

Monday 22nd June 2026

St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 29 Summer Term

Dear Families,

It was wonderful to see so many families here for Sports Day last week. The children really did 'Aim High' to do their very best in all their races and were 'Resilient' when things didn't go their way. Most importantly, I was very impressed with their 'Take Care of Each Other' approach to supporting and encouraging each other. All the children were gracious in victory and defeat; which is exactly what we want to encourage. A huge thank you to all the staff for their help and a special thanks to Mrs Attewell for excellent and efficient organisation.

Also, many thanks to the FPTA for selling refreshments throughout the afternoon. Your help is really appreciated.



THE CAREY FEDERATION



Upcoming Events

June 29

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

July 2

Y5/6 Launceston College Science

Workshop – 12:15 pick-up from St

Giles, 2:45 pick up from Launceston

College

Author Visit – Class 1 & 2

Reception & FSU Trip to Paignton Zoo

July 6

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

Transition Meeting for New YR Parents

2:30pm

July 7

Dan Magness Freestyler Record

Breaker Workshop

July 8

Class 1 DISP Multiskills at Hatherleigh

St Giles Summer Concert 2:15pm and

Open Afternoon 3:00 -4:00pm

July 9

Class 1 Trip to Bude

July 10

FPTA Summer Fayre 3:30-5:30pm

July 13

Swimming Lessons Yr3, Yr4, Yr5

July 17

Discovery Day, 1:30 – 3:30pm

July 22

Last day of Summer term

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly

2:30 – 3:00 pm

I had the pleasure of joining Class 3 for part of their residential last week. I was impressed with their outstanding behaviour. The guides commented on what a great group they were. Yet again 'Aiming High' and 'Being Resilient' in tackling challenging activities and 'Taking Care of Each Other' with support, encouragement and kindness. The children were a real credit to you and to the school.

A huge thanks to Mrs Perry for organising the trip and to Mrs Attewell, Mrs Tyzac and Mrs Cawsey for taking the children along with Mrs Perry.

Hot Weather

A reminder to please send children in with water bottles, hats and apply sun cream in the mornings. Children can bring in sun cream to reapply themselves (please ensure nut free). If it is too hot the children will be kept inside at play time. We will be placing some gazebos outside tomorrow so the children are able to have a bit of time outside, in the shade.

External doors to classrooms are being kept open to allow air flow and children are being monitored and regular opportunities to drink water are being provided.

Staff News

Mrs Attewell will be retiring at the end of this term. She will be greatly missed by all of us, and I am so pleased she was able to join the Class 3 residential as she has taught all these children. I am sure the remainder of the term will be very special for Mrs Attewell before she embraces retired life. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for the wonderful contribution she has made to children's lives over the years. She will be greatly missed! We all wish Tan a very happy and relaxing retirement when it comes.

Mrs Taylor will be moving on from St Giles at the end of this term. Mrs Taylor has been a fantastic teacher in both the FSU and Class 1, as well as teaching classes further up the school. Her wonderful science knowledge has been a real asset to St Giles and will be greatly missed. I would like to personally thank Mrs Taylor for the flexibility and support she gave me during the period of management partnership. I am sure you will join me in wishing her well for the future.

Mrs Hollidge will be leaving St Giles at the end of this term. She has been a huge support in the FSU and throughout the school, previously joining many of the residential trips. She will be missed! I thank her for all she has done at St Giles and wish her every success in her next chapter.

Steve Bailey has completed his final week as caretaker, however, he will continue to drive the school bus so we will still have the opportunity to see him. He will be joining the Celebration Assembly on Thursday so the children will be able to say good bye and thank him for all he has done.

Class Teachers Academic Year 2026-27

I am pleased to be able to share the class teacher placements for next year.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mrs Sarah Perry for stepping up to cover Class 3 after Miss Cannon left at Christmas. Mrs Perry has worked hard to take on this role and has done a great job with the children.

Useful Links

School Contact

Details

Tel: 01566 772191

Email: admin@st-giles-heath-primary.devon.sch.uk

Website: [St Giles On The Heath Primary School – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](https://www.st-giles-heath-primary-school-halwill-and-ashwater-primary-schools.devon.sch.uk)

Safeguarding: If you have any concerns about a child, please speak to one of the safeguarding team or email safeguarding@halwill.devon.sch.uk

Safeguarding Lead

Mrs Ruh Alford

Deputy Safeguarding Leads

Mrs Nicola Taylor

Mrs Jeanette Neale

Miss Jayne Miners

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

Term Dates

These are on our website:

[Term Dates – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](https://www.st-giles-heath-primary-school-halwill-and-ashwater-primary-schools.devon.sch.uk)

In September, Miss Jayne Miners, who has been teaching in Y5/6 at Halwill for many years will be job sharing with Ms McLean-Thorne in Class 3 at St Giles. Miss Miners is also Executive Deputy Head (Achievement, Curriculum and Teaching).

We welcome Miss Lauren Britton to St Giles and she will be teaching Class 2.

Miss Shinn will be the Class 1 teacher.

Mrs Jeanette Neale will be teaching at Halwill next year, and so we welcome Miss Abbie Davey who will be teaching in the FSU.

In summary from September 2026:

FSU: Miss Abbie Davey

Class 1: Miss Jess Shinn

Class 2: Miss Lauren Britton

Class 3: Ms Sabine McLean-Thorne & Miss Jayne Miners

The children will be told today who their teachers for next year will be.

Miss Davey and Miss Britton will be in school today and will meet the children. They will also be available at pick up, if you want to say hello to them.

They will come in again during the remainder of the half term to meet current teachers to ensure a smooth hand over. We will also have a moving up day when all children can spend time in the new classroom, with their class and teacher so all new staff will be in for this. On July 8th, we have an Open Afternoon. This is an informal opportunity to look at the children's work, say goodbye to your child's current teacher and say hello to their new. This will be an opportunity to meet Miss Davey, Miss Britton and Miss Miners properly.

KS1 DISP Multiskills -rearranged for Wednesday 8th July

Although looking out of the window now you would not believe it, last week's DISP Multiskills was postponed because of the rain. It has been rearranged for the morning of Wednesday 8th July. Collection from St Giles will be 9:00am so please drop the children by 8:45am. Children can wear PE kits into school but please also send in school uniform so children can change after they return. This is so that they can be in uniform for the Summer Concert.

The children will be back in time for lunch. You won't need to complete another consent form, however, if anything has changed since you completed it or your child is unable to attend, please let the office know.

Launceston College Science Workshop for Y5/6

Children in Years 5 and 6 have been given an exciting opportunity to attend a Science workshop at Launceston College on 2nd July 2026. The workshop will run from 12.45-2.45 with children needing to arrive at 12.30. Lunch will be provided as usual for the children, but at a slightly earlier time. As it will be prohibitively expensive to organise a bus for this, we will be asking parents to collect children from St Giles from at 12.15 and then pick them up from Launceston College at 2.45. A letter will be sent to you shortly but we wanted to give you as much notice as we appreciate that this may cause some inconvenience and parents may wish to have some time to organise lift shares.

Discovery Day – Friday 17th July

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our exciting Discovery Challenge Day.

You will be able to come into school from 1:45pm.

Each class will be closed for 20 minutes to allow children to visit other classes to see the presentations

Class 3 Discovery Challenge closed: 1:30pm-1:50pm

Class 2 Discovery Challenge closed: 1:50pm-2:10pm

Class 1 Discovery Challenge closed: 2:10pm-2:30pm

FSU Discovery Challenge work closed: 2.30pm onwards

Our pop-up café will be open to parents from 1:45pm-3:15pm with hot and cold drinks and cakes. Children will be leaving school at the normal time so you will have plenty of time to stop off for refreshments!

Please do come along and see what we have been up to this term:

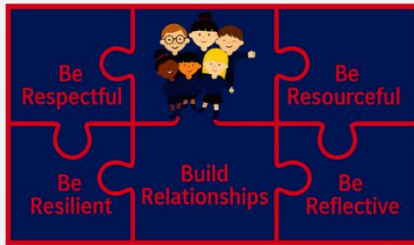
FSU: Wonderful World Explorers – presenting investigations done over the course of the term based on their World Zoo Explorations

Class 1: Storytelling Scientists – group investigations inspired by traditional tales, stories and rhymes

Class 2: Effervescent Engineers – group investigations focussing on strength when constructing

Class 3: Intrepid Investigators – independently researched and carried out investigations

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher



The Carey Qualities

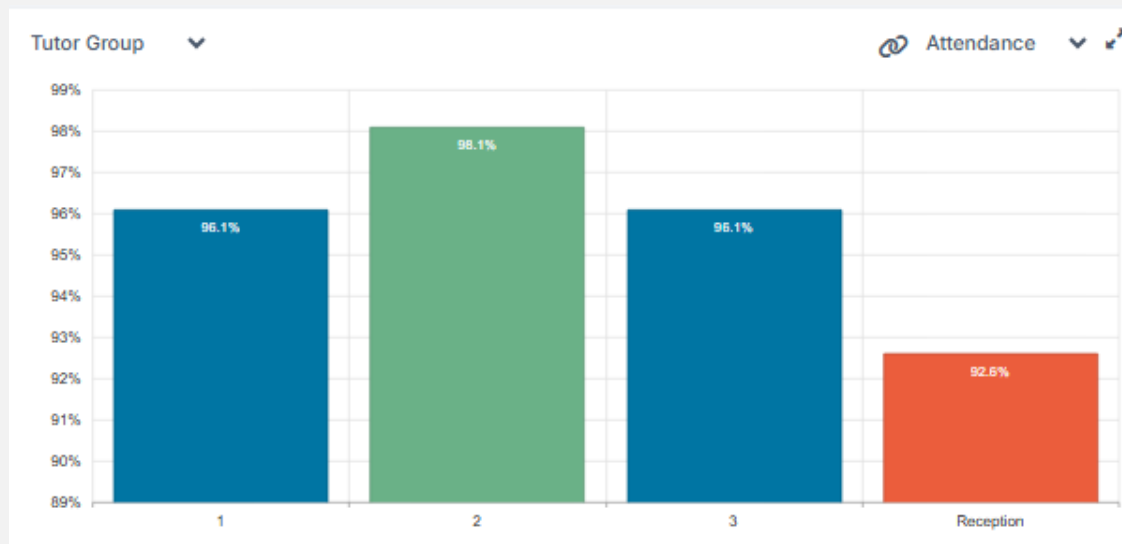
We **Build Relationships** by being **Resilient, Resourceful, Reflective** and **Respectful**

Each week children are awarded certificates in our Celebration Assembly for making a significant effort to develop one of our Carey Qualities. The following children were awarded certificates. Well done to them all.

For building Relationship	For being Resilient	For being Resourceful	For being Reflective	For being Respectful
Charlie – Class 2 George D - Reception	Eli – Class 1	Freya – Class 2	Harry – Class 2 Lucy – Class 1	Henri - Reception

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last 7 days is 96.8%.



St Giles-on-the-Heath FPTA presents

FROZEN FRIDAY!

EVERY FRIDAY FROM 3PM ON THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND
£1 per lolly

Friday June 5th,
Friday June 12th,
Friday June 19th,
Friday June 26th,
Friday July 3rd,
Friday July 17th.

EARLY NOURISHMENT

Little Pebbles Nature Walk

Holsworthy

Tuesdays 11am-midday

For pregnant people, babies & children under 5 @ Stanhope Park Holsworthy

Booking essential
earlynourishment.eventbrite.com



A MESSAGE FROM THE

FPTA!



The FPTA are proud to present
a whole school workshop on

TUESDAY 7TH JULY!



Dan Magness, a Professional Freestyler, Ball Mastery Expert and Record Breaker will be coming to school to **showcase his skills** and give **YOU** the chance to put your own to the test!



We hope you will all
enjoy this exciting event!



THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all our children, parents and carers for your continued support of the fundraising we do. We couldn't do it without you!

The
FPTA
team





ST GILES ON THE HEATH FPTA

SUMMER FAYRE

IN THE SCHOOL PLAYGROUND

CASH
ONLY

FRIDAY
JULY 10

**3.30PM -
5.30PM**

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

BOUNCY CASTLE - HOT FOOD - FACE
PAINTING - ICE CREAM - TRADITIONAL FAYRE
GAMES FROM 50P - THROW A SPONGE AT THE
TEACHERS - DEVON CREAM TEAS - FREE
LAWN GAMES & MANY MORE...



ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARDS ST GILES ON THE HEATH PRIMARY SCHOOL



NHS
South West
London



**Staying safe
in hot weather**

If you or others feel unwell, get dizzy, weak or have intense thirst, move to a cool place, rehydrate and cool down your body



UK Health
Security
Agency



HOT WEATHER

**Going out in
the sun?**



Stay well in hot weather
by drinking plenty of fluids, staying in the shade when the sun is strongest (11am-3pm) and limiting strenuous physical activity during the hottest part of the day.



Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Unauthorised Holiday/Leave Request

As you will be aware, Government Guidance advises that schools should not authorise requests for term time absence unless the school has received suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Government does not consider a family holiday to be an exceptional circumstance.

In the absence of suitable evidence of exceptional circumstances, on this occasion the school cannot authorise your request for a Term Time Absence. We believe that if students are to benefit from education, good attendance is crucial. It is the policy of our school to celebrate achievement, and full attendance is a critical factor to a productive and successful school career.

I must take this opportunity to remind you, that should you still choose to take your child out of school unauthorised, then the school must refer the absence to the Local Authority for the consideration of initiating Parental Responsibility Measures. If you have Parental Responsibility, this could mean receiving any of the following.

- A Penalty Notice. Should a Penalty Notice be issued, one notice will be issued to each parent/carer for each child involved. Currently, each Penalty Notice is for £160, which is reduced to £80 if paid within the first 21 days. If a Penalty Notice goes unpaid after 28 days, then court proceedings will be initiated. If a previous Penalty Notice has been issued within the past 2 years, then the Local Authority will proceed straight to Court.
- A Magistrates Summons that could lead to a criminal record, a fine of up to £2,500 and/or a term of imprisonment for up to 3 months.

We understand the disappointment that a refusal may cause, but as you can appreciate, this policy represents the school's responsibility and commitment towards ensuring your child's full and efficient education.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ruh Alford

Executive Headteacher



FREE SCHOOL MEALS – Are you entitled to apply?

Even though your child is entitled to universal infant free school meals in reception, year 1 and year 2, if you are eligible for free school meals it is important that you register as soon as possible as this attracts income for the school.

CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- the guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Children who get paid these benefits directly, instead of through a parent or guardian, can also get free school meals.

Your child may also get free school meals if you get any of these benefits and your child is both:

To apply please use the following link

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/Account/Login?ReturnUrl=%2fCCSCitizenPortal_live

If you require any assistance, then please do not hesitate to contact the school offices.

Newsletters

To view any historical newsletters, you can follow the link to the website where they are all kept for you to look back on.

[Newsletters – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)