



NEWSLETTER

St Giles Junior School

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Hayes Lane, Exhall, Warwickshire, CV7 9NS
Tel : 02476 313375
Email : admin2571@welearn365.com

A huge well done to everyone for coming back into school so calmly and sensibly. We are so proud of how the students have returned and thrilled at how pleased they all are to be back with their friends and teachers.

We are delighted how very well each and every year group have settled into their new school year. It has been a time of challenges for so many people but your children have returned back to St Giles in the most amazing fashion; ready to learn, enthusiastic and setting themselves very high standards.

We are pleased with the new routines and thank everyone for all their support with this. The school is quite a different place at the moment and we miss the ability for each year group to interact, support and create new friendships with others, though we have seen each other during virtual assemblies. Attendance has been very good and I would like to thank everyone's support with this.

Thank you, also, for everyone with your communication concerning your child regarding if they have any illness especially symptoms of COVID-19. Just to reiterate, please do not send your child to school if they or anyone in their household are showing any symptoms of COVID-19, more details are in this newsletter.

We strongly encourage parents/carers to stay socially distant as possible during drop off and collection times of the day, remembering to wear a face mask if possible. As always, we thank you for your continued support - we greatly appreciate it.



Absences

If you telephone school to report an absence, please make sure you let us know WHY your child is absent or self-isolating with as much detail as you can, e.g., are they symptomatic? Are they awaiting a test result? Is someone else in the household symptomatic?

This is really important information to us and we need to be thoroughly informed of any absences for monitoring purposes.

Thank you.

Carers/ Parents Teacher Consultations

In light of the current Covid-19 pandemic, we are unable to invite you into school for our usual autumn term consultations evening.

In the first week back after half-term, all students will be sent home with their summary report. This will include comments from the class teacher on your child's areas of strengths centring around behaviour, attitudes, social, work presentation, homework and an indication of their attainment.

If after reading the report you feel that it would be helpful to talk to the class teacher, please return an enclosed slip, indicating the best method to make contact with you, this could be virtually or telephone.

Appointments times will be given to you for the following week. If the class teacher feels that they do require to speak to you, they will be contacting you to make an appointment that will suit during that week.

Year 6 Application for a Secondary School Place

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

7th September 2020 – secondary school application period opens

31st October 2020 – closing date for applications

1st March 2021 – National offer day

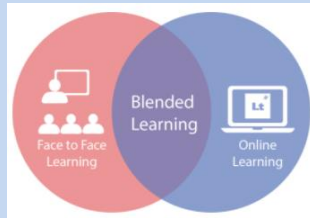
12th March 2021 – deadline for accepting offers

29th March 2021 – deadline for submitting appeals

May/June 2021 – appeal hearings

We appreciate that 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.

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



Blended Online Learning

The 'Seesaw' online learning platform will continue to be utilised this year for some homework. This will provide the class with more interactive home learning tasks, and will also prepare everyone for any eventualities which might result in online teaching being necessary.

We understand that it will be difficult for every child to have access to ICT and suitable broadband/Wi-Fi connections, but the majority of work will be set via Seesaw, so getting prepared now will help if learning can't take place in school. We will try to support where we can, but we do anticipate the move to online learning, both in and out of school, will become the norm in future years so getting ahead now will help in the longer term. Seesaw is web based, so the computing requirements do not need to be the highest spec or the most costly, internet access with a keyboard/keypad should be all your child needs.

| Year Group | Weekly Homework Expectations |
|------------|---|
| Year 3 | To learn their weekly spellings, read 3 times a week to an adult, maths and/or English based task. Practice of Times Tables Rock Stars at least 3 times a week is highly encouraged to prepare your child for the Year 4 times table test. |
| Year 4 | To learn their weekly spellings, read 3 times a week to an adult, Maths and English based task. Practice of Times Tables Rock Stars at least 3 times a week is highly encouraged to prepare your child for the Year 4 times table test. |
| Year 5 | To learn their weekly spellings, read 3 times a week to an adult, maths and an English based task. Practice of Times Tables Rock Stars at least 3 times a week to keep up fluency and speed. |
| Year 6 | Year 6 will set a range of tasks either via Seesaw or using the GPS SATs revision books. In the Autumn term an English and Maths task will be set. As the children move into the second part of the Autumn term (after half term) homework will be set nightly ranging from Maths, Spelling, Grammar & punctuation (SPaG) or reading. They will also be set weekly spellings and we still encourage parents to hear their child read at least 3 times a week. |

- Y3** – Homework goes out on a Tuesday & is due back in on the following Monday
Y4/5 - Homework goes out on a Thursday & is due back on the following Tuesday
Y6 - Homework goes out on a Monday & is due back in on the following Friday, though this will change for Y6 into daily homework – details to follow.

What happens when there has been a positive case in School?

- As soon as we are informed of a person who tests positive for Coronavirus, we immediately identify all close contacts and inform them not to come to school/ send them home to self-isolate for 14 days. This prevents the virus from spreading in school. Household member of close contacts do not need to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms
- On some occasions we may send home all possible close contacts as we review the situation and welcome children back who haven't been a close contact.
- The school works with the DfE, PHE and with the Public Health team at Warwickshire County Council for the best advice on next steps.

