



## St Giles School News October 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,

It was lovely seeing so many of you at our first parents' evening and great to see our learners enjoying the Move and Groove events last week. We have nearly reached half term and have some exciting events still to look forward to this term. This week Upper School are celebrating their work on Black History month with a Wow day drumming event on Wednesday and we will be celebrating our Harvest Festival in assemblies on Thursday.

I am happy to say that our classes are beginning to take part in more educational visits. Next half term some of our Middle School learners will be taking part in a Primary Panathlon day and some Upper School pupils will be visiting Woodlarks for a winter trip. We are also happy to be welcoming more visitors to St Giles. A Movement Works Workshop will be visiting some of our Middle School pupils and we will be hosting John Fisher School for a joint Christmas carol event.

Other events next half term includes the Lower School winter performance and a Housing clinic in November for parents. Hazel Earl, our Family Support Worker, will be sending information about the clinic. Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find information from the Carers' Support Centre about parent workshops on the EHCP process.

Just a reminder that if your child is absent from school, we do need to have written confirmation from you about the reason. You can send a note in the Home School book or you can email [office@st-giles.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-giles.croydon.sch.uk) to confirm the reason for your child's absence.

Half term week begins on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> October and Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October is an INSET day. Staff will be receiving training on Communication from Emma Bridgeman and Romika Ramlagan, speech and language therapists at St Giles. The focus will be on supporting social communication and alternative and augmentative communication for our learners.

Wishing you a happy half term,

Kathy Lewis  
Headteacher  
St Giles School

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

#### **October 2022**

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Thu 20th: October Harvest Assemblies

Fri 21st: Kings Dental screening

**Mon 31st Inset day**

**Half Term : Mon 24th - Fri 28th**

#### **November 2022**

Fri 11th: 'We Remember' assembly

Fri 18th: Children in need day

#### **December 2022**

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Thu 1st: Christmas tree up

Fri 2nd: Old Scholars

Wk beginning 5th: Lower Christmas event week

Thu 8th: John Fisher Carol Singing (PM)

Wk beginning 12th: Christmas lunch Class parties and Father Christmas Virtual Nativity Assembly.

**Christmas Holidays: Mon 19th – Mon 2nd**

## Move and Groove Week

Move and Groove week has been great fun with so many staff and Learners dressed up in "Carnival style". We started the week with all classes taking part in movement to music sessions led by Fiona Bell. Throughout the week classes did their own Move and Groove sessions at the start of the day. Classes went on the bikes around the track and took the opportunity to take part in activities which helped develop both gross and fine motor skills.

Physical activity is so important for our Learners. It can help improve balance, endurance and improve the ability to concentrate.

We finished the week with a Move and Groove Finale on the track with the whole school taking part. This was a wonderful opportunity for our Learners to interact with their peers across the school.

A special mention must be given to Teams Dalzell , Keller and Silver who jointly won the best dressed class!



## Free EHCP Webinars for Croydon parents/carers via Zoom Operated by Croydon Council

**Understanding the Annual Review process: Thursday 10 November, 11:00 - 1:00pm**

The webinar explains how an EHCP annual review should be run and how to prepare for it. Recommended for parents of children/young people who already have an EHCP and are moving between key phases of education such as primary to secondary school (Year 6) and secondary school to Post 16 (Year 11)

**EHCP Webinar: How to Apply :Thursday 8 December, 11:00 - 1:00pm**

This webinar explains how to apply for an EHCP and is aimed at parent carers applying for the first time.

**How to amend a draft EHCP : Thursday 12 January, 11:00 - 1:00am**

Find out what the different sections of your child's EHCP really mean, what to look out for when reading your child's draft EHCP and how to amend it. This session is suitable for parents who are waiting for a draft after applying for an EHCP for the first time or after you child's EHCP has taken place.

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**EHCP drop-in advice via Zoom : Wednesday 9th/23rd November, and 7th December between 11:00 - 1:00am (30 minutes slot)**

If you are a parent or carer of a child with special educational needs or struggling with the EHCP process you can book your 30 minutes slot of free, impartial information and advice to get answers to your EHCP related queries.

Booking is essential, please call 020 8649 6283 or email [astridmacabee@carersinfo.org.uk](mailto:astridmacabee@carersinfo.org.uk) and the Zoom link will be sent to you.