

Monday 29th June 2026

St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 30 Summer Term

Dear Families,

Thank you for your understanding and patience regarding the partial school closure last week due to the extreme heatwave. We will only ever close the school as a last resort but having taken all options into consideration, the health, safety and well-being of the children had to be the priority.

Thank you for engaging with Class Dojo. I hope you find it useful and easy to access. We were planning to introduce this in September but last week was an opportunity to trial Class Dojo with you. As well as a platform to share home-learning, it also allows teachers to send reminders and share photos of what is happening in class and on trips. The office have shared a link to an online form for you to consent or not to your child's photo being shared in the Class Dojo group. This will enable teachers to know which children's photos can and can't be shared within the groups.

Thursday is a busy day with Class 3 going to Launceston College for a science activity. The FSU are on a trip to Paignton Zoo and we have an author visit from Anne Parsons. You can see information on how you can order a copy of Anne's book at a discounted price at the back of the newsletter.

KS1 DISP Multiskills -rearranged for Wednesday 8th July

The 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 is unable to attend, please let the office know.

Summer Concert & Open Afternoon, Wednesday 8th July

The Summer Concert will be at 2:15pm. The whole school will be involved in this and families are warmly invited to attend.

From 3:00 – 4:00 pm, we will have an Open Afternoon. This is an opportunity to come into class and see the children's books and work. All families are invited to this. If your child is moving to a new class or they have a new teacher next year, you will also have the chance to say goodbye to their current teacher and hello to their new

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Upcoming Events

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

teacher. Miss Abbie Davie (new FSU teacher) and Miss Lauren Britton (new Class 2 teacher) will be here. If your child is moving up a class, you will be able to spend time with them in their current class and go with them to their new class so you can meet their new teacher and see the room they will be in. Once you have finished, you will be welcome to take your child home, providing you let their class teacher know. The Open Afternoon continues after school, for those parents who aren't able to come before pick-up.

Discovery Day, Friday 17th July, 1:30 – 3:30pm

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

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](http://StGilesOnTheHeathPrimarySchool-HalwillandAshwaterPrimarySchools)

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

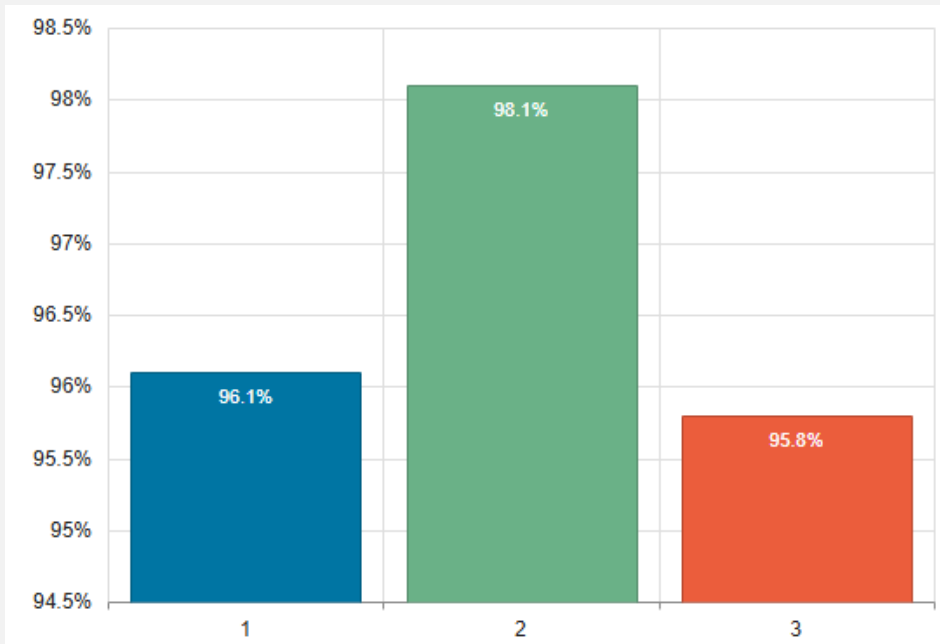
Term Dates

These are on our website:

[Term Dates – Halwill and Ashwater Primary Schools](#)

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last 7 days is 96.7%





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



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.*

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



Anne Parsons, a children's author, will be visiting our school on Thursday, 2nd July. Anne will be sharing the story of *Archie, Go!* with our classes and will be offering the chance of buying a signed copy of her book with a dedication.

In this book, Archie and Louise catch a thief who has stolen books from Louise's grandparents' bookshop. Subsequently, they find out about the roles Airedale Terriers have played in the past, being police dogs, and messenger dogs in the First World War. They make new friends with Maggie and her guide dog Ivy. Such experiences make Archie question his role in life as a family pet and a jumping champion.

Meanwhile, Archie is training hard for his competitions. Rory, Louise's brother, becomes involved with team agility classes, but just when preparations are going well, disaster strikes, and another training centre must be found urgently. The new location is already known to Archie and holds bad memories for him. Archie realises that he must overcome his fears and move on if he wishes to achieve his dream.

The opposition becomes more challenging as the national finals get nearer. When the competition day arrives, old rivals meet up, and a new team appears. Can his team beat them? Then Archie goes head-to-head with the new team leader in the individual jumping competition.

Life is never easy. All Archie can do is try his best and hope that will be good enough. Surely, fame is just a jump away!

Price - £5.00 (normal RRP £7.99)

If you would like to order at this special price, please contact the school office.



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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](#)