St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

Friday 9th December 2022

Dear parents/carers,

The end of term is rapidly approaching and it is bringing with it Christmas events! To help you keep on top of all these, here is a quick summary of what's happening when:

Christmas dates for the diary

- **Monday 12th December** – Dress rehearsal of the Christmas plays in school. A chance for a final practise before the big performance! Children will need their costumes in school for this.
- **Tuesday 13th December** – Christmas Plays 1.30pm and 6.00pm. We are delighted to be able to invite you into school to watch the Christmas plays once again. For the benefit of our new parents there are separate infant and junior plays with a short interval in between. Children need to be back at school between 5.30pm and 5.45pm. The tickets are limited to two per family at each performance and are £2.00 per adult and £1.00 per child.
- **Wednesday 14th December** –Christmas Dinner in school.
- **Friday 16th December** – Whole School Trip to Derby Arena – Aladdin - Children should arrive at school for 8.15am as we are leaving promptly at 8.30am. We will have lunch on our return to school. The PTFA have very kindly offered to pay for everyone to have an ice cream in the interval. If your child has a dairy allergy please let us know as soon as possible so that we can order an ice lolly instead. A reminder that payment was due by Friday 25th November.
- **Monday 19th December** – Secret Santa - The PTFA have once again offered to organise our "Secret Santa" event which will take place in school during the afternoon of Monday 19th December. Children will have the opportunity to choose a gift and have it wrapped for £1.00. Children cannot buy more than two gifts. If your child would like to take part, and for this to be a success, we would be grateful of donations of gifts. (e.g toiletries, chocolates, bric a brac etc.) We need gifts for both men and ladies please. T*here is no obligation for your child/children to take part.*
- **Tuesday 20th December** – Christmas Party - Donations of party food would be appreciated. This year we ask that if your surname begins with the letters A-L please send in savoury snacks (please NO NUTS OR SANDWICHES). Surnames M-Z please send in sweet snacks please. Children are asked to come to school in school uniform but can accessorise with Christmas accessories and a Christmas jumper.
- **Wednesday 21st December** – Carol Service with Christingle 2.30pm - Parents and carers are invited to join us in St Giles church at 2.30pm for the service. Children will go home from church so if you are not able to attend please ensure you are at church for 3.15pm.

- **PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB ON MONDAY 12TH DECEMBER due to staff training AND WEDNESDAY 21st DECEMBER which is the last day of term.**

  Wednesday 21st December – Break up
  Thursday 22nd December – INSET DAY

T: 01629 56813
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Monday 9th January 2023 – INSET DAY
Tuesday 10th January 2023 – Back to school
Wednesday 11th January 2023 – Y6 Bikeability

Friendship
Throughout friendship week this year, children looked at and developed their own friendship code; this was developed with the children, outlining what being a good friend is and how we can look after one another in school. We have attached both of these for you and they can also be found online. Teachers will be working with the children to continue to build on this in the new year and introduce our new principals of being, Calm, Kind and Mindful.

Online Safety
Exciting news – look out for a date for an Online Safety parent workshop. Please also take a look at this poster linked to Mental Health and Social Media

Attendance:
Thank you for continuing to support your children's learning by making sure that they attend school daily, from 8:45 a.m. We are continuing to strengthen our curriculum offer and we know the impact of days lost. The new attendance policy can be found here.

We would like to remind parents of arrangements. Full details can be found within our attendance policy on our school website.

- *What do I do if my child is poorly?*
  Please inform the school office from the first day of your child's absence with the reason for absence.

- *Can I take time off school during term time?*
  Children should be in school during term time and children should aim to achieve 95% or better in their attendance throughout the year.

Relationship and Sex Education
Thank you to the parents who attended the parent forum on the teaching of RSE, we are continuing to look at the RSE curriculum to ensure that it is taught in an age appropriate and sensitive way in line with the response to the parent questionnaire.

Report cards
This January we will be sending home report cards. These will inform you of the current levels that your child is working at and their attitudes to learning. There will also be information about their attendance, book bands, multiplication skill and spelling or phonics. We hope that you will find this information useful and help you understand more about the progress that your child is making at school.

Parents' Forum
We will be holding another parent forum in the new year to further discuss RSE. We will also be looking at homework, how you can best support children at home, what expectations might be and the amount children complete. We would also like to take your views on the report cards which you will have received. The date for this will be Thursday 26th January at 17:30.

Parent governors
Would you be interested in becoming a parent governor? If so we need your help. As part of the role you would be part of the team who is responsible for supporting and scrutinising the leaders in all areas from quality of education to health and safety and finance. If you feel you have something you could offer or would like to nominate another parent then please see this letter:

Best wishes and Happy Christmas
With that all being said, we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year and the staff and I are very much looking forward to welcoming children back into school when we reopen where we hope that we can continue to work hard in class and achieve to be the best we can be.

I have enjoyed my first term in school, getting to know all the children and families of this brilliant school community. I am very much looking forward to this continued journey, seeing the children and school flourish.

Many thanks

Mr. Dan Williams

Head of School

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St. Giles against bullying

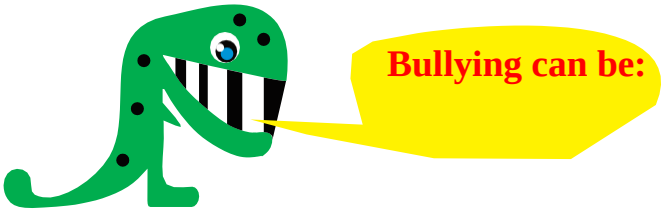
St. Giles is a place where everyone has the right to be themselves. It's a place where everyone can feel safe, be happy and learn. We aim to: *be calm, be kind and be mindful*.

Everyone at our schools is equal and acts with respect and kindness towards each other.

What is bullying?

Bullying is when a person is hurtful or unkind to someone else, on purpose and more than once. Bullying can be done by one person or by a group of people and can be towards one person or a group of people. A useful way to remember bullying is:

SEVERAL TIMES ON PURPOSE



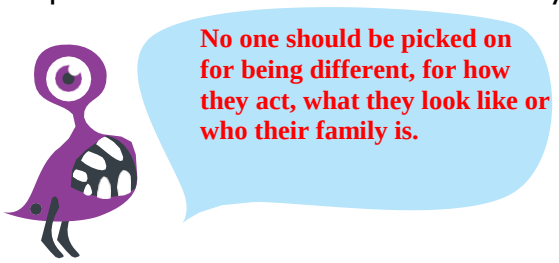


- [illegible] are going to hit someone;
- Touching someone when they don't want you to;
- Calling someone names, teasing, using rude language or saying nasty things about someone to them or to other people;
- Stealing or damaging someone else's belongings;
- Ignoring someone on purpose or leaving them out;
- Sending hurtful or unkind texts, emails or online messages to someone or about someone.



- Sexist bullying (bullying someone because of their gender). For example, because they are a boy or a girl, or saying they are acting 'like a boy' or 'like a girl'
- Race or ethnicity (racist bullying)
- Religion or belief
- Family and culture

- Homophobic or biphobic bullying. This is saying unkind or nasty things because someone is lesbian, gay or bisexual, or because you think they are, or because they have two mums or two dads. It is also calling someone lesbian, gay or bisexual on purpose to be unkind or nasty to them, for example 'you're so gay!'
- Transphobic bullying. This is saying unkind things because someone is trans, or because you think they are trans, or being nasty about trans people (someone who feels the gender they are given as a baby doesn't match the gender that they feel themselves to be).
- Special educational needs or disability.



Why does bullying happen?

Although bullying doesn't happen very much at our schools, it might happen. Bullies can be older or younger than you, bigger or smaller than you. Bullies can pick on people for many different reasons and try to make them feel worse about themselves. If you are being bullied remember that it is never your fault.



What should I do if I think someone is being bullied?

Talk to the person and ask if they're ok and try to find out if they are being bullied. If they are, ask if you can help them talk to a teacher or an adult they trust.

What should I do if I'm being bullied?

If you are being bullied it is important to tell someone you trust. Tell an adult or friends, either at school or at home. If you have already told an adult about bullying you can still tell them again. You can:

- ✓ Tell a teacher – your class teacher
- ✓ Tell any other adult staff in school.
- ✓ Tell an adult at home
- ✓ You can also write a note about the bullying in your class worry box.

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You can also call ChildLine at any time for free on 0800 1111. They will not tell anyone else about what you have said

What should I do if I'm being bullied?

If you tell a teacher or an adult at school they will be able to help you. They may tell another teacher like your class teacher , or a parent or carer so that they can help you. Telling an adult will never make the bullying worse.

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St. Giles – Friendship Code

St. Giles is a place where everyone has the right to be themselves. It is a place where everyone can feel safe, be happy and learn.

Everyone at our school is equal and acts with respect and kindness towards each other.

What is friendship?

At our school, we know that friendship is caring for one another, about letting friends play with others, making up after a disagreement, playing kindly with new friends and knowing that friends need time apart as well as together.

A true friendship is one that is based on mutual respect, admiration, and love of the other person. This type of friendship is one that can grow over time.

The definition of a good friend:

Good friends can get along and fall out and respect each other's space. Sometimes you might have said or done something that has upset your friend but a good friend will tell you if you've done something to upset them. If you tell a good friend they've upset you, they'll be sorry and won't do it again.

How I can be a good friend:

Here are some of the things that good friends do:

1. Remember important things (birthdays, accomplishments, etc.)
2. Listen to each other's ideas.
3. Do kind things for one another and use kind language.
4. Help out when a friend is sad or has a problem.
5. Like to spend time together.
6. Have fun together.
7. Care for one another

What if some people are not good friends?

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Sometimes friends do not behave kindly towards each other and do not treat each other as good friends. Sometimes friends can be unkind





- Hitting or saying you are going to hit someone;
- Calling someone name, teasing, using rude language or saying nasty things about someone to them or to other people;
- Damaging someone else's belongings;
- Ignoring someone on purpose or leaving them out;
- Taking their belongings from them;
- Laughing at someone, not with them

What should I do if I fall out with my friends?

If you fall out with your friends or if you are feeling sad, it is important to tell someone you trust. Tell an adult or friends, either at school or at home. If you have already told an adult you can still tell them again. You can:

- ✓ Tell a teacher – your class teacher
- ✓ Tell another adult in the school
- ✓ Tell an adult at home
- ✓ You can also write a note in your class worry box.

You can also call ChildLine at any time for free on 0800 1111. They will not tell anyone else about what you have said.