



St Giles School News February 2023



'Be the best you can be'

Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

www.st-gilesschool.co.uk

Dear parents and carers,

As this is the first newsletter of the New Year, I would like to begin by wishing you all a safe, happy, and successful 2023. We have had a busy half term with new topic themes across the school. Upper School are focusing on the Victorians this term with their topic theme "We are not amused". Middle School are looking at Toys from Long Ago and Lower School are looking at Farm and Sea.

We had a very encouraging Development Day earlier this half term with a visit from Harry Spencer, a Read, Write, Inc. consultant trainer. He worked closely with learners, teachers and teaching assistants and reviewed our progress with our phonics teaching sessions. He gave us some very positive feedback and helpful next steps.

Your child's class team will be in touch to let you know about events to celebrate World Book Week in the week beginning February 27th.

Hazel, our Family Support Worker, is organising a Wills and Trusts workshop for Parents and Carers on Thursday 2nd March 2023 with Renaissance Legal. She is also planning a sleep workshop later this year. Please let her know if you would be interested in attending either event.

Dalzell K and S are planning a Victorian Market for parents in the Hall on Thursday 30th March. We are looking forward to welcoming parents to the Middle School Spring Show on Monday 27th March.

As always, thank you for your continued support. Please do get in touch if there is any aspect of your child's education that you would like to discuss.

Best wishes.

Kathy

DATES FOR THE DIARY

February 2023

Half term: Mon 13th Feb—Fri 17th Feb

April 2023

Easter holidays: Mon 3rd Apr—Fri 14th Apr

May 2023

Bank holiday: Mon 1st May (school closed) Bank holiday: Mon 8th May (school closed) Inset day: Fri 26th May (school closed for

pupils)

Half term: Mon 29th May—Fri 2nd June

CROYDON SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS & DISABILITY INFORMATION, ADVICE, SUPPORT (SENDIAS) SERVICE DROP-IN SESSIONS

Croydon SENDIAS service offer independent, impartial, confidential and free of charge legal advice and support for young people and families who have children or young people with Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND)

Do you need legal advice, support or assistance with:

Requesting EHC needs assessment, Understanding EHCP process, Annual EHCP review process, Appealing LA's decision,

Discussions and meetings with school/Local Authority on SEND?

Face to face SEND Drop In's sessions continue to support parents on Fridays from 10 am to 12 noon, term time only.

To find more about them and book your session contact:

Email: Croydon@kids.org.uk Aida.Simkiene@kids.org.uk

Phone: 07788391883

Croydon Carers Centre, 24 George Street, CR0 1PB. The following sessions on:

27th January 3rd 10th 24th February; 3rd 10th 17th 24th 31st March;

Planning for the Future with Wills & Trusts Zoom webinar - 02 March

Having an up to date Will in place goes some way to provide for your disabled child, however in some cases it has the potential to create further problems. If you or a family member are considering leaving money directly to a disabled loved one, you can put them at considerable risk of financial abuse and you are likely to impact their entitlement to means tested benefits and social support. As an alternative to this, you may ask a sibling or close family member to 'look after' an inheritance on their behalf, but this also carries significant risk if that person is later faced with divorce or bankruptcy.

On Thursday 2 March, Philip Warford will talk about the options available to protect a disabled child using specialist Wills and Trusts. Philip will explain how to safeguard means tested benefits and how to provide financial security for your disabled loved one, as well as the rest of your family. Philip will talk through the different Trust options available, the importance of a Letter of Wishes and choosing the right Trustees.

Philip will explain:

Why it is important to make a Will

How you can protect a disabled person using

Wills and Trusts

The choice of Executors and Trustees

The use of Letters of Wishes

Making Gifts in a Will

Why use a Trust

When should you set up a Trust

How to protect means tested benefits

Your Trust Options

Discretionary Trusts

Disabled Person's Trust

Please complete the letter sent home to register your interest in attending.

You Are Not Alone

Juggling family life is not always easy, when you have a child with additional needs. This can feel quite overwhelming and isolating.

Learning to manage sleep deprivation, challenging behaviour, multiple medical appointments, EHCP process, nursery and school applications. Together we can support you through your journey, especially someone who has walked in your shoes; offering friendships, information and advice, opportunities to socialise, emotional and moral support, a listening ear and a regular meeting place in a non-judgemental space.

Come and join us whether it's with or without your child on Wednesday's 9.30-11.00am at Selhurst Children's Centre



