



THE
GILES NURSERY
AND
INFANTS'
SCHOOL



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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,

It has been a fabulous week in school with some terrific learning going on. Children have enjoyed the summer weather – and so have all the adults!

The Year 1 Summer Concerts were absolutely delightful - children behaved and performed beautifully, the range of work demonstrated was really impressive – and the children's memorisation and internalisation of the inspirational story, 'The Gruffalo' was awe-inspiring! Hugely well done to our children – we are so proud of them! And enormous thanks to our fantastic, caring, inspirational staff!

Please remember that that the school is closed on Monday 3^d July for a staff inset training day.

As far as we are currently aware, our school will remain open on 5th and 7th July and children are expected to come to school.

Book fair: Thank you to everyone who made a purchase from our book fair, you helped to earn £218 to spend on new books for the school.

SEND Inspection Response Team Ofsted Questionnaire: We have been asked to share the following:

Dear Parent/Carer

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are visiting your area, as part of an inspection. We will be looking at arrangements for children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

We would like to hear your views about the support that your child receives. You can provide your views by completing an online survey at the following link:

<https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10266964>

This survey is for parents/carers of children and young people with SEND aged 0-25. Your views are important to us and will help inspectors understand your child's experience of the SEND arrangements within your area. The survey will close at 9am on Tuesday 4 July 2023.

The survey is voluntary, and you do not have to take part. The responses will complement the evidence collected by inspectors during the inspection. We do not ask for your name.

If you complete this survey, you consent to the transfer of your information from SmartSurvey to Ofsted.

For more information about how CQC and Ofsted collect and use data during inspections please see their individual privacy policies:

Yours sincerely, Katherine Douglas, His Majesty's Inspector

Sports Day: *Sports day will be on the morning of Tuesday 11th July. Please be prepared for cancellation in the event of the school field being too wet. We will text/send an email and put a message on the school website if a decision to cancel is taken in the morning. The reserve date will be Tuesday 18th July.*

Dress: *Please dress children in their PE kits (polo shirts, shorts and training shoes) in the morning. They will need to wear a hat and sunscreen. Please supply your child with a water bottle.*

Times of events:

- *Reception: 9.05am - 10.00am*
- *Year 1: 10.05am - 11.10am*
- *Year 2: 11.15am - 12.20pm*

Access to school field: *At 9:00am, the school caretaker will lock all external gates as usual except the nursery entrance gate which will be kept open all morning. Please enter/exit the school premises through this gate.*

Please enter the sports field by walking along the Year 1 playground, then through the field gate.

Spectator rules: *We'll be marking off with barrier tape the spectator area which we would ask you to stay inside please. Children must stay with their classes and not go off with parents, for example, to the toilet, etc.*

The event should be conducted in the same way as an assembly – you are there as spectators and should not approach your child, including at the end when they are walking back to class.

I know this is difficult and we understand that you're very proud of your children but this is a big event and we need to keep all the children safe. This event taking place as it does on the sports field outside is the one time in the year when the school is not in control of who turns up to watch. We therefore have to make incredibly sure that we are keeping a clear gap between spectators and the children.

Nursery Pirate Day on Friday 14th July: *We will all be dressed in pirate costumes, and it would be wonderful if your child could dress up too. There will be lots of exciting pirate related activities for the children to enjoy. Nursery staff will be manning the different activities, so children do need to be accompanied by an adult. If you are able to attend, it would be wonderful if you could come and enjoy this adventure together with your child.*

AM session 9.00 - 11.30am

PM session 12.30 - 3pm

If your child attends all day, you may come with your child to either session. As the activities are repeated, you may wish to keep your child at home with you for one of the sessions.

Nursery School Places for September 2023: We still have a few places available – if you are a prospective parent, please contact the school office to arrange a visit.

Application forms can be downloaded from <https://www.gilesnurseryandinfants.co.uk/prospective-parent-tours/>. Alternatively, you can request one by contacting the school office.

Please kindly share this message with parents, friends and family where they have a child due to start Nursery in September 2023. Applications opened on 1st November 2022, and places are offered on a first come, first served basis.

Nursery: This week in Nursery, the children have taken part in an investigation to find out which items float or sink. They thought carefully about each item and made a prediction before testing it in the water tray to see what happened. They tested a rock, a stick, a bottle lid, a magnet, a pencil and many more! George said, “The rock is heavy so I think it will sink!” Kobi commented, “I think the bottle lid will float because it is plastic.”

In expressive art and design, the children were eager to paint their amazing clay starfish. The details and patterns look fantastic now that they have been painted. They have also been busy making sand art, drizzling PVA glue and adding brightly coloured sand. Some children have practised writing the letters of their name with the sand and glue. Olaf took great care to write the letters in his name and chose to use alternate colours of sand to decorate each letter.

The children have been delighted to learn the song, ‘A Sailor Went to Sea’. They learnt to clap the rhythm of the song and then worked with a partner to clap together. The children were happy to sing and clap with different friends each day and they have all had great fun singing this song!

In phonics, the children were eager to listen to their ‘sound talk puppet’. They asked the puppet what they liked to play with at the beach, what sea creatures they might see at the beach and what food they like to eat at the beach. The children are growing in confidence using their segmenting and blending skills. Cormac listened carefully to the sound talk puppet saying ‘ch-i-p-s’ and blended the word ‘chips’.

In mathematics, the children learnt how to use bucket balance scales to compare the weight of objects. They discovered that the heavier object would push the arm of the scale down more than the lighter object. The heavier object will always be lower, and the lighter object will be higher. The children used the vocabulary heavy, light, heavier and lighter superbly as they modelled with their arms what would happen with different objects in the scales.

This week with Mr Pullin, the children were excited to use a range of gymnastic apparatus in the hall. They were challenged to use higher gym tables to climb onto balancing benches and then jump down from a greater height. The children all remembered that they should place their arms out to the side to help them balance across the beams.

Next week, the children will be preparing invitations for their friends for our Pirate Day which will take place on Friday 14th July.

Reception: This week in understanding the world, the children referred to their sentences in their literacy books to remind them of what ingredients were needed to make a loaf of bread. The children watched as the ingredients were added to a bread machine and alerted staff when they heard the blade in the bread machine turning to mix the ingredients and knead the dough. The children loved the smell of the bread as it was being baked. They were so excited when they found out they would be eating a slice of the bread once it had cooled. The children made their own bread rolls and Ava in Barn Owl class said, “You need muscles in your arms to knead this dough!” The following day, many of the children said they enjoyed eating their roll at home with their tea.

The children tasted four types of bread from around the world. They looked at a world map or a globe to discover where pitta bread, soda bread, ciabatta and croissants came from. The children were encouraged to use their senses before eating each type of bread. Looking carefully at pitta bread, Leo in Barn Owl class said, "It looks like a naan because naan breads are flat," and Lauren in Tawny Owls class said, "Pitta bread is flat because it does not have yeast in."

In literacy, the children used their phonic knowledge to write sentences about the fillings they like in their sandwiches. They used the common exception word 'like' in each of their sentences, ensuring they began each sentence with a capital letter and finished with a full stop.

In mathematics, the children made a graph to decide whether they wanted strawberry jam, honey or cheese spread in their sandwich before following instructions to make it. They enjoyed using a knife to spread the butter, then spreading the jam, honey or cheese spread. What the children enjoyed most was eating the sandwich!

The Musician of the Month has been Bob Marley. The children found out he was a vegetarian and had dreadlocks in his hair because he never combed it after washing it. They have enjoyed listening to songs such as 'Buffalo Soldier', 'No woman, no cry', 'Could you be loved' and 'Get up, stand up'. Whilst listening to Bob Marley this week, Aoife in Snowy Owls exclaimed, "I just love the music!"

Next week in literacy, the children will be looking at windmills in more depth and writing a factual sentence. In mathematics, the children will be focusing on number bonds totalling ten using Numicon.

Year 1: We are enormously proud of all the Year 1 children. This week they presented the most wonderful concerts, showcasing such a variety of work. The children spoke their words clearly, sang with such enthusiasm and retold the story of 'The Gruffalo' with great pride and achievement. Thank you to all our families and friends who came to support the children and to share in their joy and pride of their learning.

In English, the children have begun reading the text 'Barnaby Bear at the Seaside' by Elaine Jackson. They have thought about where Barnaby might be going on his holiday by using their observation skills and packed his suitcase, discussing what you might need to take with you on a holiday. The children have also started to talk about beach safety and written facts to help keep safe at the seaside.

In mathematics, the children have begun learning about repeated addition and arrays. They have used their knowledge of counting in twos, fives and tens to solve one step problems using concrete and pictorial representations.

In science, the children have learnt to identify deciduous and evergreen trees and have looked for examples in the woodland area during forest school. They made careful observational drawings and sorted leaves by their shape.

In history, the children have continued learning about seaside holidays in the past and made comparisons with the modern day. They have found out about bathing machines and penny licks and compared a Victorian swimming costume with one typically worn today.

In computing, the children have been working on their animation books, using 2Create a Story on Purple Mash. They learnt how to use a range of tools to make a picture, add text and animation to their work.

Next week, the children will continue to find out all about keeping safe at the beach and learn about the RNLi (Royal National Lifeboat Institute) in their English lessons. They will watch how a lifeboat is launched and write questions to find out more about the lifesaving work the coastguards do. In mathematics, the children will use their knowledge of twos, fives and tens to solve a range of multiplication word problems.

We hope you all have a wonderful weekend and look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 4th July.

The Year 1 Team

Year 2: In English, the children have worked hard to finish off their non-chronological reports on slugs and snails. After ensuring they had used the correct features for their report and included a heading, introduction, sub-heading, and factual information, the children added fun facts, a diagram and a conclusion to complete their reports. The children have worked fantastically on their reports and have gained so much knowledge about slugs and snails. Well done Year 2!

In mathematics, the children have been learning about position, giving directions and how to identify right angles. They have revised their understanding of clockwise and anticlockwise turns and learnt the directions on a compass using different mnemonics 'Naughty Elephants Squirt Water' and 'Never Eat Shredded Wheat' (north, east, south, west). The children have written and followed directions using grid maps. Next week in mathematics, the children will be learning how to measure capacity and weight.

In science, the children researched how to look after different pets, including cats, dogs and fish and discussed what pets need to be happy and healthy. They also observed the lifecycle of butterflies and the process of metamorphosis as our caterpillars have now emerged from their chrysalides as butterflies.

In history, the children watched 'Magic Grandad' to learn about the events of the Great Fire of London, according to the diary of Samuel Pepys, before sequencing the events in a timeline. The children were really interested in the story of the Great Fire of London and held a good discussion about how different things would have been in modern times.

In art and design and computing, the children learnt about the work of William Morris and created a repeating pattern wallpaper digital design.

Next week in PSHCE, the children will learn to identify the parts of the body that make boys different to girls. They will learn the correct scientific name for these parts: penis, testicles, vagina, vulva and anus. This is part of the safeguarding duty of the school as well as the PSHE curriculum.

Next week in design technology, the children will be making Tudor houses. If you have any cereal boxes that you can donate, please hand them to your child's class teacher. Thank you.

Have a great weekend,

The Year 2 Team

CLASS ATTENDANCE TROPHY

TROPHY-BEARING CLASS WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE FOR THIS WEEK

PUFFIN CLASS

FANTASTIC ATTENDANCE – WELL DONE!!



STARS OF THE WEEK

Ladybird Nursery Classes	George	<i>for fantastic predictions when investigating which items float or sink.</i>
	Bowie	<i>for showing strength and determination when using the apparatus in the hall.</i>
	Kobi	<i>for fantastic predictions when investigating which items float or sink.</i>
	Cormac	<i>for brilliant segmenting and blending in phonics.</i>
	Mollie	<i>for making super predictions using her arms to show the balancing scales.</i>
Snowy Owls	Roman	<i>for writing a factual sentence.</i>
	Isaac	<i>for listening carefully to instructions for the egg and spoon race.</i>
Tawny Owls	Jacob	<i>for brilliant perseverance when constructing using a range of resources.</i>
	Arlowe	<i>for fantastic recall of the origins of bread from different countries.</i>
Barn Owls	Hugo	<i>for brilliant observations when tasting bread from different countries.</i>
	Fred	<i>for super factual sentences when writing about the fillings he liked in his sandwiches.</i>
	Ava	<i>for excellent kneading of dough when making her bread roll.</i>
Value of the month: Harmony	Snowy Owls: Aoife and Roman Tawny Owls: Zenny, Mason and Charles Barn Owls: Isabelle and Connor	
Red Fox Class	Red Foxes	<i>To all of Red Foxes for amazing clear, confident voices when performing in the Summer Concert!</i>
Big Cat Class	Big Cats	<i>To all of Big Cats for an amazing Summer Concert!</i>
Walker Bear Class	Walker Bears	<i>To all of Walker Bears for a beautiful concert performance.</i>

Value of the month: Harmony	Red Foxes: James and Oliver Big Cats: Ayaansh and Sol Walker Bears: Amelia and Hussein	
Penguin Class	Jett	<i>for showing a positive attitude to learning.</i>
	Naisha	<i>for excellent effort to complete her report about slugs and snails.</i>
Pelican Class	Amelia	<i>for always displaying excellent learning behaviours at school.</i>
	Emily	<i>for wonderful group work reciting 'The Papaya that Spoke'.</i>
Puffin Class	Finley	<i>for having a fantastic understanding of the Great Fire of London.</i>
	Ajwa	<i>for creating a lovely repeated pattern in the style of William Morris.</i>
Value of the month: Harmony	Penguins: Immy, Freddie and Harry Pelicans: Philip, Orla and Meadow Puffins: Clay, Benjamin and Lois	

kindest regards,

Rouane Mendel
Headteacher

SCHOOL DATES

HALF TERM: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June 2023

JULY 2023	
Monday 3 rd	INSET DAY – school closed
Tuesday 4 th	Inco Coffee morning
Monday 10 th	Ark Farm Visit
Tuesday 11 th	Sports Day in morning
Wednesday 12 th	Year 2 – Great Fire of London workshop
Wednesday 12 th	Year 1 – Walton-on-the-Naze seaside trip
Thursday 13 th	Moving Up Day
TBC Friday 14th	Sports for Schools Athlete visit
W/C 17 th July	ONE WORLD WEEK
Tuesday 18 th	Reserve Sports Day
Thursday 20 th	Puffins Leavers Assembly – 9.15am
Thursday 20 th	Pelicans Leavers Assembly – 10.15am
Friday 21 st	Penguins Leavers Assembly – 9.15am
Friday 21 st	Last day of term – finish at 2pm

TERM DATES 2022-23

Monday 3rd July 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED

School finishes on Friday 21st July at 2.00pm

TERM DATES 2023-24

Autumn Term: Friday 1st September 2023 – 20th December 2023

Friday 1st September 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 4th September 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED

Children return to school on Tuesday 5th September 2023

[Half Term: Monday 23rd October 2023 – Friday 27th October 2023]

Monday 30th October 2023 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED

Children return to school on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Friday 24th November 2023 OCCASIONAL Day SCHOOL CLOSED

School finishes on Wednesday 20th December at 2pm

[Christmas Holidays: Thursday 21st December – Wednesday 3rd January 2024]

Children return to school on Thursday 4th January 2024

Spring Term: Thursday 4th January 2024 – Thursday 28th March 2024

[Half term: Monday 19th February 2024 – Friday 23rd February 2024]

Children return to school on Monday 26th February 2024

School finishes on Thursday 28th March at 2pm
[Easter Holidays: Friday 29th March – Friday 12th April 2024]

Children return to school on Monday 15th April 2024

Summer Term: Monday 15th April 2024 – Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Monday 6th May 2024 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 27th May 2024 Bank Holiday SCHOOL CLOSED

[Half term: Monday 27th May 2024 – Friday 31st May 2024]

Monday 3rd June 2024 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED
Children return to school on Tuesday 4th June 2024

Monday 1st July 2024 INSET Day SCHOOL CLOSED
School finishes on Tuesday 23rd July at 2.00pm