



THE
GILES NURSERY
AND
INFANTS'
SCHOOL



Headteacher: Mrs Rouane Mendel
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19.07.2024

School Aims: our school is a place where we aim to develop:

- ▶ Positive attitudes to learning
- ▶ Creativity and a sense of self-confidence and self-esteem
- ▶ Equality of opportunity, independence, individuality, tolerance, sensitivity and cooperation
- ▶ Good relations, respect for others and the environment
- ▶ A broad and balanced creative curriculum
- ▶ Pupil achievement by providing quality experiences

Dear Parents/Carers,

One World Week has been thoroughly enjoyed by all children and staff have worked hard to enable children to extend their learning and to experience a wide range of exciting activities from around the world. This week children have enjoyed some glorious workshops including Caribbean and South American dance on Monday and a Chinese Dragon workshop yesterday. Each year group has explored different countries and children have engaged in many other lovely activities which will be outlined in class sections below.

Year 2 special Leavers' Assemblies: Next week, we sadly say goodbye to our current Year 2 children, with our wonderful leavers' assemblies. Families are of course very welcome to attend.

- ***Monday 22nd July at 9.15am – Puffin class with Mrs Brown***
- ***Monday 22nd July at 10.15am- Pelican class with Mrs Trott and Mrs Humphrey***
- ***Tuesday 23rd July at 9.15am – Penguin class with Miss Hill***

Parties on the afternoon of Monday 22nd July: Please see your class teacher for details on the arrangements for food. These days because of allergies in most classes children are asked to bring their own little pack of party food.

Children may wear party clothes on Monday (but we kindly ask that children do not come in dressing up outfits).

Please note that it's back to school uniform for Tuesday, the last day of this school year.

Autumn Term starts Wednesday 5th September: We look forward to seeing you all again on that day and hope you have the most wonderful summer holiday with lots of relaxation and happy time spent with your children.

Year 2 – Parent View: We would be so very grateful if you would have the time to go to the OFSTED Parent View website. This would be your last gift to our school. We will miss you all terribly. There is a link to this on the landing page of our website, or

you can click on the following link <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>. Parents of children in other year groups are also invited to complete this. Many thanks.

End of Universal Free School Meals for children moving to the Junior School in September: As you are probably aware, this benefit is only available to children of infant school age. If you are in receipt of benefits, you will need to apply online at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals for Free School Meal status.

School finishes for the term on Tuesday 23rd July at 2pm. Please note, there will be no after school club.

NHS Dentists: Local children are not registered with NHS dentists or are not attending regularly for check-ups. We wanted to let you know that Shephall Dental are taking on NHS patients under the age of 16. These are FREE for children and essential to good oral health.

If anyone would like to make an appointment, please call the surgery on 01438 351 556.

After School and Breakfast Clubs: Please be advised that the clubs for September 2024 will go live on Wednesday 21st August 2024.

School uniforms: FROG has a large collection of second-hand uniforms in good condition and donated as children outgrow them. If anyone would like to receive a set for their child, please WhatsApp your class FROG rep to let them know.

Nursery: This week in Nursery, the children enjoyed thinking back on the year and singing their favourite songs. The children will have these songs and memories to cherish forever. We hope they look back at their rhyme rings with great joy. In expressive art and design, the children enjoyed singing 'I'm a Little Teapot'. They stood up to sing and joined in enthusiastically with the actions. The children identified the rhyming words from the song, 'stout', 'spout', 'shout', 'out'. They made a range of art and crafts linked to the rhyme including tipping teapots from paper plates, and brightly coloured teapots and teacups. Daisy commented, "I know this song, I love it!" Alfie H eagerly decorated a tipping teapot and said, "This is great! Tip me over pour me out."

The children had a wonderful time playing team games with Mr Pullin. They pretended to drive a car and moved at different speeds around a space. The children listened carefully to the instructions and stopped in a split second by putting on their brakes. They then played a game of Banana Splits, a team game of tag. When the children got caught and tagged, they held their arms above their heads and a friend unpeeled them to join in again. Super fun, Ladybirds!

We hope you enjoy looking through their learning journals and sharing all their special memories and precious moments in Nursery.

Next week, the children will continue to celebrate their time in Nursery. On Monday, they will share a special party snack provided by the school and play party games together.

Reception: This week the children celebrated One World Week and focused on the Christian story of Noah's Ark. They enjoyed watching a version of the story by Lucy Cousins on YouTube ([youtube.com/watch?v=gGAcaFfWmiQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gGAcaFfWmiQ)). After watching the story a few times, the children were set the challenge of naming the animals who went on board Noah's Ark, and it helped them decide which animals would go onto their own ark. The children loved the song, 'The Animals Went in Two by Two' and enjoyed

choosing a partner to sing and parade with around the classroom, the corridor and the garden.

The children found out how a rainbow is formed and used the app Sketchbook on the iPad to create a rainbow using the colour wheel to carefully select the seven colours. Linked to this activity is the children's poem of the week is 'I Can Sing a Rainbow'.

*Red and yellow and pink and green,
Purple and orange and blue,
I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too.
Listen with your eyes,
Listen with your eyes,
And sing everything you see!
I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing along with me...
Red and yellow and pink and green
Purple and orange and blue,
I can sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow, sing a rainbow too.*

The children loved the dance workshop run by Anna. They danced to music from the Caribbean and were so happy when they danced to Bob Marley's 'Three Little Birds'. Anna told the children to have a bounce in their step when responding to Caribbean music. During the workshop, Mason in Barn Owl class said, "I been practising these moves at my house." and Cormac in Snowy Owl class said, "This is Bob Marley's music!"

In mathematics, the children used wooden blocks to create mazes for their partner to solve. They loved watching the story 'The Secret Path' by Nick Butterworth, where Percy the Park Keeper and his animals friends get lost in the park maze but are rescued by a hedgehog. Each child enjoyed the challenge of taking a small world character through their partner's maze to find a gold coin. Luca in Barn Owl class said, "I need to concentrate to make my maze, so I need to be quiet!"

The children loved participating in the Chinese Dragon workshop. They used Chinese fans to respond to music and then worked in groups walking around the hall under a Chinese dragon. Their final activity was to spin beautiful Chinese parasols. The children had such a fantastic time doing dragon dancing. Ivy in Snowy Owl class said, "I liked moving the stick up and down to make the dragon dance."

Next week on Monday afternoon, the children will be having an end of term party. Please can they bring in a named bag of party food. They can wear party clothes. During the party, the children will be joining in with a range of party games of their choice. On Tuesday, the children will be having their final PE lesson of the year, so they will need to wear PE kit.

The children's reading books will be collected on Tuesday morning and new books will be allocated in readiness for Year 1. Please remember the children can also access Bug Club and the Numbots during the summer and this will help them to continue to make progress with their reading and their mathematical knowledge.

All the Reception staff hope the children and their families have a wonderful summer holiday and wish the children all the best for their time in Year 1.

Year 1: This week has been One World Week and the children have had a wonderful time exploring countries and continents around the world. They began the week by travelling to Cuba to take part in a dance workshop, learning salsa and cha cha dance steps. They then travelled to Australia and learnt about Aboriginal art. The children decorated turtles, using a series of small dots to create patterns. Later in the week, the children flew to China to enjoy an amazing Chinese Dragon workshop.

Throughout the week in English, the children have listened to Ghanaian traditional stories about Anansi the Spider and sequenced the events. They learnt about the many tricks Anansi liked to play on his friends and how they didn't always go to plan.

We have continued to read the longer text 'The Enchanted Wood' by Enid Blyton for our Book of the Week. The Enchanted Wood is the first magical story in the Faraway Tree series. This week the children have heard how Joe, Beth and Frannie begin to climb the Faraway Tree and meet a range of magical characters. We will find out what happens next week.

In mathematics, the children continued learning about fractions. They learnt to identify and find a half and a quarter of a shape or a quantity. They learnt that two halves make a whole and they have to be equal. They also learnt that four quarters make a whole and they also have to be equal. The children learnt that to find a quarter they could find half and then half again.

In computing, the children continued to work on their animated story books. They added a background and then put all their new skills to the test to create a new animated book with sound, text, pictures and animation. At the end of the lesson, they demonstrated that they could save their work.

On Monday, the children will be celebrating a fun-filled year by having a party. Your child may come to school in party clothes. We ask that these are appropriate for school and especially that they wear sensible shoes. We have a number of pupils in school with food allergies or special dietary requirements, so please could we ask that you send your child to school with a named pack of party food for their individual consumption; for example, a sandwich, some crisps, a piece of fruit and a carton of drink. This is in addition to their packed lunch, if your child is bringing one in on that day. Thank you so much for helping with this. It should be a lovely afternoon, with traditional party games and dancing.

As the academic year comes to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our Year 1 families for their support throughout the year. We are very proud of all the Year 1 children and the progress they have made this year. We wish them all the very best for Year 2 and hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Year 2: It has been a truly wonderful One World Week in Year 2! It began on Monday with a South American dance workshop. Puffin class learnt to salsa, Pelican class learnt a Caribbean style dance and Penguin class learnt to tango. The children were so enthusiastic and listened brilliantly to learn a routine in only half an hour.

On Wednesday, all of Key Stage One attended the Rock Steady end of year concert in the hall. Lots of children from Year 2 performed in their bands, having learnt to sing, play keyboards, drums, bass guitar or lead guitar. The atmosphere was incredible and all of our 'rockstars' performed with amazing confidence. Well done to Erika, Elise, Isabella, Megan and Aria in Penguin class, Lylah-Mae, Bobby, Viraat, Emma, Isabella, Vienna, Ivy, James and Chiara in Puffin class and Chloe in Pelican class.

On Thursday, the children took part in an awesome Chinese Dragon workshop. They learnt to dance with a fan and then worked in groups to create a Chinese dragon display. It was a wonderful experience that celebrated teamwork and collaboration.



In class, the children read the book 'My Granny Went to Market' by Stella Blackstone. At the start of the story, Granny buys a magic carpet in Istanbul. She travels around

the world on her magic carpet, collecting a variety of interesting objects. The children learnt a little about some of the countries Granny visits, including China, Thailand, Japan and Australia. They made some beautiful crafts based on the objects Granny collects on her travels.

End of year parties will take place on Monday next week. Children should bring their own party food in a labelled bag, separate to their packed lunch if they have one. They can wear party clothes for the day but return to school uniform for the last day of term on Tuesday.

Leavers' Assemblies will take place as follows:

Monday 22nd July at 9.15am – Puffin class with Mrs Brown

Monday 22nd July at 10.15am – Pelican class with Mrs Humphrey and Mrs Trott

Tuesday 23rd July at 9.15am – Penguin class with Miss Hill

Please ensure you arrive promptly for your child's assembly. All are welcome!

May we remind you that Tuesday is the last day of term and school will close at 2.00pm.

Thank you to all of our Year 2 families for their support throughout the year. We wish you all the best as the children move to junior school and hope you all have a wonderful summer.

The Year 2 team

CLASS ATTENDANCE TROPHY

TROPHY-BEARING CLASS WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE FOR THIS WEEK

WALKER BEAR CLASS

95.7%

FANTASTIC ATTENDANCE – WELL DONE!!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ladybird Nursery Classes	All of Ladybird class for a fantastic year in Nursery.
Snowy Owls	Katherine for making a wonderful maze. Muna for using the iPad to make a wonderful rainbow. Myra for using the iPad to make a beautiful rainbow.
Tawny Owls	Ibrahim for building a fantastic maze in mathematics. Isla for amazing Caribbean dancing in the workshop.
Barn Owls	Parker for super dancing during the Caribbean dance workshop.

	<p><i>Jason for creating a fantastic maze for a partner to solve in mathematics.</i></p> <p><i>Jeremiah for creating a beautiful rainbow using the iPad app Sketchbook.</i></p>
Value of the Month - Charity	<p><i>Snowy Owls – Amelia, Harrie, Oscar M, Oscar W, Elliott, Francesca, Kobi and Muna</i></p> <p><i>Tawny Owls – Carina and Ibrahim</i></p> <p><i>Barn Owls – Teddie, Leo and Luca</i></p>
Red Foxes	<p><i>Kalanne for writing a fantastic recount about our school trip.</i></p> <p><i>Reuben for super mathematics recognising and explaining what a half and quarter is.</i></p>
Big Cats	<p><i>Samuel for excellent work in guided reading.</i></p> <p><i>Nadia for being a great classroom helper.</i></p> <p><i>Rose-Marie for writing a super recount about her trip to Shepreth.</i></p> <p><i>Sara for working really hard on her story in computing.</i></p>
Walker Bears	<p><i>Everyone in Walker Bears for fantastic learning and growing throughout Year 1.</i></p>
Value of the Month - Charity	<p><i>Red Foxes – Tigerlily and Leo</i></p> <p><i>Big Cats – Amelia and Mason</i></p> <p><i>Walker Bear – Alana, Roman and Isaac</i></p>
Pelicans	<p><i>Dollie for always being kind and helpful.</i></p> <p><i>Luan for always demonstrating high determination in all that he does.</i></p>
Puffins	<p><i>Bobby for wonderful movement during the Chinese Dragon workshop.</i></p> <p><i>Belle for making a wonderful kite during One World Week.</i></p>
Penguins	<p><i>Aria for being a ray of sunshine in the classroom.</i></p> <p><i>Enzo for always being polite to adults.</i></p> <p><i>Zyva for continued effort to improve her reading.</i></p> <p><i>Elysia for super understanding of how to tell the time.</i></p>
Value of the Month – Charity	<p><i>Penguins – Ivan, Zyva and Emelia-Ruby</i></p> <p><i>Pelicans – Maya and Lyra</i></p> <p><i>Puffins – Aaron, Lorenz and Ivy</i></p>

I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kindest regards,

Rouane Mendel
Headteacher

School Calendar Dates 2023/24

JULY 2024	
Monday 22 nd	Class Parties – children can come to school in party clothes
Monday 22 nd	Puffins Leavers Assembly – 9.15am
Monday 22 nd	Pelicans Leavers Assembly – 10.15am
Tuesday 23 rd	Penguins Leavers Assembly – 9.15am
Tuesday 23 rd	Last day of term – children to wear school uniform. Finish at 2.00pm , no After School Club.





Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Looking for something different to keep your child's inquisitive mind active this summer?

We are excited to announce that we will be running STEM Camps on **29th July – 9th August 2024 (2 weeks) at Camps Hill Primary School, SG2 0LT &** and on **12th – 23rd August 2024 (2 weeks) at Longmeadow Primary School, SG2 8LT** from **9 am to 4 pm** each day.

We are at each locations for 2 weeks, with 2 exciting themes with a host of **new activities** [click here](#) to see a few

Week 1 - Robotics, VR and Tech Fun

Program robots, design video games, model 3D creation, experience VR and lasertag, plus much more! A week of inspiration and creation with maximum excitement. We encourage children to experiment and challenge themselves, instilling a variety of exciting, real-world skills.

Week 2 - Minecraft Coding and Lego Engineering

Designed for ultimate fun and education. Students learn circuitry workings using Redstone and coding fundamentals in Minecraft Education edition creating magnificent masterpieces. Then take the virtual world to the real work and make LEGO ingenious inventions with sensors and motors. This week is designed to encourage students to experiment and push the boundaries of their imagination, while developing skills that will aid them in their future.

Our camps are for **ages 5-12**. Spaces are LIMITED and we are giving our best offer yet for bookings **before the end of June** with **1 week at £175**, or **2 weeks at only £299 (individual days also available)**! There are a limited number of HAF spaces available please check the HAF section on our website for more details. Please see the attached flyer for more information or to book now simply visit:

<https://www.nextthing.education/summer-camps/>

2023 / 24 School Calendar

September '23						
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October '23						
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November '23						
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January '24						
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February '24						
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March '24						
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





April '24						
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June '24						
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July '24						
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August '24						
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-  = Term Time
-  = 22/23 Pupil Holidays
-  = Bank and Public Holidays
-  = 2023/24 Pupil Holidays
-  = Inset Day - school closed to pupils
-  = Occasional Day - (school closed to pupils)



2024 / 25 School Calendar

September '24						
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October '24						
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November '24						
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December '24						
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January '25						
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February '25						
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March '25						
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April '25						
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May '25						
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June '25						
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July '25						
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August '25						
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