St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

Tuesday 5th July 2022

Hello from your new senior leaders: Mr. Williams and Mr. O'Connell

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to have been appointed as the new Head of school of St Giles, I am incredibly keen to get to know the children, families and staff.

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself. I have been a teacher and senior leader in Derbyshire schools since 2013 and have worked as a member of the Senior Leadership Team at Longstone Primary and Senior Leadership Team and Key Stage Lead at Bolsover Junior School since 2019. I feel incredibly lucky to have been given the opportunity to lead the school with the support of Ben O'Connell as the Executive Head of School.

As a leader, I am very much aware of the responsibility that the staff and I have in ensuring the highest standard of teaching and learning is achieved, for all. St Giles have a hugely committed team and wonderful children, which of course, is a great place for any new head to start! I believe the needs of the children are always paramount in the life and decision making within a school. I strongly believe in providing the children with exciting, creative and meaningful learning experiences, which build their enthusiasm for learning and help them to grow and develop positively in a variety of ways to lead them into becoming successful individuals when they leave St Giles Primary. I think it is crucial to involve the children and their families as partners in their education. I am also keen on building a whole school community which thrives on mutual respect and values positive relationships. I know how vital working in partnership with parents really is in order for children to find school a positive and rewarding experience.

I hold a strong belief in the power of education to change children's lives and the right of every child to receive an excellent education. I am truly dedicated to building opportunities for students to achieve the highest academic standards, ensuring they are known well as individuals and have a chance to develop their own unique personalities.

Many thanks,

Mr. Williams

T: 01629 56813
E: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk
Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD
Part of the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust – Company Registration Number 09442311

St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

Hello from Mr. O'Connell

Hello all,

I hope this short letter finds you all well. Like Mr. Williams I am delighted to be saying hello to you all as I join you and your children as the Head teacher of St. Giles.

It has been lovely to spend an increasing amount of time alongside the children and staff here at St. Giles over the past half term as we all work towards me officially joining the school from September. As a child I grew up in Matlock (and I was one of the flag wavers outside St. Giles when it opened 30 years ago), so it goes without saying that I am looking forward to serving the children and community in which I grew up.

From September, St. Giles will be working in partnership with Darley Churchtown Primary School and with All Saints Infant and All Saints Junior Schoolr. The children, parents and staff will benefit from each school having their own full time, non-class based Head of School which, in our case, is Mr. Williams. All of our children will also benefit from having a full-time, non-teaching SENDCo supporting inclusion across the partnership.

What does this mean on a day-to-day basis?

- Each of our schools will have a non-class based Head of School and the support of a Special Needs Co-ordinator. Mr. Williams is our Head of School at St. Giles. Mrs. Arnold will be our SENDCo.

So who is the Headteacher of St. Giles?

- I (Mr. O'Connell) will take up the Headteacher role here at St. Giles from 1st September. I will continue to split my time between both All Saints' CE Infant and Junior schools and Darley Churchtown so I will spend time working with the children, staff and parents at these schools.

What if I have a question or need to speak to a leader?

- The children, parents and staff at St. Giles will benefit from having a full-time Head of School. This means that parents can continue to speak to teachers and our Head of School via our school office (as currently).
- I hope that you'll also come and say hello to us when we start to make a daily appearance on the gate.

Class arrangements for the next academic year

Please find below details of the classes and the class teachers for the 2022 – 2023 academic year.

Class 1	Early Years	Mrs. McManus (Monday & Tuesday) and Mrs. Taylor (Wednesday - Friday)
Class 2	Years 1 and Year 2	Mrs. Angrave (Monday – Wednesday) and Mrs. Doyle (Thursday & Friday)
Class 3	Years 3 and 4	Mrs. Holanda

T: 01629 56813
E: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk
Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD
Part of the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust – Company Registration Number 09442311

St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

Class 4	Years 5 and 6	Mrs. Rogers

Parent Volunteers

Mr. Williams and I are keen to welcome parents safely back into school to support our children learn. If you would like to volunteer then please can you complete this short form and we will be in touch before the summer break (so that we can plan for September). All of our volunteers will receive training and support, as well as a warm welcome.

Link for volunteers: https://forms.office.com/r/RuxS7C97d8

Phew! I appreciate all of the above is a lot to take in, but I hope the information above is useful. As always, please contact the office if you have any questions and I look forward to seeing our children, staff and community 'achieve through adventure'.

Many thanks,



Ben O'Connell

T: 01629 56813
E: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk
Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD
Part of the Derby Diocesan Academy Trust – Company Registration Number 09442311