

St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 4 Autumn Term

Dear Families,

The Open Class and meetings with parents have been very positively received so far. Parents have really enjoyed the opportunity to see their children in the classroom environment. The children have thoroughly enjoyed showing their 'Aim High' learning to their grown-ups.

We look forward to welcoming Class 2 parents this afternoon and Class 3 parents next week.

Harvest Festival

Harvest Festival is an extremely important festival for us as it celebrates our agricultural community and what our farming families contribute to our society. We warmly welcome parents and carers to attend our Harvest Festival Assembly on Friday 23rd October at 9:15 am and it will be repeated at 2:30 pm.

As you know our hall is very small, so we have limited capacity. We are repeating the assembly so we can try to accommodate as many as possible.

Please complete this form [Harvest Festival Assembly October 2026 – Fill out form](#) if you would like **one** family member to attend **one** of the assemblies and please indicate which one. As this is the first time we are offering parents of all the children to watch an indoor assembly, we are trialling this method of signing up in advance to ensure we are not overcrowded.

Please complete the form by Friday 16th October. At this point, if we find we have more capacity, we will open up to offer a second family member on a first come, first served basis. Thank you for your understanding and patience. We do want to see you at the assembly, but we also need to ensure it is safe.

We will be collecting for Launceston Food Bank so please donate non-perishable foods and hygiene products in the last week before half-term.

Mrs Ruh Alford
Executive Headteacher

October 13th

Class 3 – Open Class &
Meeting for Parents
2:15 - 3:15pm

October 16th

Torrington Cross
Country (Selected KS2
pupils)

October 17th

FPTA Quiz Night

October 23rd

Harvest Festival
Assembly 9:15 am &
2:30 pm

October 23rd

FPTA Halloween disco

October 26th – 30th

Half Term

November 2nd

Non Pupil Day

November 3rd

Back to school

November 13th

Children in Need –
non-uniform day

December 4th

Non uniform day for
donations to Christmas
hampers

Devon County Council SEND Inspection

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) are carrying out an inspection of services and support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Devon.

As part of the inspection, inspectors want to hear directly from children and young people with SEND, parents and carers, and practitioners. They use this feedback to help them understand people's experiences of SEND services and support across the local area.

Complete the survey here: <https://ofsted.smartsurvey.co.uk/p/AreaSend/10420455>

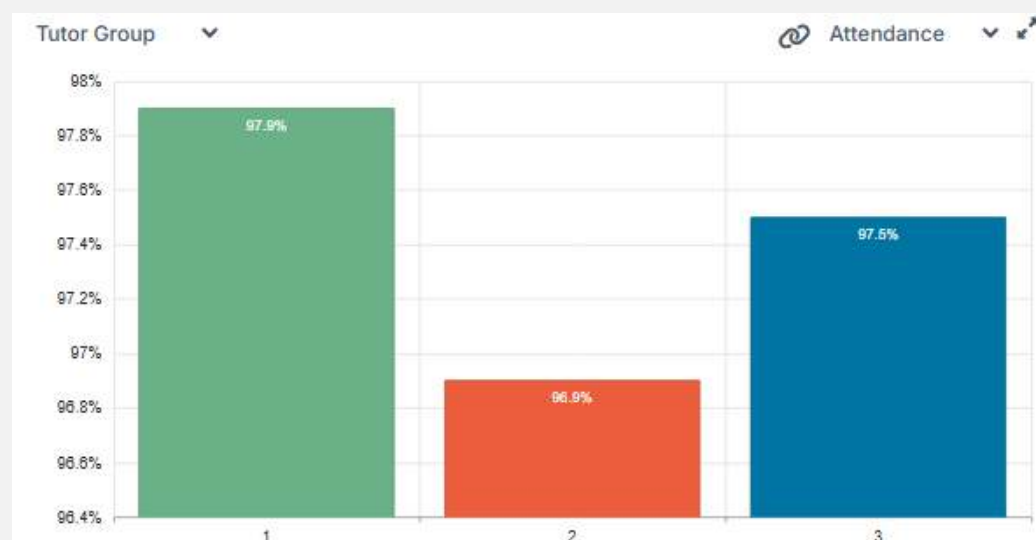
The surveys will remain open until 9am on Tuesday 13th October.

Your responses will be treated confidentially by the inspection team.

Please take the opportunity to share your experiences and views with inspectors.

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last 7 days is 97.4%



FPTA News

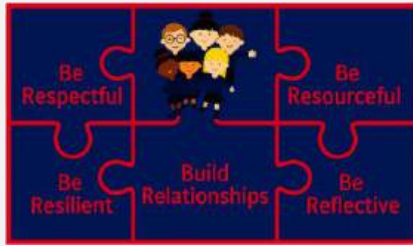
Our first event of the school year is QUIZ NIGHT!!! ? ? ? ?

Please support us by getting together with friends or family and entering a team for a fun filled night.

Booking in advance is required. Please contact either Kayleigh Walker or Debbie Bryant to book.

Halloween disco details for children coming soon...👻 (23rd Oct)





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
Chelsea – FSU Chloe - Class 3	Maddison – FSU Evie – Class 1 George – Class 2 Elouise – Class 3 Jake – Class 3		Daniel – Class 1	Mason – Class 2



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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