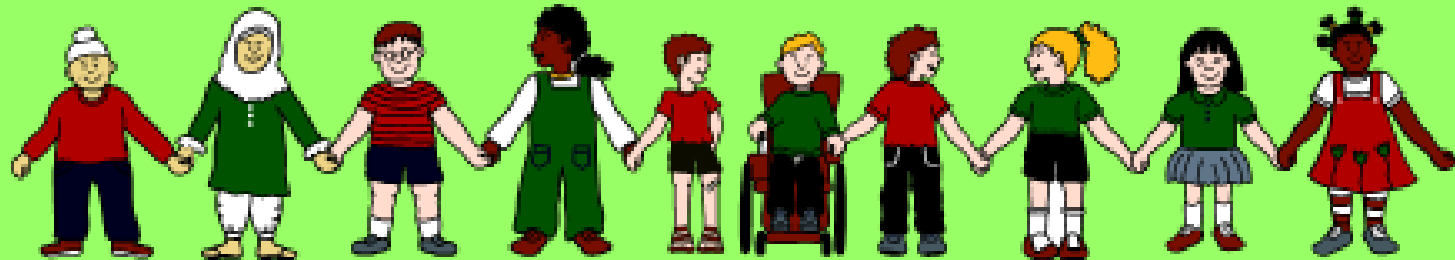


Welcome to Reception



Reception is made up of three classes:



**Barn Owl
class**



**Snowy Owl
class**



**Tawny Owl
class**

Reception Staff

Barn Owls



Mrs Morris
Teacher



Miss Beatty
EY Practitioner

Tawny Owls



Miss Busby
Teacher



Miss Ward
EY Practitioner

Snowy Owls



Miss Hunter
Teacher



Miss Freestone
EY Practitioner

Attendance



Regular school attendance helps children to:

- Achieve stronger academic outcomes.
- Build friendships and develop social skills.
- Strengthen emotional wellbeing and resilience.
- Establish positive habits for future education and employment.
- Engage fully in school life and activities.

Children attending school over 95% are almost twice as likely to meet the expected standard in reading, writing and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2.

Please visit the [Attendance](#) section on the school website for more information.

School Uniform



Please look on the school website for all information regarding our school uniform.

<https://www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk/school-uniform/>

What your child will need:

Book bag

Shoe bag

Bottle of water

**Please make sure
everything is named.**



What your child will need:



- Plimsolls: Where possible, we prefer slip-on plimsolls as Velcro tabs lose grip and flap about.
- PE kit: Children come into school on their class PE day wearing their PE kit. PE kit is a pair of black shorts or leggings/tracksuit bottoms, a white T-shirt and a pair of trainers. PE days are Tuesday and Wednesday.
- During the winter months: Bring a hat and gloves.
- During the summer months: Bring a sun hat, apply sun cream at home, there are lots of brands available which last for 8 hours
- Water bottle: ***No flavoured water or fruit flavoured squash*** as these attract ants. Water is available during day. Children are encouraged to drink lots of water during summer months.
- Sensible footwear: As the children will be climbing on outside apparatus, staff prefer children not to wear footwear which have laces as they tend to come undone.

When your child starts school:

- School hours are 8.45am to 3.15pm.
- Each class has its own entrance door.
- Doors close promptly at 8.55am. If you arrive after 8.55am, you will need to take your child to the main office, and your child will be marked in as late.
- The children enter the class corridor on their own and each class teacher and EYP will support your child with taking off their coat and getting themselves ready for learning. We would like you to encourage your child to practise putting on their coats or jackets to develop a sense of independence for when they go outside.



Basic Daily Routine:

Morning							
Mental Maths activities	Phonics	Snack	Adult led activity	Child initiated learning including outdoor learning	Daily Mile	Shared reading linked to phonics lesson	Lunch



Daily Routine:

- Our routine is slightly different on Friday as the Reception classes have Stay and Read. This is where you are welcome to come in and read with your child. Stay and Read will begin after the October half term break, once the children are settled into the Reception routine.
- A healthy snack is provided daily. This might be apples, pears, satsumas, bananas, carrots, strawberries, tomatoes or raisins.
- Milk: Children are entitled to free school milk in the term they remain five; once your child turns five there is a charge. Please refer to the Cool Milk leaflet which was in your admission pack or visit coolmilk.com to create an account.

Afternoon

Register	Musician of the Month	Adult led activity	Child initiated learning including outdoor learning	PSED / RE / Music / Story and rhymes / Mrs Mendel's assembly	Home time
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Lunchtime:

We have five daily choices as part of our lunch menu:

(**Red**: Meat or fish, **Green**: Vegetarian, **Yellow**: Baguette, White: Jacket Potato with baked beans and/or cheese or **Blue**: Home packed lunch).

These options are served with a choice of potato/pasta, two vegetables, a salad bar and a range of puddings.

You will receive a copy of the menu, so your child can choose each day what they would like to have for lunch. A copy of the menu is displayed in the classroom window too.

If your child has special dietary needs, you must complete a special menu request with Herts Catering Limited – please follow this link: <https://specialmenu.hcl.co.uk/>



Please note we are a NUT FREE school. This includes peanut butter, hazelnut chocolate spread and some chocolate snack bars. Please look at the ingredients before placing in your child's lunch box.

When sending your child in with grapes as part of their lunch, please ensure they are cut in half as they are a choking hazard.

After lunch, the children play outside.

Sample menu:

HCL



WEEK ONE

Served Week Commencing:

17th April, 8th May, 5th June, 26th June, 17th July, 4th September, 25th September, 16th October

MONDAY

Bean and Vegetable Grill (Ve)
Macaroni Cheese with Garlic Bread (V)
with Diced Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Cheese Sandwich

TUESDAY

Chicken Pie
Spanish Omelette (V)
with Potato Wedges or Tricolour Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Tuna Roll

WEDNESDAY

Roast Gammon with Gravy
Veggie Sausages with Yorkshire Pudding and Gravy (V)
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Chicken Mayo Wrap

THURSDAY

Beef Burger in a Bun
Pea and Lemon Risotto (V)
with Diced Potatoes or Tricolour Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Ham Sandwich

FRIDAY

Battered Fish Fillet
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)
with Oven chips or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Egg Roll

PUPILS' CHOICE EXTRA

SUMMER/AUTUMN 2023

WEEK TWO

Served Week Commencing: 24th April, 15th May, 12th June, 3rd July, 11th September, 2nd October

MONDAY

Caribbean Chicken
Veggie Burritos (Ve)
with Rice or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Tuna Sandwich

TUESDAY

Organic Beef Bolognese
Savoury Puff Roll (Ve)
with Spaghetti or Diced Potatoes

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Ham Roll

WEDNESDAY

Roast Pork Loin with Gravy
Quorn Fillet with Gravy (V)
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Chicken Mayo Wrap

THURSDAY

Quorn Hotdog (V)
Special Fried Rice with a Spring Roll (V)
with Potato Wedges or Tricolour Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Cheese Sandwich

FRIDAY

Crispy Coated Salmon
Margherita Pizza Wrap (V)
with Oven Chips or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Egg Baguette

WEEK THREE

Served Week Commencing: 2nd May, 22nd May, 19th June, 10th July, 18th September, 9th October

MONDAY

Pork Sausage with BBQ Sauce
Cheese and Sweet Potato Slice (V)
with New Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Tuna Roll

TUESDAY

Veggie "Meatball" Sub (Ve)
Roasted Tomato Pasta (Ve)
with Potato Wedges or Tricolour Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Cheese Sandwich

WEDNESDAY

Roast Chicken with Sage and Onion Stuffing and Gravy
Creamy Quorn Pie (V)
with Roast Potatoes or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Ham Roll

THURSDAY

Mild Chilli Con Carne
Quorn Burger in a Bun (V)
with Rice or Potato Wedges

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Chicken Mayo Baguette

FRIDAY

Fish Fillet Fingers
Cheese and Tomato Pizza (V)
with Oven Chips or Wholemeal Pasta

Jacket Potato with various toppings

CHILLED OPTION:
Egg Roll

End of day:

To ensure children leave the classroom safely, your child's class teacher will call out your child's name whilst they are seated on the carpet.

Their teacher will then guide your child towards the adult who is collecting.

Please advise the office if an alternative adult will be collecting your child. We will need to know their name, and how your child knows them.

Junior children and children under the age of 14 are not allowed to collect children.





Absence

- We understand that children get poorly, especially in the wintertime.
- Please refer to the Public Health Agency guidance for advice on when to keep your child at home.
- Minor ailments can usually be treated with children's paracetamol. Unless your child has a fever, we recommend bringing them to school, as they often brighten up during the day.
- School staff are happy to administer medicine if needed and will always contact you if we believe your child is too unwell to be in school.

If your child is anxious about school, we are here to help. Please speak to your child's class teacher for help and advice.

Please visit the [Attendance](#) section on the school website for more information.

If your child is too unwell to attend school, please call or email the school office before 8.45am on each day they will be absent.

Do I need to keep my child off school?

Do I need to keep my child off school?



Chicken Pox

Until all spots have crusted over

Conjunctivitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Diarrhoea & Vomiting

48 hours from last episode

Glandular Fever

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Hand, foot & mouth

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Impetigo

Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics

Measles or German Measles

4 days from onset of rash

Mumps

5 days from onset of swelling

Scabies

Until after first treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after commencing antibiotics

Slapped Cheek

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Whooping Cough

48 Hours after commencing antibiotics

Flu

Until recovered

Head Lice

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

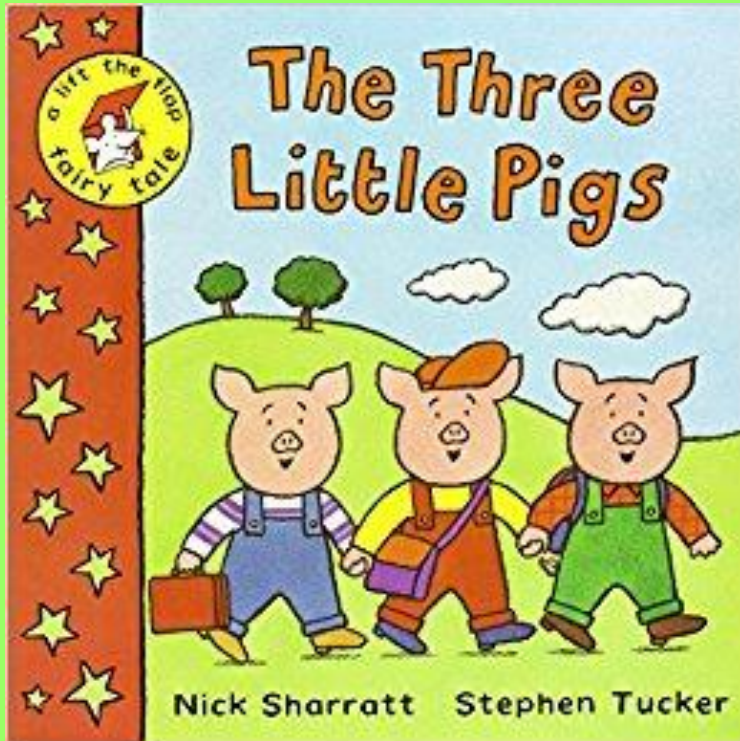
Threadworms

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Tonsillitis

No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed

Topics: Autumn term



Autumn first half term

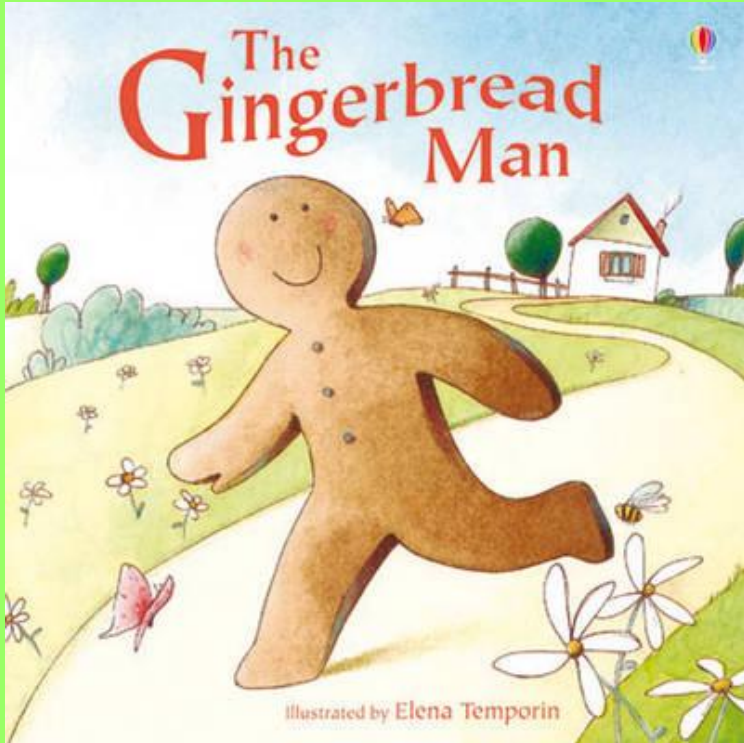
Imaginative Storytelling
linked to
The Three Little Pigs



Autumn second half term

Wolves and Environments

Topics: Spring term



Spring first half term

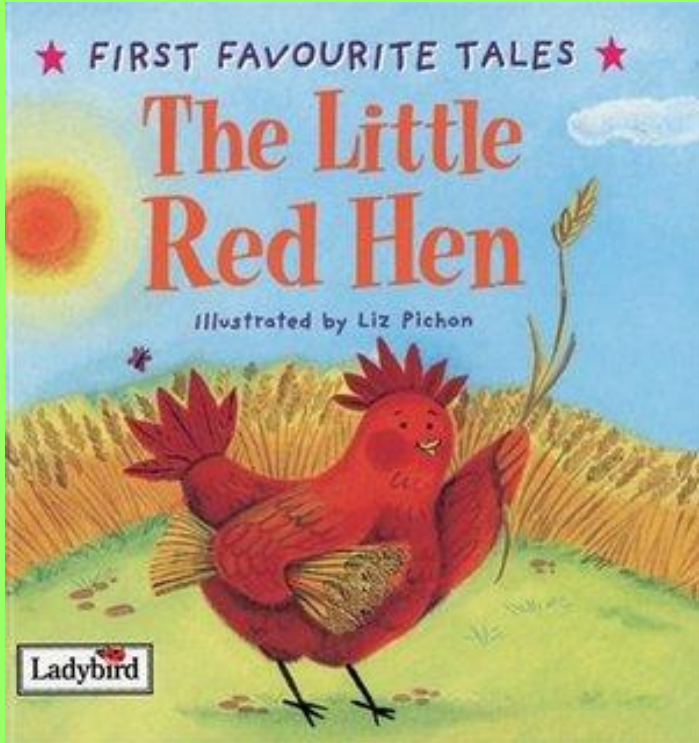
Food Technology and Science
Investigations linked to
The Gingerbread Man



Spring second half term

Safe Journeys

Topics: Summer term



Summer first half term

Life Cycles linked to
The Little Red Hen



Summer second half term

Growing

Stay and Read

Held every Friday
(this will begin after the October half term break)

Parents, family members, friends come in and share books with your child and other children.

Everyone is welcome!



Phonics and Reading

Daily sessions of phonics and a shared reading session linked to the phonics.

Each child will have their own reading book and record book.

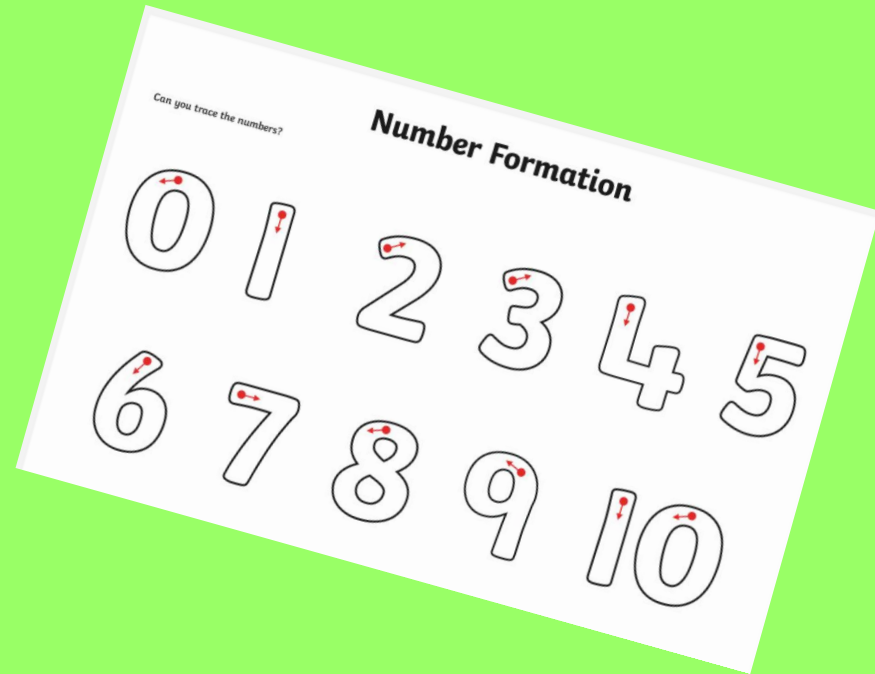
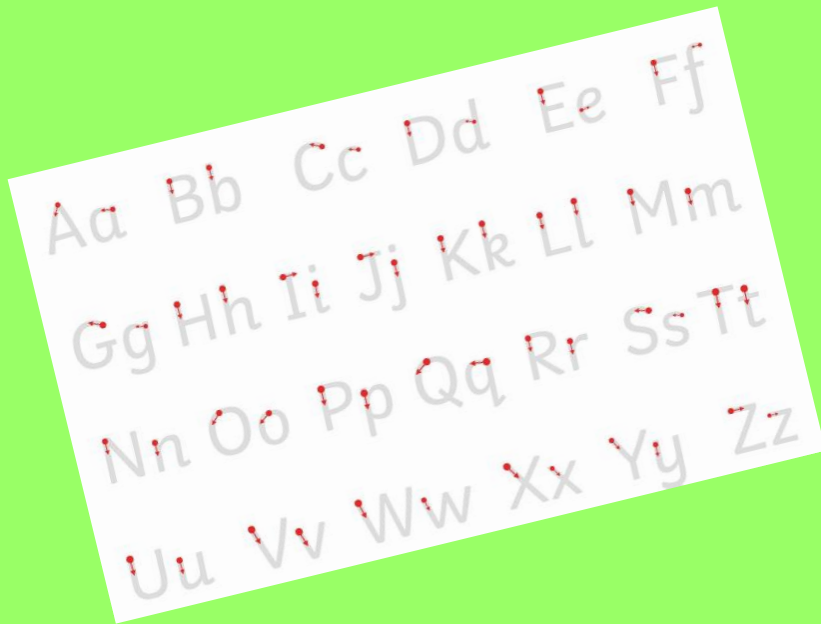
A homework pack is sent home at the start of every half term. Within this pack will be a weekly phonic activity which covers the phonic sounds taught that week and during the autumn term, an activity linked to the topic.

We have a wonderful library of books available in Reception and once a week, each class operates a library system where your child will have the opportunity to take home a library book and return it the following week.

Bug Club: Is an online reading scheme, for which we will provide you with a username, password and school code. This will be available on a sticker on the inside cover of your child's reading record book.

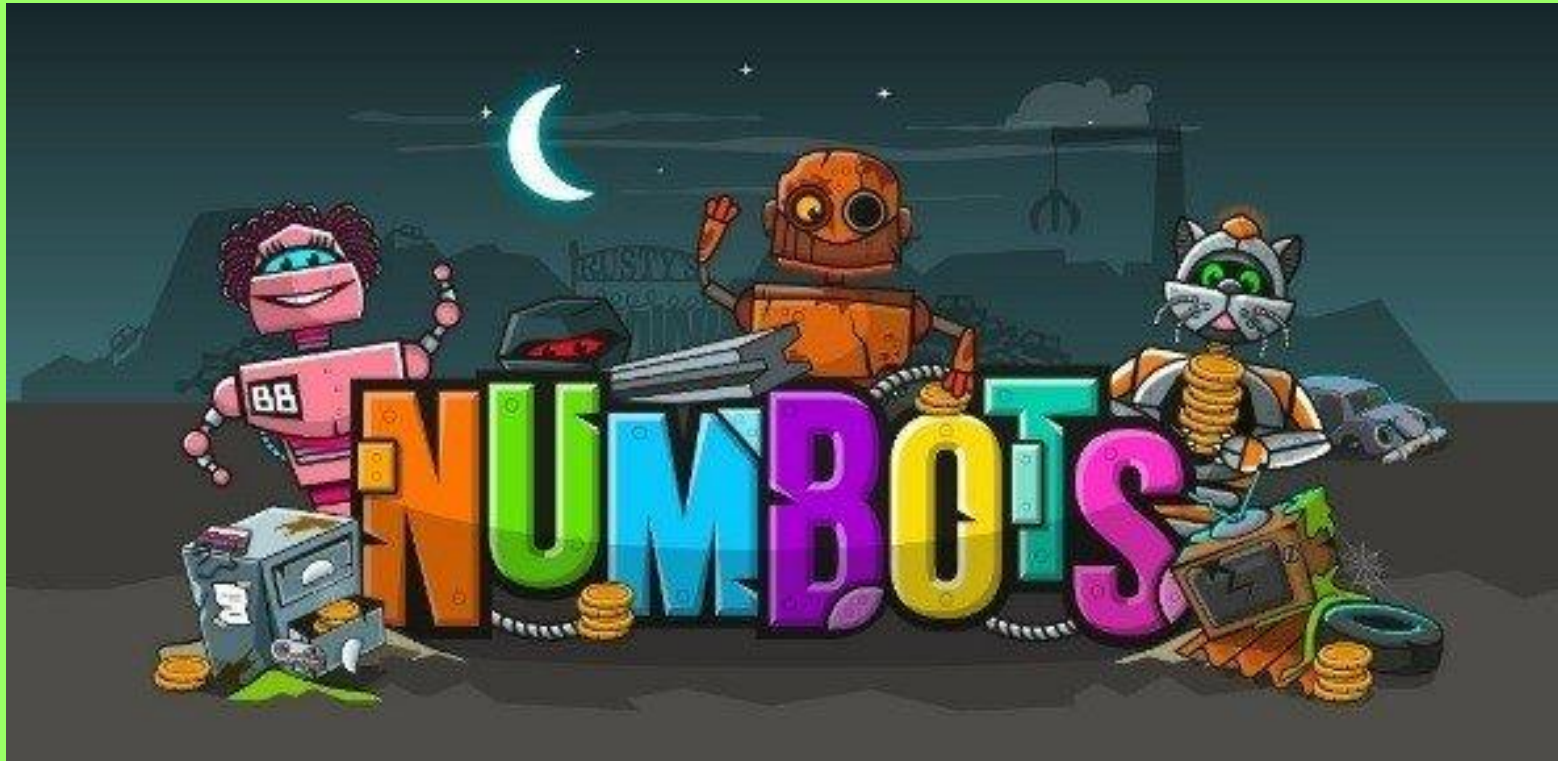


Letter and Number Formation



If your child is keen on writing, these sheets are included in your child's start date letter pack. Please support your child in forming the letters of the alphabet and numbers correctly. In school, the children are shown how to form these correctly during handwriting sessions.

Maths Website



Numbots is an online mathematics programme, for which we will provide you with a username, password and school code. This will be available on a sticker on the inside cover of your child's reading record book.

Photographs and Newsletter

Please have a look at our school website:

<https://www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk/>

Photographs of the children are added weekly to the class pages and Mrs Mendel sends out a weekly newsletter via email to all parents and carers. This details topics that have been covered during the week, and what the children will be doing next week, along with other important school information.



Term-time holiday

All schools must follow the Department for Education's statutory guidance relating to school attendance. The guidance makes it clear that parents are not allowed to take their children out of school for holidays during term time.

Holidays should be taken during the 13 weeks that school is closed. During term, children must be at school.

If you wish to request leave of absence during term time, a request form must be completed three weeks prior to the absence.

Please note that, by law, Headteachers are not permitted to grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are very exceptional circumstances.

Arbor

The Giles Nursery and Infants' School subscribes to an online system called Arbor.

In the Arbor app, you can make payments for trips, breakfast and afterschool clubs and other school-led activities.

By downloading the app, you will gain access to the all-in-one, fully integrated system which will allow you to communicate with the school and to make payments as required.

You will receive an email with your Arbor username, so that you may log on.

A date for booking for clubs will be sent out via email for the 2026/27 school year.

Please do check the information on the student profile page and let us know of any changes which are needed.



Moving Up Day

Children are invited to join their new class on Moving Up Day. This takes place from 9.45-10.30am on Thursday 9th July. Please email the school if your child is unable to attend this special occasion.

FROG (Friends and Relatives of Giles) will host a coffee morning so you can meet other parents/carers.



Reception Parent/Carer Meeting

**Monday 7th September at
3.30pm and 5.30pm**

This is a meeting for parents/carers of children who have just begun Reception.

The meeting outlines what happens in Reception, including the timetable and curriculum, and other important information.



TIPS FOR FAMILIES

PLANNING

for the

NEW TERM

A little
planning today
for a brighter
term
tomorrow!



Small steps now can help the whole family
start the term with confidence and calm.

1 ROUTINES



Rebuild regular routines for
sleep, mornings and evenings.

- Adjust bedtimes gradually.
- Plan calm, screen-free evenings.
- Practice morning routines before the term starts.

2 ALLOW FOR PLENTY OF TIME



The first day sets the tone.

- Check the time you need to leave and add extra time for the unexpected.
- Get everything ready the night before.

3 TALK ABOUT THREE GOOD THINGS



Each week, talk about
three good things that
are coming up.

- It builds positivity and motivation.
- It helps focus on what to look forward to.
- It's a great way to connect as a family.



REMEMBER

Every family is different.
Do what works for you and reach out if you need support.



Any questions?



You may email your questions to: admin@gilesinfants.herts.sch.uk