation from the Department of Education is that online learning is provided by the school 'immediately' once a bubble is sent home, **so the issuing of paper copies of work is not a route that supports this.**

Please take time to familiarise yourself with accessing Seesaw accounts and how Microsoft Teams work now, so there's no last minute panic. It is also worth making sure your child follows the agreed online behaviour rules – some struggled using the 'chat' function appropriately initially, and also had cameras and mics on. If a serious breach of these procedures occurs we will contact carers/parents. Please remember that once the online 'live' learning session has ended all students need to leave this platform.

## New Menu From Educaterers

With effect from 3 November 2020 Educaterers are offering a new menu to **all** pupils which includes a meat option, Vegetarian option or a Jacket Potato with a choice of toppings. The new menu will be sent out via Groupcall shortly.



## Y6 Application for a Secondary School Place

Below are some dates for the process of applying for a secondary school place:

**31<sup>st</sup> OCTOBER 2020** – closing date for applications

1<sup>st</sup> March 2021 – National offer day

12<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – deadline for accepting offers

29<sup>th</sup> March 2021 – deadline for submitting appeals

May/June 2021 – appeal hearings

We appreciate the selecting your child's secondary school is a key decision, but we can't offer our opinions to which school suits your child the best. Most schools will have a transition team in place who would be more than happy to answer any questions that you have, and we suggest that you contact them and discuss your child's.

<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk/applying-secondary-school-place>

## Office Opening Hours

Due to staffing levels the office is currently open 8.30 am - 3.15 pm, Monday to Friday. If you have any queries outside of these hours please email [admin2571@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2571@welearn365.com) and your email will be picked up or alternatively leave a message on the school answer machine.

Emails continue to be the main way that we communicate with families, particularly since the Covid pandemic began. Please check your emails regularly as we do not want you to miss any important information.



## Armistice Day

Each year pupils from St Giles represent the school at the Bedworth Armistice Day Parade. Unfortunately this year, for the first time in its 99 year history, the parade will not be able to go ahead.

However, St Giles has been selected to create an exhibit which will be displayed at Bedworth Civic Hall from 2 November 2020.

Thank you to all those who were able to send in a photograph of family or friends, who have served in the forces, past and present, for our display.

## November Diary Dates:

Monday 2 November 2020 – INSET Day – school is closed to pupils

Friday 6 November 2020 – Year 4/5 Black History Celebration

Wednesday 11 November 2020 – Individual Photographs by Wrates Photography

Friday 20 November 2020 – Flu Vaccinations

## Half Term

Have an enjoyable and safe half term. We look forward to welcoming children back on **Tuesday 3 November 2020.**