St. Giles CE Primary School
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**Head of School:** Bethany Simpson

**Headteacher:** Ben O'Connell

Tuesday 23rd July 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all well and are looking forward to some family time over the summer break.

## Good luck and farewell

We wish our wonderful Year 6 children good luck and a fond farewell as they move on to their new adventures at secondary school. It has been a joy to watch them grow and thrive during their time here, and we are incredibly proud of all that they have accomplished. As they take this exciting next step we ask that they remember the lessons learned, the friendships made and the special memories created. We have no doubt that they will continue to shine and achieve great things. Farewell, and good luck on your new journey. Don't forget to come back and visit!



## Class 4 summer production

Well done to our Class 4 children for their fantastic performance of "Pirates of the Curry Bean." They were truly amazing and brought the story to life with such energy and enthusiasm. A special thank you to Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Scully for their invaluable help and guidance in making this production a success in such a short amount of time! Thank you to all the parents and carers for coming along to watch and support the children. It was fantastic to see such a busy hall full of family and friends supporting the children in Class 4.

## OFSTED

Last week, we had the pleasure of welcoming two inspectors into our wonderful school. We look forward to sharing the final report with you in September when it has been published. Thank you to all those families for your kind words and support on the evening before and the morning of the inspection. Your encouragement and positivity truly made a difference, and we are grateful for your continued support

## Exciting News… St Giles Nursery!




We can finally share that The Department for Education have approved our nursery provision for children aged 3 to 4. We have worked incredibly hard behind the scenes for this, so are extremely excited by this fantastic news!

This means that we will soon be providing teacher led nursery provision here at St. Giles.

We are working towards opening our nursery after October half term. Keep a look out for details, including our admissions policy and curriculum in September.

Please share this news far and wide with any friends and family you know who are looking for nursery places.

## Little Smiles at St Giles

Our wonderful 'Little Smiles at St Giles' toddler group has been a tremendous success, providing a wonderful opportunity to welcome both old and new families into our school. It has been heartwarming to see the positive interactions and connections formed within our community. This group has allowed us to showcase what our school is all about, highlighting our commitment to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment. The smiles and laughter of the toddlers, along with the enthusiastic participation of parents and carers, have made these sessions truly special and reflective of the spirit and values we hold dear.

A very special thank you to Mrs Rodgers for creating a warm and welcoming environment for our toddlers and their families. Your efforts have not only provided a delightful experience for the toddlers but have also fostered strong connections among families. Thank you for your hard work and commitment to making this group a remarkable success.



## School Celebrations:



## Music Performance

What a talented bunch of musicians we have here at St Giles!

Well done to all the children for their outstanding musical performance to their friends and family, where they truly broadcasted their amazing musical talents.

A big thank you to all the parents and carers for coming along to support and watch their performance — it made the event even more special for everyone involved. Your encouragement and presence mean the world to our young performers.

## Sports

Our children have been out representing the school this year in many different sporting activities and events.



## Football



It has been lovely to see our children travelling to local schools to take part in the Matlock and Dales Primary Football league.

The dedication and skill of these children representing our school in football matches are truly commendable. Their unwavering commitment to attending every training session has paid off splendidly, culminating in a remarkable 4-1 victory in their last game of the season. This triumph not only highlights their exceptional talent but also their resilience and teamwork, securing them an impressive 3rd place in the Matlock and Dales Football League.

These achievements bring immense pride to our school, showcasing the incredible potential and spirit of our young athletes. We look forward to next years season.

## PTFA

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the unwavering support and generous contributions to our school this year. Your dedication and hard work have had an immensely positive impact on our children, staff, and the entire school community. From organizing memorable events such as the disco, the 2024 Challenge, Secret Santa to providing our children with ice creams at the pantomime, all of the wonderful equipment for the cozy corner, the scooters, the bedtime books and the leaving gifts for the year 6 children. Your efforts have enriched our educational environment and provided invaluable resources that enhance the learning experience for all. We are truly fortunate to have such a committed and enthusiastic PTFA and we look forward to continuing this wonderful partnership in the new academic year. We have lots of lovely fundraising events that we are looking forward to discussing with you during our first meeting back in September.

## Looking ahead to the New Term!

The school term begins on **Friday 6th September**, and we look forward to seeing all children back at school wearing our St Giles Uniform (Red jumpers, white polo tops and grey trousers, skirts or dresses) and appropriate black footwear. As always, please look at our website for further guidance on the school uniform: Uniform Information | St Giles C E Primary School (stgilesceprimarymatlock.co.uk).

The first few days back at school are crucial as they help your child get to know their new teacher, settle into new routines, establish new friendships and begin the term ready and raring to go. We monitor attendance to ensure there are no gaps in learning and your child's experience at school is the best that it can be. We thank you for your support with this.



## Meet the Teacher

There will be an opportunity for you to come into school during the week of Monday 9th September 2024 during our 'Meet the Teacher' sessions. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents to visit your child's classroom, see where they sit and meet your child's teacher. During the session your child's teacher will share with you their daily routines and exciting arrangements throughout the school year.

School will be open from 4pm until 6pm for parents and carers to visit their child/ren's classroom where they will be greeted by their class teacher. This is an opportunity for you to ask any questions you may have. Each teacher will have a short power point which they will be sharing with parents and carers during the evening.

**Class 2 (Year 1 and 2)** – **Miss Hall** will share her power point at **4pm and 5pm.**

**Class 3 (Year 3 and 4) – Rev Delafield** will share his power point at **4:30pm and 5:30pm.**

**Cass 4 (Year 5 and 6) – Mr Williams** will share his power point at **4:45pm and 5:45pm**

If your child is in **Early Years (Class 1)** your meet the teacher session will be on **Friday 6th September at 8:45am – 9:15am.**

We hope you will take the opportunity to drop by and meet us.

## Exciting Enrichment Opportunities

We know that we are just about to break up, but we are already looking ahead to September when we have a wealth of exciting extra-curricular activities and clubs lined up for our children to take part in at both schools, these range from:

Sporting Events,
School Ambassadors,
Sports Leaders,
House Captains,
Worship Team,
Eco Club,
Ivengers,
Mini Police,
Music partnership,
Choir Club,
A range of school trips,
Art Club,
The Football League,
Music tuition,
Qualitas Sporting Clubs,
Gardening Club,
Forest Schools,
Library Club/Monitors,
Swimming for all our Class 2, 3 and 4 children,
Bikeability,
**and much more!**

## Staffing News

We would like to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to three very valued members of our staff team who are sadly leaving us at the end of this academic year: We wish Mrs Helen Rogers all the very best as she retires from teaching after 12 years at St Giles. We send our heartfelt thanks to Mrs Rogers for everything she has done for all the children at St Giles.

Mrs. Ardern and Miss. Ashin have put so much into their roles and made such a difference to the children and families that they have worked with in the short time they have been with us.

Thank you so much and have a wonderful summer and please keep in touch.

Many thanks for your continued support for the staff, children and each other. It goes without saying that we wish you all a wonderful summer and we hope you are able to enjoy time with your families.

Miss. Simpson, the staff and I look forward to welcoming the children back into our schools on **Friday 6th September when our doors reopen from 8:45 a.m.**

Thank you for your continued support.





Ben O'Connell

Headteacher

Bethany Simpson

Head of School