



St Giles School News October 2018

'Be the best you can be'

Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

www.st-gilesschool.co.uk

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will take place on Wednesday 10th October from 4.30-7pm. We look forward to seeing all parents, as this is an important opportunity for you to meet with your child's teacher and teaching assistants to discuss their progress. **Appointment letters have been sent home. Please contact Maree in the school office if you have not received it.**

Sarah Gough, our transition advisor, will be available to advise on college applications as well as Home from Home Care, who run specialist residential care homes for adults with learning disabilities and complex special needs. Therapies will also be available.



Harvest Festival

Our special Harvest Assemblies are on **Thursday 19th October**. Please do join us for our **Secondary Assembly at 9.45am** or our **Early Years & Primary Assembly at 2pm**.

Once again we are collecting for Purley Food Hub to help people in crisis who are without food. They may have become unemployed, been sick or had a sudden change in their domestic circumstances. A series of events coming together may have left them unable to buy food to meet their basic needs. **Please send in any dried or tinned goods such as small jars of coffee, baby wipes, tinned meat meals, tinned green vegetables, tinned tomatoes, tins of potatoes, tinned dessert fruit, long life fruit juice, unisex shampoo, and washing up liquid over the next two weeks ready for the assembly.** Thank you. Please do join us if you are able.



LOOKING AHEAD—Dates for the Diary November 2018

October 2018

Weds 10th	Parents' Evening 16.30-19.00
Thurs 18th	Secondary Harvest Assembly (9.30-10.30) Primary Harvest Assembly (14.00-15.00) School closes for half term (15.30)
Fri 19th	Inset Day (School closed to pupils) <i>Half Term (Mon 22nd-Fri 26th)</i>
Mon 29th	School begins (9.15am)

Fri 2nd	Open Morning (10.00-11.45)
Fri 9th	'We Remember' Assembly
Fri 16th	Children in Need
Fri 30th	John Fisher Carol Singers Old Scholars

December 2018

Mon 10th	Primary Show Week
Mon 17th	Class Parties & Father Christmas
Weds 19th	Christmas Lunch & Disco
Weds 20th	Nativity Assembly Christmas Holidays
<i>Mon 24th Dec — Fri 4th Jan 2019</i>	

January 2019

Mon 7th	School begins (9.15am)
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Butlins Trip 2018 — Secondary

This year our secondary students returned to Butlins at Bognor Regis, because we had such a good time last year. At Butlins, our students got to socialise with their friends and build up happy memories and shared experiences. We stayed at the Ocean Hotel on the site. The hotel has accessible rooms and we had a mixture of different types of rooms to meet the groups needs. All the rooms have two sleeping areas and were really comfortable with enclosed balconies, televisions, tea and coffee making facilities and fridges. This hotel has its own restaurant and the staff and students got to choose their breakfast and dinner from a wide range of delicious food catering for all tastes. At lunch time the students chose food from the range of on site catering facilities.

The Butlins staff were incredibly helpful throughout the trip and the weather was great. We had a bracing walk along the beachfront and went on the pier to re-enact Titanic; tried our luck in the arcades; went 10-pin bowling and in the evening we enjoyed the entertainment and relaxed. Our favourite show was Cinderella Rocks based on the Cinderella story but with lots of twists and we listened to live music from a Spice Girls tribute band.

I have to say a massive thanks to the staff at St Giles who gave up their time to come on the trip and worked extremely hard but we do not need to tell parents and carers what that means.

I also want to say a thank-you to the Coulsdon Manor Rotary Club for their incredibly generous donation towards the School Journey, which helped to pay for the transport and kept the cost of the trip down.

Caroline Horgan—Deputy Head

Here's to our next School Journey in 2019



Open Morning—Friday 2nd November 2018

We hold two Open Mornings each year to allow visitors to look around the school and find out more about us. Our next Open Morning is on Friday 2nd November from 10.15am-11.45am. This is a great chance to show friends and relatives the school and will also be an opportunity for prospective parents and professionals who work in other schools, colleges, nurseries and children's centres to visit the school. Do come and join us

Reading Volunteers required for Secondary Dept

Our Secondary Department are desperately seeking 'Reading Volunteers' to hear the children read. Would you be able to spare some time on either a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday (term time only) between 9.15am-12:00pm? Please explore our website and then, if you feel it is something you could do, contact Joni Campbell (email: jcampbell15.306@lgflmail.org or telephone 0208 680 2141). We are sure you would love the experience of being a part of St Giles!



QEF Mobility Open Day - Friday 5th October 2018 (09:30 to 16:00)

- exhibitors displaying equipment & information
- driving Related Talks for young and old with disabilities
- accessible Aviation Training
- FREE pre-booked assessments
- showcase of fantastic range of disability products
- refreshments available
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For more information go to www.gef.org.uk



GO WILD WITH US UK®

Go Wild with Us UK have lots of Autumnal events during October Half Term:

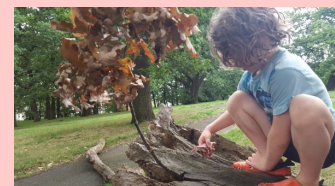
Price per child for the day is £15 (unwaged) £20 (waged) £25 (generosity) accompanying parents (up to 2 per child) and under 2's go free. Extra adults £5 each.

Kids Wild Adventure Club

Ages 6-11

Frylands Wood Scout Centre

Wednesday 24 October 10.30 - 3.30 pm



Kids Wild Adventure Club offers a longer time for children to really get involved in nature and all the fun activities they can possibly squeeze into 5 hours!

Price: £19.50 (unwaged) £29.50 (waged) £39.50 (generosity) per child - sibling discount available

Spooktacular Family Fun day

All Ages

Friday 26th October 11 - 4pm



A wild and spooky autumn themed Family Fun day in a wood near you! (Venue TBA) but if they get enough interest it will be at Pinewood Scout Centre in Shirley (easily accessed by public transport), which will mean participants can have the whole run of their beautiful woods for the whole day!) Suitable for all children (and their parents) aged 2 - 16

Bring a picnic and if you want to, something simple to cook over the fire (sausages on sticks or a tin of hotdogs?) There will be tea, coffee and a selection of home made cakes to buy.

Feel free to come dressed up spookily (Grown ups too!)

To book any of the above events, please contact them by email: gowildwithusuk@gmail.com



Makaton Training

At St Giles we use Makaton signing to support communication. In order for this to be successful, it is important for parents/carers and as many people as possible who are supporting our children and young people, to have an understanding of Makaton.

A letter was sent out recently with a reply slip and we would be grateful if parents & carers could indicate on the reply slip if they are interested in either the advanced or the beginner workshop.

The workshops will consist of 2hr sessions over 6 weeks during the school day (12 hours in total). We look forward to hearing from you.



**Artsmark
Platinum Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

We are very proud to have been awarded an **Artsmark Platinum** school in recognition of our focus on high quality arts provision for all students at St Giles School.

The Artsmark panel made the following comment about our submission:

As a result of the rich, creative and multi-sensory curriculum that you have developed to meet the individual and specific needs of your pupils, you have not only enabled your pupils to successfully express themselves artistically and creatively, but ensured that their successes are recognised and celebrated through a range of accreditation systems and processes. The panel were impressed by your school's firm, and sustained, commitment to the teaching of the arts, and the development of your partnerships with nationally recognised arts and cultural organisations during your Artsmark journey. The school's collaboration with Tate Modern, for example, was evidently successful in allowing your pupils to overcome the challenges they face and make exceptional achievement in the arts. As a consequence of your innovative inclusion, your pupils are able to overcome barriers and access authentic creative experiences. The panel looks forward to hearing of the further impact of your action research projects, and your advocacy role in developing pedagogy in a wide range of settings.

Congratulations on your Artsmark Platinum Award!

ABSENCES/HOLIDAYS & RETURNING TO SCHOOL AFTER SURGERY

- **Absence:** Our attendance officer has advised us that parents must always send in a written note to the school when their child has been away. Please continue to phone the office on a daily basis if your child is unwell (Tel: 0208 680 2141) and when your child returns to school, please write a note in the home school book. If your child has a Medical or Dental appointment please let us know via the home school book and send in a copy of the appointment letter if you have one.
- **Holidays:** Parents should request permission from the Headteacher if they are planning on taking their child out of school to go on holiday. An application form is available from the school office. Permission can only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Please also let us know if you plan to take a holiday without your child. We need to know who your child is staying with and have an emergency contact number.
- **Surgery:** Before your child can return to school after surgery we need to make sure that everything is in place to keep them safe and to help them learn effectively. As soon as you have any information about a return date please ring the school office so we can put together a plan.
- * **Respite:** If your child is booked into respite care, please inform the class teacher in plenty of time. If it is more than a few days we will share school targets and programmes with the respite provider.