



The Giles Nursery and Infants' School

Autumn Term 2026 Newsletter

Year Two

Pelicans, Penguins and Puffins



Welcome to our new children and parents! During the first couple of weeks, we will be making sure the children are happily settled into the Year 2 routines. Our main topic for this term is 'Life in the UK – then and now'.

English

This term, children will learn to write a recount, spine poems, instructions, character profiles and diary entries. Our key texts are *The Enormous Crocodile* by Roald Dahl, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by CS Lewis and the *Katie Morag* stories by Mairi Hedderwick.

The children will have daily phonics lessons, revising the alternative spellings they learnt in Year 1 and learning some new ones. They will continue to learn to read and spell the key stage one common exception words.

When they are ready, the children will be taught to join their handwriting correctly.



The children will have the opportunity to read each day. This could be as a whole class, as part of group guided reading or individually with an adult.

It is important for you to hear your child read at home and we request you do this at least three times a week and make a note in your child's reading record. Library books will be changed every Friday.

Mathematics

The children will begin Year 2 developing their mathematical learning from Year 1. They will learn about place value including using a place value chart, partitioning numbers to 100, writing numbers to 100 in expanded form, using a number line to 100, and counting in steps of two, five, ten and three. They will explore addition and subtraction including fact families, adding and subtracting ones, adding three one-digit numbers, adding to and across ten, subtracting from and across ten, and adding and subtracting two-digit numbers. They will finish the term by looking at shape, including exploring sides and vertices of 2D shapes, faces, edges and vertices of 3D shapes, patterns and symmetry.

Practising fast recall of one more / less than a number, ways to make 10/20 and counting in steps of two, five, ten and three at home will really help to develop your child's mathematical fluency.

Science

During science lessons, the children will learn about the importance of exercise, eating the right amounts of different types of food and staying healthy. After half term, they will focus on looking after their mind and body, including personal hygiene and looking after the world around us.



Computing

In computing, the children will refresh their knowledge of E-safety and how to stay safe online. They will learn about coding. They will create algorithms and explore how to use collision detection and timers. They will learn about different object types, and how to include different buttons in programs. They will also learn how to make music digitally. They will explore, edit and combine sounds digitally, add sounds to a tune to improve it, create tunes which depict feelings and record and upload their own sounds.

Humanities

The children will develop their geographical skills using stories, photographs, maps, books and the internet. They will learn about the four countries of the United Kingdom and compare human and physical features in a large town and on a small island. In history, the children will learn about Guy Fawkes and Remembrance Sunday. They will also learn about life in a castle. In religious education, the children will learn about nature and different beliefs. They will learn about a variety of religious festivals and share their own experiences.

Creative

Music this term will focus on how music helps us to make friends and the children will have a musician of the month to learn about and listen to. The children will carry out a range of art activities to learn new techniques, linked to famous and local artists. These will include painting, sketching and making collages.



Physical Education



As well as outside play sessions, the children will have two PE lessons a week, one on Monday and one on Friday. It is important that they wear school PE kit and appropriate footwear. Lessons will include fitness, team building, games and dance. *If your child has pierced ears, they should only wear studs, and these should be covered with micropore tape on PE days.*

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

Activities and group discussions will encourage the children to embrace the responsibilities of being the oldest children in the school. We will continue to remind them to take turns and listen to each other. The children will have opportunities to talk about their feelings and recall experiences, and we will help them to build positive relationships with their peers and adults throughout the school. Our topics will include 'Being Me in My World' and 'Celebrating Difference'.



Each week we ask children to lead a speaking and listening activity. You will be given information on the topic for discussion. Topics include showing a souvenir, a special keepsake, or a certificate / award, talking about a favourite animal or sharing photographs of a special event. This promotes their speaking and listening skills as a group and as individuals. The children will be given an allocated date and focus for their session. This list is posted in classroom windows.

Reminders

Please make sure your child brings in their reading book and record each day as we hear children read and change books regularly. Please can you make sure that all items of clothing (especially jumpers!) are clearly named, as this enables us to easily identify and return lost items. Children should bring a *named bottle of plain water* to school, to keep them hydrated throughout the day. We provide a fruit or vegetable snack in the morning. You are welcome to provide a healthy snack for your child to enjoy in the afternoon. If you would like your child to have milk each day, please speak to the office to arrange this.

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

Thank you for your support; we look forward to working with you.

Miss J. O'Regan

Mrs. J. Peace

Miss H. Wright

Class teachers

Mrs. M. Humphrey

Year group lead and class teacher

Mrs. K. Edwards

Mrs. E. Owen

Cover teachers

R. Browne

Miss L. Dinsey
Student Teachers

Miss J. Humphrey

Miss E. Mills

Mrs. S. Duarte

Miss K. Szczypiorowska

Support staff

Mr. S. Ayres

Mrs. V. Scantlebury

Mrs. S. Dimova

Miss A. Cooke

Miss A. Jacobi

SEND/classroom support

Miss L. Flynn

Apprentice

