



# St Giles School News

## April 2022

**'Be the best you can be'**

**Specialist School for Physical and Sensory**

**[www.st-gilesschool.co.uk](http://www.st-gilesschool.co.uk)**

Dear Parents and Carers

We are drawing to the end of a busy Spring Term. We have continued to use funding from the National Tutoring Programme to support pupils to employ a specialist teacher for one day a week to work with pupils using alternative and augmentative communication. Next term we will be extending this programme to support pupils with their maths skills.

Our last day in school this week will be a non-uniform mufti day. We are asking pupils and staff to bring an unwanted gift that can be used as a prize at our Summer Fayre on Saturday June 11<sup>th</sup>. Plans for the Summer Fayre and opening of our Nursery are going well. Our Upper, Middle and Lower Departments have some exciting stalls planned and we will be hosting a number of visitors from our local community and beyond. If you or anyone in your family would be able to support us before or on the day, please contact [jcampbell15.306@lgflmail.org](mailto:jcampbell15.306@lgflmail.org).

During the Easter Holidays, we are looking forward to hosting Wheelchair Skills Training with Whizz-Kidz, the charity for young wheelchair users. Five wheelchair users will be working on developing their confidence and independence supported by their parents and two members of our staff team.

Sadly, it is time to say goodbye to three members of our staff team. Tamsin Austin will no longer be Dalzell T class teacher, but happily will be helping us with some catch up teaching next term. Jane Constable is retiring as a teaching assistant at St Giles after 26 years. Jane worked hard to support and develop our school library and recently has been working in Christy and Hawking classes. Brenda Mansworth has been a teaching assistant for 24 years. She has created many of the beautiful memory books that pupils take with them when they leave and has organised the Old Scholars events. We thank all three members of our staff team for their hard work and valued support.

Sam Nessling, Middle School Department Leader, will be going on maternity leave after Easter. Tara Dale, Pink class teacher, will be covering as Middle School Department Leader. Sam's class will be taught by Sarah De Valmency. Stacey McDougall will be joining the Dalzell T team as class teacher. Both Sarah and Stacey have been working in local primary schools. We look forward to working with both of them.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. It has sometimes been a challenging term with some continued Covid cases and issues with our central heating. We have worked hard to maximise face to face teaching for our pupils and look forward to receiving a new heating system over the summer.

I thank you for your patience and help and hope that you and your families have a happy Easter holiday.

Best wishes  
Kathy Lewis

### ***LOOKING AHEAD—Dates for the Diary***

#### **APRIL 2022**

**Term starts: Mon 25th April**

#### **MAY 2022**

**Bank Holiday (school closed): Mon 2nd May**

**Housing Clinic: Weds 11th May (details to follow)**

**Term ends: Fri 27th May**

**Half Term: Mon 30th May — Fri 3rd June**

#### **JUNE 2022**

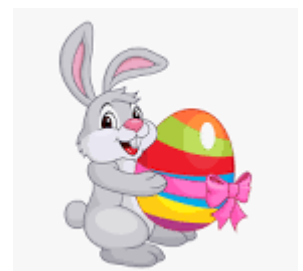
**Term starts: Mon 6th June**

**Inset day: Mon 20th June**

**(school closed to pupils)**

#### **66JULY 2022**

**Term ends: Fri 22nd Jul**



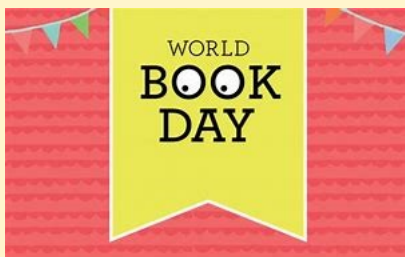
## Easter At St Giles

### Thank you Tesco's!

We would like to send a huge 'thank you' to Tesco's once again, for their generous donation of Easter Eggs, Chocolate Gift Bags and Hampers for all our St Giles pupils and staff.

Tesco have supported St Giles on numerous occasions and we are very grateful for all their help.

Picture shows: Kathy Lewis (Head Teacher), Suleyman Oral, People and Safety Manager at Tesco's and Geneva Raymond, also from Tesco's



### World Book Day at St Giles

World Book Day was celebrated in style throughout the school, on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. During our book week, some classes composed or dramatized stories. There were book characters brought to life and we enjoyed finding out who everyone dressed up as. Every class shared their favourite books and listened to stories told by different teachers. Some classes joined special online author events. Victoria and Sam hosted enjoyable story sessions.

*Thank you for your donations towards Book Aid International.*



## Creative dance workshops for fun and wellbeing

**Venue : Dance studio, Coombe Wood School, 30 Melville Avenue, Croydon, CR2 7HY**

We are very pleased to announce that **SLIDE** have Easter dance classes. Classes are suitable for young people with a learning disability/difficulty, autism or support needs. See website for more details: <https://slidedance.wordpress.com>

To book email: [alesha@slidedance.org](mailto:alesha@slidedance.org) / 07887 781361

**Monday 11th – Thursday 14th April 10-12pm: ages 11-15 / 1.30-4.30pm: ages 16-25**





## Goodbye to Steve Browne—Croydon Transport

On Friday we said goodbye to Steve Browne, who was the Manager at Croydon transport for many years.

We would like to thank him for all the years of help and support he gave to St Giles and would like to wish him all the best for the future.

## Keller Class Outing

Last week Keller Class visited the local park to observe the first signs of spring and enjoyed a few games whilst they were there.



Coming this Easter holiday, with ... **GO WILD WITH US UK**

# Kids Wild Adventure Club

Ages 6 - 11

Frylands Wood Scout Centre  
11 - 14 and 19 - 22 April 2022  
10.30 - 3.30pm

Tickets and information available online here  
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/easter-kids-wild-adventure-club-tickets-291220136267>



Our website is packed full of helpful information for carers in Croydon and includes full listings of our free events and activities for carers. Take a look at [www.carersinfo.org.uk](http://www.carersinfo.org.uk). It's translatable too!

### Training Session: Everyday First Aid

We're working with the British Red Cross to offer carers an interactive workshop which aims to build confidence and willingness to help someone in a first aid emergency, using everyday objects that you have around you.

**Thursday 13 April, 10.30am-12noon**

Here's the Zoom Meeting link:

<https://britishredcross.zoom.us/j/91478864349?pwd=eW9uY1NKN1dVSW5ONmRxUmdleUVxdz09>

**Meeting ID: 914 7886 4349 - Passcode: 18H6Ln**

### EHCP Advice & Information for Parent Carers

**Thursday 7 April, 11am-1pm: How to amend a draft EHCP**

Come along to this online workshop, using Zoom, to find out what the different sections of your child's EHCP really mean, what to look out for when reading your draft and how to amend your child's plan. Booking is essential.

You can also request a half-hour in-person appointment with Astrid on **Wednesday 6 April, 11am-1pm**.

To book either session, call 020 8649 6283 or email [astridmacabee@carersinfo.org.uk](mailto:astridmacabee@carersinfo.org.uk).

The Carers Support Centre is a partnership between Croydon Council and John Whitgift Foundation.

The Centre is open Monday to Friday, 10am-4pm, and carers are welcome to drop in for information and advice on their caring role.



#### **Crisis Navigation Service**

If you can't afford to pay your rent/mortgage/secured loan/service charge and live in Croydon or Wandsworth, we can work with you to help you stay in your home.

To access the service:



WhatsApp your name, postcode and a summary of your situation to:

**07743 729833**

and one of our team will get back to you in two days.



#### **Care Quality Commission Campaign: carers' experiences of health and social care**

In April, the CQC is also running a campaign focusing on carers, in partnership with Carers UK. They want to hear from as many carers as possible about experiences of health and social care services.

Find out more: [Because we all care - focus on carers](#)

Please see the website for more many more courses and information.

#### **Contact:**

Call: 020 8649 9339, option 1

Email: [info@carersinfo.org.uk](mailto:info@carersinfo.org.uk)

Website: [www.carersinfo.org.uk](http://www.carersinfo.org.uk)

