St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

19th June 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. Our newsletter this month has much to celebrate!

It has been lovely to welcome our children back into school for the busy summer term. Many thanks for your continued support in ensuring the children come into school suitably dressed and wearing hats.

Congratulations to our South Peak sports team!



Yes! How wonderful to see our children take part in and WIN the South Peak trophy in the small schools group this year. Well done to all of our children and also to the staff and parents who were supporting and cheering our teams on. Thank you!

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Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD
Part of the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust – Company Registration Number 09442311

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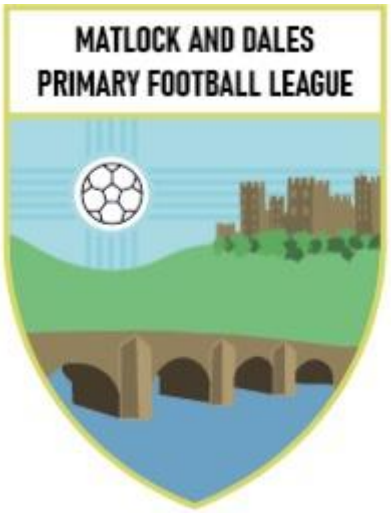
Congratulations to our children in Key Stage 1 and in Year 4!

Our children and staff have been busy over the past few weeks working on their Phonics and also on their Times Tables checks.

- *Phonics in Year 1*: Our children in Year 1 have undertaken their Phonics Screening Check and it has been wonderful to see our children use their daily phonics teaching, along with their tutoring, with huge success! A huge thank you to Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Rodgers, Mrs. Eyley-Jones, Mrs. Watkins and Miss. James- Justice who continue to champion phonics and early reading!
- *Phonics in Year 2*: It has been wonderful to see *all* of our children in Year 2 fly through their Phonics Screening Check. This means all of our children are well placed to continue their love of reading as they move into Year 3.
- *Times Tables fluency*: it has been lovely to see our children and staff sink their teeth into the fiendishly difficult times table curriculum which was introduced by Mr. Green in September. It has been wonderful to see our children, from Year 2 upwards, rise to the challenge and achieve.

  Children in Year 4 took their Multiplication Check last week and WOW! Early indications are that the children's average score is significantly higher than last year and also above the national average for 2022.

Matlock and Dales Primary Football



It has been lovely to see our children continue to travel to local schools and taking part in the Matlock and Dales Primary Football league. Our latest game was a nail biting 2-2 draw with South Darley and it is lovely to see our children's team performances continue to go from strength to strength.

The football season continues over these final few weeks. You can catch up with the league table via this LINK.

Future Fixture dates:
St. Giles vs St. Joseph's ***Monday 19th June***
St. Giles vs Darley Dale ***Thursday 6th July***
Castle View vs St. Giles ***Tuesday 11th July***

Lunchtime sporting provision

We have enjoyed welcoming professional sports coaches into school, every day, to provide a range of supervised sporting opportunities. So far all of our children have enjoyed dodge ball and basketball and we're looking forward to seeing our trained Mini Leaders further promote sporting opportunities.

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Summer Fayre success

It was wonderful to see our school busy for our Summer Fayre as families and staff made the most of the sunny weather. You can view lots of photos from the afternoon on our website: www.stgilesceprimarymatlock.co.uk/news/detail/summer-fayre/

It goes without saying that the staff, children and I are hugely grateful to our PTA. We're looking to planning ahead for next year so look our dates to follow soon.

Our vision: who are we and why are we here?



Our staff have continued to work together as we look to renew and establish a shared, whole school vision.

We have used staff meeting time to consider how do the prominent values above look, feel and sound to children, parents and staff. This will then guide the way that we work as a school and as a school community. It is lovely to see words such as kindness, respect and perseverance shine through.

Our next steps are to work with our children and governors and I look forward to sharing our vision before the summer.

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Staffing updates

Many thanks for your patience following some changes to our Key Stage 2 class following half term. Our settled plans for the remainder of the academic year are as below.

	Class 1	Class 2	Class 3	Class 4
Teaching staff	Mrs. Shaw and Mrs. Taylor	Mrs. Watkins and Miss. James-Justice	Mr. Titterton	Mrs. Taylor and Miss. Simpson
Teaching support staff	Mrs. Rodgers	Mrs. Eyley-Jones	Mrs. Whithorn	Mrs. Scully
Tutoring	Mrs. Watkins	Mrs. Watkins	Mrs. Watkins	

It has been lovely to welcome Miss. Simpson into school earlier than planned. Miss. Simpson will be one of our senior teachers from next year and it has been wonderful to see her join our children in Class 4, working alongside Mrs. Taylor.

I am looking forward to meeting Mrs. Rogers this afternoon, who is continuing to recover well at home. All being well, we look forward to welcoming her into school, to support our children and staff, before the summer break.

Keeping in touch

Remember you can keep in touch with our busy and happy school via our class blogs, website and active FaceBook page.

As always, if you have any questions then please contact your child's teacher or myself via the school office.

Many thanks,



Ben O'Connell

Head Teacher

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Reminder of Diary Dates for the remainder of the school year

Thursday 29th June – New Starters meeting for parents 5.00pm in school
Friday 30th June – Sports Day 1.30pm
Saturday 1st July – St Giles Church Garden Party
Monday 3rd July – Class 4 Trip to Cromford Mill
Tuesday 4th July – New Starters transition visit 1.30pm to 2.45pm
Tuesday 4th July – Last swimming for Class 4
Wednesday 5th July – New Starters transition visit 9.30am - 11.00am
Wednesday 5th July – Highfields Transition Day
Tuesday 11th July – Class 2 trip to Sudbury Hall
Tuesday 11th July – Class 4 Performance and Year 6 presentation
Thursday 20th July – Leavers Service – St Giles Church 11.00am
Thursday 20th July – Last Day of Term
Friday 21st July – INSET DAY
Monday 4th September – INSET DAY
Tuesday 5th September- INSET DAY
Wednesday 6th September – FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

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