

St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School

Aim High; Be Resilient; Take Care of Each Other

Newsletter No. 5 Autumn Term

Dear Families,

As we approach our final week of the half term, I am so pleased with how children have settled into the new academic year. It's wonderful to see the children so positively engaged in their learning and play.

We have now had our final Open Class. It has been great that many of you have been able to attend these, though we do appreciate that not everyone is able to, so we will be sharing the presentations via Class Dojo and MCAS.

A number of Key Stage 2 children are going to the Stephen Shields Cross Country Competition on Friday. This is a challenging competition, and I am sure the children will 'aim high' and 'be resilient'. This is a Federation trip so the St Giles children will have an opportunity to spend time with the Ashwater and Halwill staff and children. I wish all the children good luck!

This Saturday is the FPTA Quiz! This will be fierce competition, but also a fun evening. I will be joining some of our governors in a team. We will 'aim high' but almost certainly we will need to 'be resilient'!

The FPTA Halloween Disco is also coming up. A huge thanks to the FPTA for organising these events.

Harvest Festival

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.

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.

October 16th

Torrington Cross
Country (Selected KS2
pupils)

October 17th

FPTA Quiz Night

October 19th

School Photos

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

Staff News

Sadly, Kate Browne, who has been our Administrator since November 2024 will be moving on at half term. Kate has been a great asset to our school and Federation and will be greatly missed. I would like to personally thank her for all her hard work, her wonderful efficiency and attention to detail and I am sure you will join me in wishing her well for the future.

Chloe Dawe, is joining as our new administrator. Chloe is coming in to work with Kate to ensure a smooth handover.

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 will start after half term

Spring 1 – Class 3

Spring 2 – FSU & Class 1

Summer 1– Class 2

Summer 2– Class 3

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.

Class 1 will have PE on Wednesdays after half term and another day, Miss Shinn will let you know which day this is nearer the time.

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 Miss Jayne Miners

Mrs Rosie Cawsey

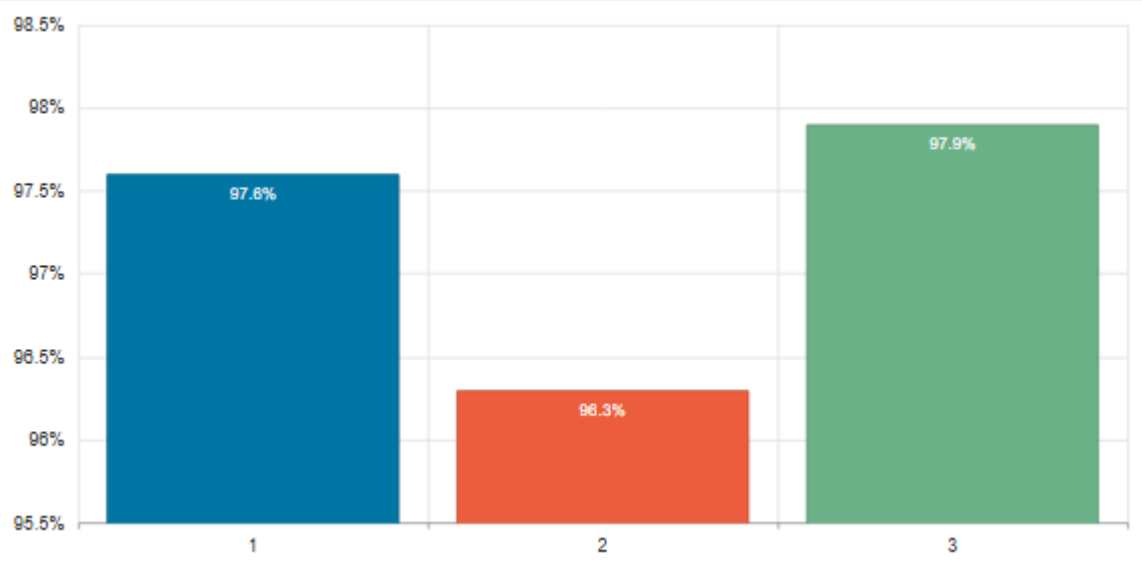
Term Dates

These are on our website:

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

Attendance

Whole school attendance for the last 7 days is 97.3%



Meal of the Week

Mild Chicken Curry
Homemade Garlic Focaccia
Basmati Rice
Fine Gree Beans
Fresh Salad
Oaty Cookie
Fresh Fruit Salad

Salad & Fresh fruit salad
Yogurts
Daily

Jacket Potatoes & Baguettes
Served Daily

2 Course dinner for only £2.65

Educatering
The School Food Revolution

The graphic features a central list of menu items: Mild Chicken Curry, Homemade Garlic Focaccia, Basmati Rice, Fine Gree Beans, Fresh Salad, Oaty Cookie, and Fresh Fruit Salad. To the left is a smiling star icon. To the right is a speech bubble containing 'Salad & Fresh fruit salad Yogurts Daily'. Below the menu items are several trays of food: a salad with cucumbers and tomatoes, a tray of orange chicken curry, a tray of brown rice, a tray of green beans, a tray of red and orange vegetables, and a tray of bread. A speech bubble at the bottom left says 'Jacket Potatoes & Baguettes Served Daily'. The bottom center text reads '2 Course dinner for only £2.65' and the bottom right features the 'Educatering The School Food Revolution' logo.

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
Jacob – FSU Evie – Class 3	Paige – Fsu Lilly – Class 1 Toby – Class 1 Ryan – Class 2	Freddie – Class 2 Lando – Class 3	Henri – Class 1	



THE CAREY FEDERATION



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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