

Monday 14th September 2026

THE CAREY FEDERATION



Upcoming Events

St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 34 Autumn Term

Dear Families,

I hope you have all had a lovely summer!

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back to the new academic year. They have all settled well and those that have moved into a new class have risen to the challenge. Teachers and children have been building relationships and there is a lovely atmosphere in the school.

Class Dojo

For those that have consented to be on Class Dojo, teachers have been sharing updates and reminders with you. It does have a messaging aspect but please avoid using this and continue to contact the office as teachers are not checking Class dojo regularly and your message may be missed.

Class Page on the Website

Teachers have updated the Class Page on the website with a forecast of all you need to know for this term including curriculum areas to be covered and a timetable which includes PE days.

FSU: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/st-giles-on-the-heath-primary-school/children/class-pages/foundation-stage-unit-fsu/>

Class 1: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/st-giles-on-the-heath-primary-school/children/class-pages/class-1/>

Class 2: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/st-giles-on-the-heath-primary-school/children/class-pages/class-2/>

Class 3: <https://www.thecareyfederation.co.uk/st-giles-on-the-heath-primary-school/children/class-pages/class-3/>

Forest School

Forest School is a new initiative will take place on a Wednesday afternoon as follows:

Autumn 1 – FSU & Class 1
Autumn 2 – Class 2
Spring 1 – Class 3
Spring 2 – FSU & Class 1
Summer 1 – Class 2
Summer 2 – Class 3

October 26th – 30th

Half Term

November 2nd

Non Pupil Day

On Forest School days, please can children bring in waterproofs to wear over school clothes and wellington boots. If they don't have waterproofs, then some other long clothing to cover arms and legs (not jeans) should be sent in. Long hair should be tied up. Unfortunately, if children don't have the correct clothing they will be unable to participate as it is a requirement of the risk assessment.

PE

Children will either have:

1 PE lesson with Mr Keaton, specialist PE Teacher and 1 with their class teacher or Forest Schools and 2 PE sessions with their class teacher.

To find out when your child's PE please see the timetable on the Class Page on the website. Here is a summary:

FSU - Thursday & Friday

Class 1 - Tuesday & Thursday

Class 2 - Monday & Wednesday

Class 3 - Monday and Wednesday

Children can continue to wear PE kit into school on PE days. They will need to be in PE kit in order to do PE.

Cover

Sometimes teachers undertake training, have an appointment or are poorly.

In these circumstances we always endeavour to cover classes with teachers known to the Federation so they are aware of policies and procedures and over time get to know the children.

The following supply teachers who work with the Federation may cover classes:

Mrs Caroline Boother who is a retired head teacher.

Mr Nick Alford who is a retired headteacher.

Miss Ella Dannan who is Cover Supervisor for the Federation.

Mrs Carole Gleed who is a retired Ashwater teacher.

Mrs Louise McKee who is a local supply teacher.

Mrs Tamara Walker who used to teach French here.

Medical Information

In order to have the latest medical information about the children, including allergies, we ask all parents to complete this form. Even if you have already told us about your child's medical condition or if your child doesn't have one, please complete the form

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/wEBqfw6AX9>

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 Miss Jayne Miners

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

Term Dates

These are on our website:

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

Clubs

We are running a programme of After School Clubs. All clubs can be booked via your MCAS account (Wraparound Care Module) at least 24 hours before the required club.

Monday	Club: Board Games Teacher: Ella Dannan Max number: 20	Reception – Class 3	7 th September to 19 th October 2026 3.30pm-4.30pm £3.80 per session / £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Tuesday	Club: Gardening Teacher: Theresa Shipp Max number: 20	Reception – Class 3	8 th September to 20 th October 2026 3.30pm-4.30pm £3.80 per session / £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Wednesday	Club: Football Teacher: Keaton Meagan Max number: 20	Reception – Class 3	9 th September to 21 st October 2026 3.30pm-4.30pm £3.80 per session / £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students
Thursday	Club: Circuits/Keep Fit Teacher: Jayne Miners Max number: 20	Reception – Class 3	10 th September to 22 nd October 2026 3.30pm-4.30pm £3.80 per session / £1.00 for Pupil Premium Eligible Students

New criteria for Free School Meals - two types

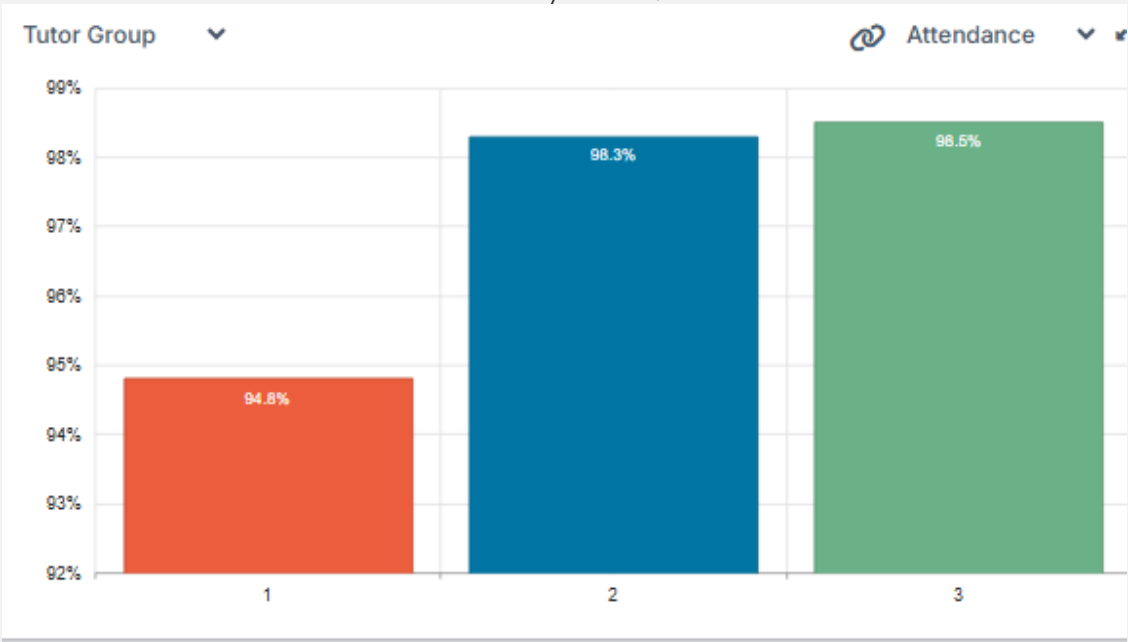
Eligible targeted: this covers children in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less. These children will attract pupil premium and other disadvantage funding for their schools. Other education entitlements, such as the holiday activities and food programme (HAF) and the 'extended rights' element of school travel assistance, will be based on targeted free school meals.

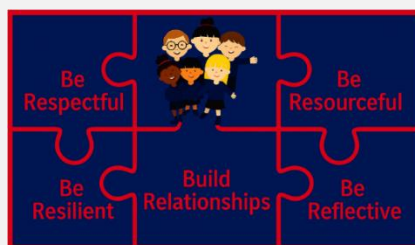
Eligible expanded: this covers children who are in households receiving Universal Credit with annual household earnings exceeding £7,400. Children will be entitled to free school meals only.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last 7 days is 97.3%





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
Emeilia – Reception Toby – Class 1 Bella - Class 3	Brody – Class 1 Finn – Class 1 Layla – Class 2 Iona – Class 3 Jake -Class 3			Maddison – Reception Eve – Class 2



Dear parent / guardian,

We are delighted to share with you a new NHS funded service designed to support young people aged 7-12 who are experiencing worries or anxieties; **Lumi Nova**. With the end of the school year approaching, we wanted to remind you to take advantage of our offer as your child/ren transition into the summer and new academic year.

What is Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova is an intergalactic adventure game to support young people to fight fears and manage worries. Whilst exploring planets, customising characters and earning treasure your child breaks their fears and worries down into manageable steps, learning life-long skills and building resilience.

Watch this short animated video to learn more: [Lumi Nova Introduction Video](#)

Who can use Lumi Nova?

Lumi Nova was created for 7 - 12 year olds (school years 3 - 7) who are having difficulties with fears, worries, or anxiety related to social situations, separation or phobias.

Lumi Nova can help your child to face their worries by breaking them down into small manageable challenges and can support your child with:

- Returning to school or starting a new school
- Making new friends and going to social events
- Speaking in front of a group
- And lots more!

How do you access Lumi Nova?

Accessing Lumi Nova is quick and easy. Use the link below to register and you will receive a text message to guide you through getting started or scan the QR code.

[Luminova.app/devon](https://luminova.app/devon)

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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_liv
[e](#)

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



Department
for Education

We are the department for opportunity

Speech and Language Therapy

EASY ACCESS DROP IN

We are starting new easy access drop ins for pre school children.

Would you like any advice and support for your child's speech, language and communication skills? Visit one of our easy access drop ins with your child to see a Speech and Language Therapist. Get advice, support and strategies from the team.

Drop in sessions are now being held in different locations across Torbay, South Devon and North Devon. Exeter, East and Mid Devon.

If you would like to attend a drop in, please scan the QR code below to find a location and time that works for you.

