



THE  
GILES NURSERY  
AND  
INFANTS'  
SCHOOL



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**01.12.2023**

**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,***

***We hope you all enjoyed the long weekend last week! In school, children have had the most wonderful week – all staff worked so hard yesterday evening to transform their classrooms and the school hall into magical, Christmassy spaces! When the children came in this morning, everything was ready. Christmas trees, tinsel, Nativities, seasonal role play areas and Advent calendars were everywhere and the whole school looked absolutely wonderful! In Nursery yesterday, the long-awaited Teddy's Birthday Party took place. The children were in a state of wild excitement and they had the most fantastic time. Teddy enjoyed himself too and when the children arrived this morning he had eaten all his birthday sweets!***

***Mrs Dacombe started off the season with an Advent assembly for Years 1 and 2 this afternoon and we are awaiting with great anticipation the Reception concerts next week!***

***We had a county inspection from our County Improvement Partner this week who did a 'deep dive' in science and was hugely impressed.***

***Mrs Dacombe and Mrs Dalton delivered inspirational lessons with pupils profoundly engaged. Our partner, Mrs Hinstridge, said of our Nursery that the standard of provision was exceptionally high, especially in terms of the breadth of activities, richness of provision, beauty of environment including eye-wateringly fabulous displays and role play areas which honour the children's work and develop their learning, and in terms of the quality of adult interactions with the children.***

***And everyone should be so proud of the fantastic Year 2 pupils who shared their work with her. My goodness, they did Miss Hill and everyone who has ever taught them proud! They were unbelievably articulate and knowledgeable - Mrs Hinstridge reports that it is comprehensively evident that pupils leaving our school have learnt and understood everything they need to and more in science and that they are very ready for the next stage in their learning.***

***Mrs Edwards' leadership in science is of such a high standard - she knows her subject through-and-through, in every area of the school and answered every question in depth with such deep knowledge. We are so lucky to have such a superlative science leader!***

*Mrs Hinstridge further commented that evidence of high-quality interactions in which adults ask questions and give children time to think, explore their ideas and retrieve knowledge is strongly evident throughout the school. We are so proud of our staff and of our amazing children!*

*On Wednesday some children from key stage 1 took part in a sports festival organised by Stevenage Sporting Futures. The children took part in several different activities where they used their running, jumping, throwing, catching and balancing skills and tried to improve their personal best each time. Our boys came first in their race and our girls first! All the children were fantastic and they thoroughly enjoyed the event.*

*On Wednesday next week, the children in Years 1 and 2 will enjoy a high-quality production of Cinderella.*

*Next week Year 1 pupils will enjoy a day's Toy Workshop and Year 2 pupils a special day of Christmas Journey Workshops.*

*FROG Christmas Event – Thursday 7th December: Come and join us from 3.10pm in the main school hall for some exciting Christmas activities organised by our FROG team. FROG would love your tombola donations of items such as candles, chocolate/biscuits, smellies/toiletries, booze and sweets. There will be a small reward for the class with the most donated items. Please bring your donations to your child's classroom no later than Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December.*

*FROG are getting very excited as they plan the Christmas Event which will run from 3.10 to 4.30. They ask please for donations of:*

*\*jars with or without lids for sweet-filled tombolas*

*\*empty wine bottles with the screw tops in place*

*\*unopened wine or any other lovely, kind contributions to a raffle.*

*On this note, we have already had the most FANTASTIC offering for our raffle from our dear Mrs Furr whose husband works at John Lewis and who has contributed:*

- 1. a Snapper the Venus Flytrap bag*
- 2. the fabulous Snapper book*
- 3. Snapper himself - an absolutely gorgeous, large soft and very cuddly toy!*

*Huge thanks go to Mrs Furr and her husband! We hope that this may inspire donations for our raffle - and, even more importantly, that you will buy raffle tickets on the day!*

*Thank you to our fantastic FROG group and we look forward to seeing everyone on December 7th!*

The FROG PTA Invite you to  
a Giles Infant & Nursery School

# Christmas Event

7th December @ 3:15 - 4:30  
in the School Hall



Tombola  
Christmas Activities  
Refreshments  
Guess the name of the Elf  
Lots more and  
Prizes to be won!



DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY  
TO GET INTO THE HOLIDAY SPIRIT - ALL ARE WELCOME



***Supply cleaner: If anyone is interested in this role and helping to keep our beautiful school clean when the agency cleaners are ill or we need a bit of extra help and you need a few extra pennies, please come in and speak to the office.***

**Stevenage Christmas Light Switch on:**

***Our very own Giles Caretaker, Mr Bramble (aka Vincenzo) performed! Some of our children also sang in the 'Abilities in Me' choir! We were so proud!  
I hope you all enjoyed the wonderful event!***



**Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December, Christmas Lunch:**

***On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December we shall have our Christmas lunch (please see the menu below), helped by FROG to make the occasion very special for the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.***

***We will therefore swap our menu for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and lunch will be:***

***Red option: Chicken and sweetcorn meatballs***

***Green option: Bean and vegetable grill***

***White option: Jacket potato***

***Yellow option: Tuna roll***

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH**

HCL

Christmas Turkey and Chipolata Sausage, Trimmings of Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy  
OR  
Festive Quorn Fillet (v) with a Veggie Sausage (v), Trimmings of Sage and Onion Stuffing and Vegetarian Gravy  
With Roast Potatoes and a Choice of Seasonal Vegetables  
A Choice of Christmas Desserts

Facebook: HCLcatering   Twitter: @HCLcatering   LinkedIn: HCLcatering

**Christmas Parties:** On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December we will be holding our class parties. Children may come dressed in party clothes or in a Christmas jumper. It's back to usual school uniform on Wednesday, however, for the last day of school. Because of allergies, classes are organising party food in different ways this year, so if you are unsure, please speak to your child's teacher or call the office.

*It is just possible that there will also be a special visitor bearing gifts!*

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December last day of term:** Please remember that school will finish an hour earlier for all classes and that there is no After School Club on the last day of the term. School will close at 2pm on this day.

**School Attendance:** Please help to improve school attendance and outcomes for your child. Good attendance at school is the single most important factor in ensuring that children and young people have the best opportunities in life. For a school to be deemed as having good attendance, it must have an attendance rate of at least 97%. Our current attendance rate is 91.4%. This is concerning, as missing out on lessons leaves children extremely vulnerable to falling behind. Evidence shows that children with poor attendance do not achieve as well as children with good attendance at school, with many leaving primary school working below the age-related standard in reading, writing and mathematics. Legally, a child of compulsory school age must attend school every day that it is open, except for in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission in advance by the school. It is a parent's responsibility to ensure that their child attends school regularly and punctually.

**FROG January Event:** Further information will follow regarding a bags2school collection. Clothes etc can be donated and the school will receive a payment based on the weight of donations collected.

**Father Christmas:** Sadly, the volunteer who has been our Father Christmas for the past two years is unwell and not able to help us this year. If you are able to offer some of your time on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December in the afternoon to be our Father Christmas, please do let Mrs Mendel know. We have the outfit, you would just need your own boots and beard. The children absolutely love having a visit to the classrooms, and your help would be greatly appreciated.

**Children due to start Reception and Year 3 in September 2024:** The application process for Reception year and Year 3 to start in September 2024 opened on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023 and will close on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Applications can be made via:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/school-admissions/primary-junior-and-middle-schools/primary-junior-and-middle-school-places.aspx>

We are offering regular tours of Reception - please visit

<https://www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk/prospective-parent-tours/> or call or visit the school office to book a place.

**Children due to start Nursery in September 2024.** Applications/admissions are managed by the school. Applications open on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023. An application form will be available on the school website from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2023.

We are offering regular tours of Nursery - to book a place, please visit

<https://www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk/prospective-parent-tours/> or call or visit the school office to book a place.

**Value of the Month for December:** Our new value of the month is 'resilience'. Resilience means keeping going when things get tricky, moving forwards positively after a problem and trying hard not to be negative or give up.

**Nursery:** The children had an exciting week preparing for and celebrating Teddy's 4th birthday. They were excited to receive Teddy's party invitation and quickly started writing replies and decorating birthday cards. Clara made a happy birthday card for Teddy and said, "This is for my best friend!"

The children had a wonderful time in the party role play area, taking part in a special birthday tea party, playing musical chairs and musical statues. Henry sat with his friends and said, "We are going to make him a honey sandwich." As Mollie left the roleplay area she said, "I need to give Teddy a hug goodbye."

Teddy and the children had a fantastic time at the party, and they all looked marvellous in their party clothes. They ate jam or honey sandwiches and teddy crisps, sang Teddy his favourite song and danced to party music. Cody enjoyed dancing and exclaimed, "That was great fun!" Myles commented, "It's cool when we have a party."



In PSHCE, the children practised sharing and taking turns by playing a game of pass the parcel. They showed great care and thoughtfulness towards each other, playing the game sensibly and unwrapping each layer with care. They were all so happy to unwrap a layer and get a teddy card as a prize.

In mathematics, the children ordered teddy bears by size, using the mathematical vocabulary, 'big', 'small', 'biggest' and 'smallest'. This week they learnt all about the number five. During a game of 'fastest fingers' everyone was quick to show one hand is five. This week's number rhyme was 'Draw the back and the belly, then the hat. It's a five! Watch out, it might come alive!'

Over the next two weeks we will be sharing the children's family photos. We will learn about each other's different experiences within the family unit and have lots of fun celebrating diversity, customs, and traditions. Please could you send in a family picture; we will make a copy and return the original to you shortly.

On Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December we will be having our Nursery Christmas Party. The Nursery will be closed in the morning to prepare for lots of fun. All children should arrive in their party clothes at 12.30 for an afternoon of Christmas fun. We have an entertainer planned as a surprise visitor.

**Reception:** This week in understanding the world, the children loved investigating the force of the Big Bad Wolf's huffing and puffing on building materials. They used a hairdryer for the wolf's huffs and puffs to blow down a straw, stick and brick house. Before beginning his investigation, Noah in Barn Owl class predicted, "The wolf can't

*blow the bricks down because under the bricks is cement and cement keeps things like bricks together.” When using the hairdryer, Ivy in Snowy Owl class said, “The hairdryer is like the Big Bad Wolf’s breath!” and when evaluating his investigation, Mason in Barn Owl class said, “The bricks were so strong just like my house and even if I kick a ball, it wouldn’t knock my house down.”*

*In mathematics, the children used the mathematical terms ‘more’ and ‘fewer’ when placing wolves in two caves. Some children were able to recognise the difference just by looking at the number of animals whilst others used their counting skills.*

*In expressive arts and design, the children used the app ‘Sketchbook’ on the iPad to draw a picture of a wolf. They used a colour wheel to choose colours linked to the wolf’s fur and eyes.*

*The children have been busy practicing their class assemblies for next week and have kindly invited the Year 1 classes and Nursery to watch a class dress rehearsal. The class assemblies will be as follows:*

- *Barn Owls on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am*
- *Tawny Owls on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am*
- *Snowy Owls on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 9.15am.*

*All the assemblies will take place in the school hall.*

*Our poem of the week is ‘Advent Song.’ Please encourage your child to read the poem to you, a member of their family or a family friend. These weekly poems are to aid your child’s fluency in reading. The children do enjoy reading the poems each week.*

*Advent is a time to wait,  
Not quite time to celebrate,  
Count the candles one by one,  
Until Advent time is done.  
Day by day we work and play,  
To prepare for Christmas day!*

*This poem can be sung to the tune of ‘Twinkle, twinkle, little star.’*

*The Makaton sign for this week is ‘lunch.’*

*Next week the children will continue to practise their class assemblies and in literacy, they will focus on the Nativity using characters to retell the story through pictures. In RE, the children will look at why Christians around the world celebrate Christmas.*

*Year 1: In English, the children have continued to learn about toys and plurals. This week they learnt the spelling rule for adding ‘es’ to a noun, listening to see if the word ends in ‘s’, ‘ss’, ‘ch’, ‘sh’, ‘x’ or ‘z’. The children also started to think about capital letters. They were capital letter detectives and read sentences looking for a capital letter at the start of a sentence. They also matched lower-case letters with the upper-case friend.*

*Our Book of the Week has been ‘Knuffle Bunny’ by Mo Willems. It is a delightful story of the amazement of a child’s first words, after her beloved Knuffle Bunny gets left behind in the laundromat.*

*In phonics, the children continued with their phase 5 learning, focusing this week on the split vowel digraphs. These included 'i\_e' as in time and 'o\_e' as in bone. They read a selection of words and used robot arms to segment and blend to decode the word.*

*In mathematics, the children continued with their parts and whole learning and applied this knowledge to working out fact family additions. The children have been working out the different combinations when working with three numbers; for example,  $3 + 4 = 7$  is the same as  $4 + 3 = 7$  and  $7 = 3 + 4$ .*

*In science, the children consolidated their knowledge about mammals and reptiles during their animal classification work. They refreshed their knowledge of these two groups and sorted pictures into two sets based on their animal characteristics.*

*In Forest School, the children had a wonderful time making lanterns. They decorated them with leaves, tied ribbon and raffia to their jars and added a tea light. In computing, the children continued learning about algorithms. They learnt that an algorithm is a set of instructions that must be followed in sequential order. The children had great fun giving instructions for 'The Wrong Sandwich' and used Purple Mash to create an algorithm to match.*

*In design technology, the children have begun learning about mechanisms for making a moving card. They experimented with making a slider and designed how they would like their card to look.*

*Next week in English, the children will hear the Nativity story and look at sequencing the different parts. In mathematics, the children will begin to look at number bonds within ten. The children will also take part in a 'wow' day, to enhance their current topic on toys. They will take part in the virtual toy workshop from History Off The Page and learn all about toys from the past, the materials they were made from and how they moved. The children will become toy makers, making and decorating their own selection of toys.*

*Thank you for all the wonderful photographs sent in for our history lesson so far. If you have not yet had the chance to bring them in, please send in a photograph of your child as a baby/toddler playing with a toy and then an up-to-date photograph of them playing with a modern-day toy for Monday. These photographs will be stuck in their topic books to create a timeline. They will be comparing the changes over time.*

*New homework will be coming home today on a toy theme. Please complete the homework and return to school by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December.*

*We wish you all a wonderful weekend.*

*The Year 1 Team*

*Year 2: The children have had a wonderful week in Year 2. In English, the children continued their unit of work based on the fairy tale of 'Rapunzel'. They learnt how to write expanded noun phrases using the forest setting as a context; for example, 'the wet, cold leaves' and 'the tiny, chirping birds'. The children learnt how to convert present tense verbs into the past tense, including some irregular past tense verbs; for example, 'see' and 'saw', 'run' and 'ran'. The children then planned their final piece of writing for the unit, suggesting ideas of what Rapunzel might get up to in the forest when she escapes the tower. They came up with some wonderful ideas, including climbing trees, making friends with the animals and building a swing. Finally, the children wrote about Rapunzel's adventure in the forest, making sure they included expanded noun phrases and wrote in the past tense. They produced some fantastic pieces of writing, well done Year 2!*

*In mathematics, the children learnt how to add and subtract across ten. They learnt how to use their knowledge of the number bonds to ten to make additions and subtractions easier. For example,  $27 + 6$  is the same as  $27 + 3 + 3$ , which is  $30 + 3 = 33$ . The children used a range of resources to help them visualise the numbers, including base ten, part whole models and number lines.*

*In geography, the children explored the features of the Isle of Coll, a small island off the coast of Scotland. They used Google Earth to look at the differences between Stevenage and Coll. In computing, the children continued to make music using a computer program, considering how music can be used to express feelings. In RE, the children heard the Buddhist story of 'Prince Siddhartha and the Swan' and thought about why it is important to look after animals. In PSHCE, they learnt how to recognise what is right and wrong and found out some ways to stand up for themselves.*

*Next week, the children will focus on the speaking and listening elements of the English curriculum, as they rehearse for the Year 2 Christmas performance. In mathematics, the children will explore ten more and ten less, before moving on to adding and subtracting multiples of ten. In geography, they will learn about physical and human features. In PSHCE, the children will learn that we shouldn't judge people if they are different from us.*

*As part of our RE curriculum, the children will take part in a virtual 'Christmas Journey' on Tuesday, organised by the Bridge Builders Christian Trust. They will learn about the Nativity story and take part in some wonderful art and craft activities.*

*Please remember that tickets for the Year 2 Christmas performances are now available to reserve online at [The Giles Nursery and Infants' School \(eventcube.io\)](https://eventcube.io). There will be two performances:*

**MORNING PERFORMANCE - Wednesday 13th December: 9:30-10:30am**

**EVENING PERFORMANCE - Thursday 14th December: 6:00-7:00pm**

*As the cast will be large, and to make sure we adhere to fire safety regulations, the performances will be ticketed, allowing two tickets per Year 2 pupil. These can both be booked for one performance, or one ticket for each performance. Small children will not need a ticket if they can be seated on laps. Buggies will need to be parked in the school entrance.*

*Please ensure you have reserved your tickets before Wednesday 6th December.*

*We hope you have a lovely weekend.*

## CLASS ATTENDANCE TROPHY

**TROPHY-BEARING CLASS WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE FOR THIS WEEK**

### **PENGUIN CLASS**

**FANTASTIC ATTENDANCE – WELL DONE!!**



### STARS OF THE WEEK

<b>Ladybird Nursery Classes</b>	<b>Theo</b>	<i>for brilliant imaginative play in the role play area.</i>
	<b>Kai</b>	<i>for making a wonderful sandwich for the party.</i>
	<b>Annabelle</b>	<i>for enjoying the party so enthusiastically.</i>
	<b>Hashir</b>	<i>for super imaginative play in the role play area.</i>
	<b>Cody</b>	<i>for enjoying the party so enthusiastically.</i>
	<b>Chayson</b>	<i>for excellent imaginative play in the role play area.</i>
<b>Snowy Owls</b>	<b>Noah</b>	<i>for drawing a fantastic iPad wolf.</i>
	<b>Katherine</b>	<i>for being able to identify 'more' and 'fewer'.</i>
<b>Tawny Owls</b>	<b>Georgia-Grace</b>	<i>for excellent sounding out when reading with an adult.</i>
	<b>Alice</b>	<i>for being able to use 'more' and 'fewer' independently to describe two packs of wolves.</i>
<b>Barn Owls</b>	<b>Jeremiah</b>	<i>for demonstrating a very good understanding of 'more' and 'fewer'.</i>
	<b>Kaden</b>	<i>for drawing a fabulous wolf on the iPad.</i>
<b>Value of the month (Peace)</b>	<b>Snowy Owls: Katherine, Irina and Rory</b> <b>Tawny Owls: Sumayyah, Afna and Esther</b> <b>Barn Owls: Aadam, Eva and Jeremiah</b>	
<b>Red Fox Class</b>	<b>Veronika</b>	<i>for excellent recall of the number bonds to five in mathematics.</i>
	<b>Nikola</b>	<i>for always being kind.</i>
<b>Big Cat Class</b>	<b>Ruben</b>	<i>for excellent reading and use of phonics.</i>
	<b>Bela-Saffiya</b>	<i>for super learning in mathematics on the fact families.</i>
<b>Walker Bear Class</b>	<b>Eliot</b>	<i>for always having a positive attitude to your learning.</i>
	<b>Sabah</b>	<i>for super fact family addition work in mathematics.</i>
<b>Value of the month (Peace)</b>	<b>Red Foxes: Olivia</b> <b>Big Cats: Zachary and Evie</b> <b>Walker Bears: Clark and Milla</b>	

<b>Pelicans</b>	<b>Neithan</b>	<i>for always coming to school with a smile on his face.</i>
	<b>Darcie</b>	<i>for always trying her best in all aspects of school life.</i>
<b>Puffins</b>	<b>Hareem</b>	<i>for writing a wonderful diary entry.</i>
	<b>Ali</b>	<i>for a fantastic understanding of subtraction.</i>
<b>Penguins</b>	<b>Aleksander</b>	<i>for writing a detailed story about Rapunzel's adventures in the forest.</i>
	<b>Nabhan</b>	<i>for using very neat joins in handwriting.</i>
<b>Value of the month (Peace)</b>	<b>Pelicans: George and Nayla</b> <b>Puffins: James and Matthew</b> <b>Penguins: Ashlee and Wednesday</b>	

*We wish you all a wonderful weekend!*

*Kindest regards,*

**Rouane Mendel**  
**Headteacher**

### School Dates – Autumn 2023

<b>DECEMBER 2023</b>	
Tuesday 5th	Year 2, Virtual Christmas Festive Journey, all day
Tuesday 5th	Reception Christmas Concert – BARN OWLS, 9.15am
Wednesday 6th	Reception Christmas Concert – TAWNY OWLS, 9.15am
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	In school Pantomime for children
Thursday 7th	Reception Christmas Concert – SNOWY OWLS, 9.15am
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	FROG Christmas Activities, 3.15pm-4.15pm
Wednesday 13th	Christmas Concerts: Year 2, 9.30am
Thursday 14th	Christmas Concerts: Year 2, 6.00pm
Thursday 14th	Nursery Christmas Concerts, 10.00am and 2.00pm
Monday 18th	Christmas Dinner – FROG to decorate tables etc.
Monday 18th	Hanukkah Assembly, pupils only
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Nativity at All Saints Church 9.30am
Tuesday 19th	Afternoon Christmas Parties. Nursery closed in the morning and all Nursery children to come for the afternoon. A surprise visitor!
Wednesday 20th	Last day of term – finish at 2.00pm

<b>JANUARY 2024</b>	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
Date TBC	Bridge Builders Assembly, pupils only
Date TBC	Chinese New Year Assembly, pupils only
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup>	FROG Coffee Morning <b>8.30-9.30am</b> , SEN/INCO team to join
w/c Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Big Write
TBC	Owl Visit (Big Write)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Read, <b>Year 2 2.45-3.10pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.

<b>FEBRUARY 2024</b>	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Stay and Read, <b>Year 1 2.45-3.10 pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Phonics Workshop for <b>Reception</b> parents, crèche provided, <b>3.30pm</b>
w/c Monday 5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>E-SAFETY WEEK</b>

Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Safer Internet Day with Assembly & training for pupils
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	FROG / PTA Bake Sale, <b>3.15pm</b> . Donations welcome!
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sponsored Spell Words given out

**HALF TERM: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2023**

Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Shrove Tuesday Assembly in school, pupils only
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	SEN/Inclusion team Drop-In, <b>8.50-9.30am</b> . If you have something you would like to discuss with our specialist team, do drop by for coffee.

<b>MARCH 2024</b>	
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1 Phonics Workshop, <b>3.30-4.15pm</b>
Week of Monday 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>BOOK WEEK</b>
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day - non-uniform Day, children dress as their favourite character, donations for charity
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Open Evening, 4.30-5.30pm for children due to start September 2023
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Mother's Day – diary note only</i>
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Red Nose Day
Week of 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>SCIENCE WEEK</b>
Week of 18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Parent-Teacher Consultations time tba nearer the time</b>
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Open Evening, <b>4.30-5.30pm</b>
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Great Fire of London Workshop for Year 2
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Read, Year 1 <b>2.45-3.10pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Read, Year 2 <b>2.45-3.10pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Holi Assembly, Hindu Festival of Colours, pupils only
w/c Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Activities throughout school
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Assembly in school, pupils only
Week of 25 <sup>th</sup>	Parent Consultations, <b>times tbc</b>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> TBC	FROG / PTA Easter Stay and Play, <b>3.30-4.30pm</b>
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Bonnet Parade, whole school, pupils only
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term, school closes 2pm
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Last day of term – finish at 2pm

**EASTER HOLIDAY: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

<b>APRIL 2024</b>	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
Week of the 15 <sup>th</sup>	MATHS WEEK
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> DATE TBC	Eid-al-Fitr Assembly in school, pupils only
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Year 2 trip to RSPB Rye Meads – 2 x classes
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> TBC	Year 2 trip to RSPB Rye Meads – 1 x class
<b>w/c Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> – to be booked</b>	Living Chicks Project
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> - TBC	M&M Production of The Jungle Book followed by workshop. Arrive 12:45 for set up, show time at 1.30pm
w/c 29 <sup>th</sup> w/c 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 1, Class visits to Sishes Wood, each class to be confirmed MATHS WEEK INCLUDING POTENTIAL WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS TBC

<b>MAY 2024</b>	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	BANK HOLIDAY
w/c May 13 <sup>th</sup>	BIG WRITE
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Read, Year 1, <b>2.45-3.10pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.

Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Buddha's Birthday Assembly
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Stay and Read, Year 2, <b>2.45-3.10pm</b> . Parents come into class to read with their child or small group of children. All very welcome.

**HALF TERM: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024**

JUNE 2024	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	INSET DAY
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to school
Week 10 <sup>th</sup> June	MONEY WEEK
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Summer Concert, Barn Owl, <b>9.15am</b>
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Summer Concert, Tawny Owl, <b>9.15am</b>
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Reception Summer Concert, Snowy Owl, <b>9.15am</b>
Sunday 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Fathers Day – diary note</i>
TBC Monday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Circus Workshops and Assembly date tbc
TBC Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup>	SEN/Inclusion team Drop-In, <b>8.50-9.30am</b> . If you have something you would like to discuss with our specialist team, do drop by for coffee.
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Class Photograph Day with Kittle
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Whole School Open Evening and Book Fair, 5.30-7.00pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>NURSERY CLOSED TO ALL CURRENT CHILDREN</b>
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Big Cats Summer Concert, <b>2.30pm</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Walker Bears Summer Concert, <b>1.30pm</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Red Foxes Summer Concert, <b>2.30pm</b>

JULY 2024	
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup>	INSET DAY
Week of 1 <sup>st</sup>	Olympic Presentations
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Inco Coffee morning
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> TBC	FROG Bake Sale 3.15 – donations welcome!
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day practice
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Date TBC	ARK Farm Visit (Reception classes)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup>	Sports Day in morning
TBC Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup>	Walton on Naze trip – date to be confirmed, dependent on tides
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup>	Moving Up Day
TBC Friday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Sports for Schools Athlete visit
Friday July 12 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Pirate Day
W/C 15 <sup>th</sup> July	ONE WORLD WEEK
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> TBC	FROG / PTA Nursery Bedtime Stories
TBC Monday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Indian Dance Workshop
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Reserve Sports Day
TBC Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Drumming workshop
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Class Parties
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Puffins Leavers Assembly – <b>9.15am</b>
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Pelicans Leavers Assembly – <b>10.15am</b>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Penguins Leavers Assembly – <b>9.15am</b>
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Last day of term – finish at 2pm



**TERM DATES 2023-24**

**Autumn Term: Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED**  
**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Children return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**[Half Term: Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023]**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Children return to school on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023**

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2023 OCCASIONAL Day SCHOOL CLOSED**

**School finishes on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm**

**[Christmas Holidays: Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December – Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024]**

**Children return to school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024**

**Spring Term: Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024 – Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024**

**[Half term: Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2024]**

**Children return to school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

**School finishes on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 2pm**

**[Easter Holidays: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024]**

**Children return to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

**Summer Term: Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024 – Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED**  
**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED**

**[Half term: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024]**

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Children return to school on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED**

**School finishes on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July at 2.00pm**

