**THE GILES NURSERY AND INFANTS' SCHOOL**

Headteacher: Mrs Rouane Mendel
Deputy / Acting Headteacher: Miss Lisa Hill
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***23.07.2026***

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

| ***Reception*** | ***Key stage one*** |
|---|---|

***FANTASTIC ATTENDANCE – WELL DONE!***



***Dear Parents/Carers,***

***It has been quite simply an extraordinary week in school! One World Week is always a spectacular success, and all our fantastic 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 a new Glow Dance workshop enjoyed by pupils from Reception through Year 2. On Thursday, Nursery and Years 1 and 2 had a beautiful Chinese Dragon dance workshop. Each year group has explored different countries and children have engaged in many other lovely activities which will be outlined in class sections below.***



***And even more excitingly, this week we have had a beyond fabulous Sports Day, the most incredible Rocksteady Concert and today our Year 1 pupils are experiencing their day-long Seaside Workshop. A very busy, very fulfilling week. A huge thank you to so many of you who have spoken to me so kindly and appreciatively about Sports Day. I've had so many comments from parents that Sports Day this year, organised by our phenomenal sports lead Mrs Brown, was the best many parents had ever seen. We owe an immense debt of gratitude to Mrs Brown because, as many of your kind comments indicate, this event does require a lot of preparation and thought. She runs this event so beautifully – and didn't the children do themselves proud! Sportsmanship as well as really high-level skill was in evidence throughout. The staff deliver sessions to each class on the Olympic Values prior to the races, and I would say these***

***were demonstrated consistently throughout. The weather was glorious and the children certainly deserved their ice pops afterwards! Well done to everyone!***



***One parent wrote in so kindly that we would like to add his letter here:***

***'This morning I had the privilege of attending one of the county's finest annual sporting occasions. Months of preparation, meticulous planning and years of athlete development culminated in a breathtaking display of speed, determination and unwavering competitive spirit. It may not yet have the global profile of Wimbledon or the Olympics, but, judging by the atmosphere, it surely can't be far away.***

***The opening sprint race showcased everything from explosive acceleration to a more measured approach, with some competitors taking time to acknowledge family and friends before continuing towards the finish. The technically demanding hoop race demonstrated that while some athletes negotiated the obstacles with laser-like precision, others regarded them as more of a friendly suggestion. The finale, the egg and spoon race, once again blurred the line between "balancing an egg" and "making absolutely sure it didn't fall off".***

***As ever, the loudest cheers were reserved not for the winners, but for every child who crossed the finish line, regardless of time, technique or the occasional creative interpretation of the course.***

***When the closing ceremony arrived, it felt as though only moments had passed since the first starting whistle.***

***In all seriousness, a huge thank you to everyone at Giles Nursery and Infants' School. Events like this appear effortless only because of the enormous amount of planning behind the scenes. The staff's patience, encouragement and enthusiasm ensured every child had their moment to shine, making it a wonderful morning for the participants and spectators alike.'***

***Thank you so much to Mr Searle for this glowing review! Recognition of the hard work of our staff means the world to us.***

***School closes for the summer at 1.00pm on Thursday 23rd July. Please note, there will be no after school club on this day.***

***Autumn Term starts Thursday 3rd September.***

***Gold KS1 Games Mark: We are delighted that our school has successfully achieved the Gold KS1 Games Mark again this year. This award recognises the school's commitment to providing high-quality physical education, school sport and physical activity opportunities for our key stage one pupils. It reflects the dedication of our staff in creating an inclusive environment where children can develop their fundamental movement skills, build confidence and enjoy being physically active.***

***Stevenage Sporting Futures, who award the Games Mark, noted that our 'application demonstrated the positive experiences you provide for your pupils and your commitment to helping children develop the skills, knowledge and enthusiasm needed to lead active and healthy lives. Thank you … for the continued effort you invest in supporting physical activity within your school. Your work is making a real difference to the lives of your pupils.'***

***Thank you to Mrs Brown, our dedicated PE curriculum lead, and all the staff who plan and deliver outstanding physical education to all of our pupils. Congratulations!***

***Reception clothing plea:*** ***If you have any socks, pants, trousers, skirts or tops that fit Reception age pupils, we would be very grateful for donations. We always need spares and we are running out. Thank you.***

***Year 1 Forest School clothing plea:*** ***If you have any jogging bottoms, long-sleeved t-shirts, raincoats, puddle suits or welly boots suitable for Year 1 children, we would be very grateful to receive them as spare clothing for Forest School. Thank you.***

***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 Parent View Ofsted. Parents of children in other year groups are also invited to complete this. Very, very many thanks.***

***Next Week:*** ***In the final week of term, we sadly say goodbye to our current Year 2 children, with our wonderful leavers' assemblies. Families are of course very welcome to attend.***

- ***Tuesday 21st July at 9.15am – Penguin class with Mrs Peace***
- ***Tuesday 21st July at 10.30am – Pelican class with Mrs Humphrey***
- ***Tuesday 21st July at 2.30 pm – Puffin class with Miss Wright***

***Class parties will take place in the afternoon of Wednesday 22nd July. Please see your class teacher for details on the arrangements for food. Because of allergies in most classes, children are asked to bring their own little pack of party food. Children may wear party clothes on Wednesday (but we kindly ask that children do not come in dressing up outfits such as Superhero outfits etc).***

***Please note that it's back to school uniform for Thursday, the last day of this school year. School finishes for the term on Thursday 23rd July at 1.00pm. Please note, there will be no after school club.***

***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 Hertfordshire County Council for Free School Meal status.***

***Nursery school places for September 2026:*** ***There are a few places available in our Nursery Class from September 2026; if you would like to visit, please contact the school for an appointment. We ask our families to share this information with friends and family where they have a child due to start Nursery in September 2026. Eligible children will have birth dates between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023.***

***Have a wonderful weekend, everyone!***

***Kindest regards***
***Rouane Mendel***
***Headteacher***






## SUMMER TERM EVENTS

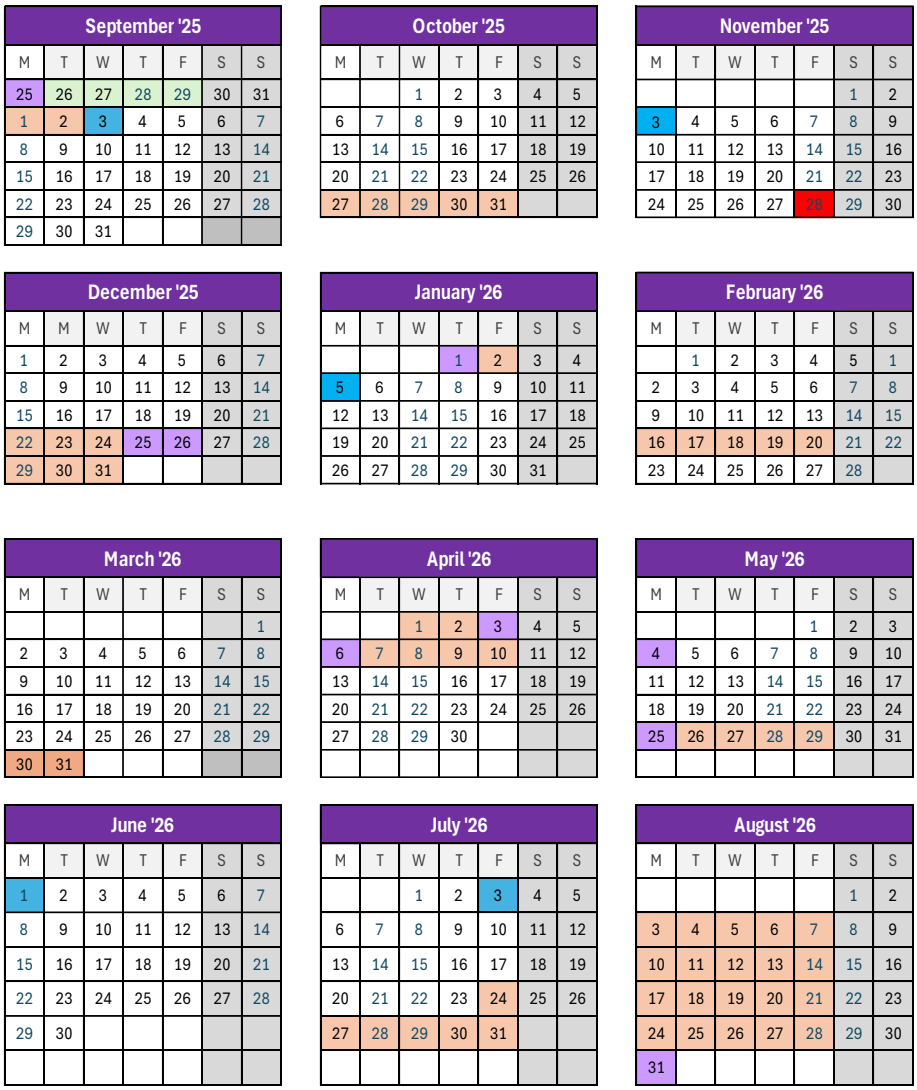
| Event | Date | Time |
|---|---|---|
| Year 2 Leavers' Assembly – Penguin class | Tuesday 21/07/26 | 9.15am |
| Year 2 Leavers' Assembly – Pelican class | Tuesday 21/07/26 | 10.30am |
| Year 2 Leavers' Assembly – Puffin class | Tuesday 21/07/26 | 2.30pm |
| Year 2 Leavers' Assembly – Orca class | Wednesday 22/07/26 | |
| Class parties | Wednesday 22/07/26 | |
| LAST DAY OF TERM | Thursday 23/07/26 | School closes 1.00pm |

## *TERM DATES 2025-26*

***Summer Term: Monday 13th April 2026 – Thursday 23rd July 2026***

***School finishes on Thursday 23rd July 2026 at 1.00pm***

# 2025 / 26 School Calendar




## ***TERM DATES 2026-2027***

***Tuesday 1st September 2026 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED***

***Wednesday 2nd September 2026 INSET day SCHOOL CLOSED***

***Autumn Term: Thursday 3rd September 2026 – Friday 18th December 2026***

***Children return to school on Thursday 3rd September 2026***

***[Half Term: Monday 26th October 2026 - Friday 30th October 2026]***

***Children return to school on Monday 2nd November 2026***

***Friday 4th December 2026 Occasional Day SCHOOL CLOSED***

*School finishes on Friday 18th December 2026 at 1.00pm*

*[Christmas Holidays: Monday 21st December 2026 – Friday 1st January 2027]*

*Monday 4th January 2027 – INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED*

*Spring Term: Tuesday 5th January 2027 – Thursday 25th March 2027*

*Children return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2027*

*[Half term: Monday 15th February 2027 – Friday 19th February 2027]*

*School finishes on Thursday 25th March 2027 at 1.00pm*

*[Easter Holidays Friday 26th March 2027 – Friday 9th April 2027]*

*Summer Term: Monday 12th April 2027 – Thursday 22nd July 2027*

*Children return to school on Monday 12th April 2027*

*Monday 3rd May 2027 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED*

*Monday 31st May 2027 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED*

*[Half term: Monday 31st May 2027 – Friday 4th June 2027]*

*Monday 7th June 2027 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED*

*Children return to school on Tuesday 8th June 2027*

*Friday 2nd July 2027 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED*

*School finishes on Thursday 22nd July 2027 at 1.00pm*

# 2026 / 27 School Calendar

| September '26 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |

| October '26 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |

| November '26 | | | | | | |
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | | | | |

| December '26 | | | | | | |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |

| January '27 | | | | | | |
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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

| February '27 | | | | | | |
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| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
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| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |

| March '27 | | | | | | |
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| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | | | | |

| April '27 | | | | | | |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |
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| May '27 | | | | | | |
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| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | | | | | | |

| June '27 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
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| July '27 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| M | T | W | T | F | S | S |
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| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | |
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| August '27 | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

- = Term Time
- = 2025/26 Pupil Holidays
- = Bank and Public Holidays
- = 2026/27 Pupil Holidays
- = Inset Day - school closed to pupils
- = Occasional Day - school closed to pupils

Silver Eco-Schools Silver Award

Stevenage SFT Sporting Futures Team

Healthy Schools Hertfordshire Spring 2014

Hertfordshire Quality Standards 2016

Youth Sport Trust Bronze Quality Mark

Green Tree School Platinum Award