



The Giles Nursery and Infants' School



Summer Term 2023 Newsletter

Year Two

Pelicans, Penguins and Puffins

We were very excited to welcome the children back to school after the Easter break and to settle them back into their routines. We are thrilled to be starting our summer term topic 'Nature Detectives'. The children are very excited for their trip to RSPB Rye Meads, where they will try pond dipping and go hunting for minibeasts.

The summer term is always filled with lots of exciting activities, including the following dates for your diary:

- Pelicans and Penguins trip to RSPB Rye Meads – Wednesday 24th April
- Puffins trip to RSPB Rye Meads – Thursday 25th April
- Year 2 Stay and Read – Thursday 16th May
- Book Fair – Thursday 20th to Wednesday 26th June
- School Open Evening – Thursday 20th June
- Sports Morning – Tuesday 9th July (adverse weather back up – Tuesday 16th July)
- Move Up Day – Thursday 11th July
- Leavers' Assemblies – 22nd July (Puffins and Pelicans) and 23rd July (Puffins)

English

The children have started the new term looking at a hilarious explanation text. *Monsters: An Owner's Guide* by Jonathan Emmett and Mark Oliver explains how to assemble and look after a monster, with very funny results! The children will learn how to write their own explanation text in the form of an owner's guide or manual. After their trip to Rye Meads, the children will write a recount of their day. When we focus on the Great Fire of London, the children will find information in non-fiction texts and write descriptive stories.

After May half term, the children will read *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers and learn how to extend a story. They will learn to recite the traditional African tale of *The Papaya That Spoke* and write their own version of the story following the pattern of the original. The children will explore the poem *Blue Balloons and Rabbit Ears* by Hilda Offen and learn to write and perform their own free verse poetry. They will also hear and respond to the nonsense poem *The Quangle Wangle's Hat* by Edward Lear.

The children will continue to have daily phonics sessions, to ensure they are using their knowledge and skills to help them spell a growing number of words correctly. They will also learn grammar for punctuation and spelling. They will continue to learn to form letters accurately and join their handwriting correctly.

The children will continue to read and be read to each day. Reading in Year 2 includes guided reading

with an adult, 1:1 reading with an adult, whole class reading, reading fluency sessions and story time with our fantastic selection of reading spine stories.

Reading books are checked daily to see if reading is taking place at home and for your child to choose a new book when they are ready. It is so important that you hear your child read regularly at home and mark it in their reading record. Not only does this have a huge impact on their progress, each time you read at home, your child receives a reading ticket that enters them into the weekly raffle to take home our reading teddy, Elmer! Children also receive a certificate when they have read five books.

Mathematics

In mathematics, the children will continue to learn about multiplication and division. They will also learn about fractions, time, statistics, length and height, mass, capacity and temperature and position and direction.



Science

This term's science learning focuses on living things and their habitats. The children will learn about animals and their offspring before exploring different habitats and the animals that live in them. They will plan where to build a bug hotel and plot the location on a map. They will look at different food chains, including humans, and research how to take care of pets.

Computing

In computing, the children will use and create pictograms. They will use yes / no questions to separate information and create a binary tree. They will use a database to answer questions. After half term, the children will look at the work of different artists and use 2 Paint a Picture to recreate them.

Humanities



The children will learn about the Great Fire of London and experience a fantastic hands-on workshop, which will take them back in time to 1666. The children will compare London now and then, learn about life in 1666 and sequence the events of the Great Fire using the diary of Samuel Pepys as a historical source. They will also learn how the city was rebuilt after the fire.

Creative

In music sessions, the children will learn to sing and sign songs, make rhythms and explore composition using instruments. Our focus unit of work, 'I Wanna Play in a Band' has a rock theme. Children will learn about rock music and how to sing and play as part of an ensemble. In design and technology, the children will design and make their own healthy pizza. As part of their learning about the Great Fire of London, they will make their own Tudor house. The children will also learn how to sew and make their own cushion. In art and design, the children will explore the work of Claude Monet and create their own artwork in similar styles. They will create mini beasts using press-printing techniques.



Physical Education



As well as outside play sessions, the children have PE lessons, on Monday and Friday. Children should come into school wearing their PE kit on these days. PE kit should include a white or red t-shirt, black shorts, black jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt, white or black socks and black trainers or plimsolls. Lessons will include dance, gymnastics, games and athletics. For safety reasons, children with pierced ears should only wear small stud earrings to school and should cover these with micropore tape during PE lessons.

PSHCE (Personal, Social, Health, Citizenship & Economic Education)

Our themes this term are 'Relationships' and 'Changing Me'. In the first half term, children will learn about families and how these can be different. They will talk about different kinds of physical contact and how some is acceptable, and some is not. They will learn some positive problem-solving techniques to resolve conflicts with friends. They will think about different kinds of secrets and when these need to be shared with a trusted adult. They will think about who they can trust in their family, school and community.



In the second half term, children will learn about growing from young to old and consider how they have changed since they were a baby. They will learn about the physical differences between boys and girls and learn the correct names for parts of the body, and which parts are private. They will consider how to be assertive and confident to say what they like and don't like, and how to ask for help.

The children will also look ahead to junior school and what they are looking forward to in Year 3. A full transition program will be arranged to support the children as they move on to the next stage of their education.

One afternoon each week, children are encouraged to speak to the class about something of importance to them. This promotes their speaking and listening skills as a group and as individuals. Your child will be told the date of their session.

Religious Education

In religious education, the children will learn about ceremonies. They will find out what a ceremony is and explore important ceremonies of different religions, including Aqiqah, Bar/Bat Mitzvah, Dastar Bandi and Hindu weddings.



Statutory Assessments

Year 2 children who need to re-take the phonics screening check will do so in June. Results will be reported to you in your child's end of year report.

We hope you find this newsletter helpful and informative for your child's learning this term. If you wish to ask any questions, please speak to the teachers at the beginning or end of the day.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Miss L. Hill
Mrs. C. Brown
Mrs. M. Trott
Mrs. M. Humphrey
Class Teachers

Miss K. Lee
Mrs. S. Pentiu
Miss J. Wilkinson
Mrs. S. Dimova
Mr. M. Fajardo-Heredia
Mrs. G. Phillips
Mrs. T. Verschuren
Support Staff