St Giles CofE Primary School

Respect – Nurture – Inspire –Achieve
Bringing out the best in every child

Newsletter – 13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

The past few weeks since half term have been full of enrichment here at St Giles! Our main event has been our annual "Book Week", timed to coincide with World Book Day on the 5th March. It is always such a lovely week, which the whole school community look forward to and the school was buzzing with conversations about favourite books, a dress-up day, design a book character out of a toilet roll, buddy reading, teachers reading, surprise books in the library, and finally our favourite, the secret readers. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers come up to school to join us on the Friday afternoon and we know the children loved having you all surprise them. The week was a fantastic celebration of all things reading and a massive thank you must go to Mrs Maynard who organised it for us. You can see pictures of the week later on in the newsletter. Sycamore even managed to squeeze in a trip to Fishbourne Palace on the Thursday!

Sport has also been high on the agenda too. Year 5 have completed their Level 1 Bikeability recently getting them ready for Level 2 in Year 6 . We had success too with our Year 5/6 Cross Country runners at the Cross Country event at Brambletye, you can see more about this further on in the newsletter. KS1 have also been involved in NEARs sporting activities as they joined a cricket festival at Ardingly and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Some of our Year 3 and 4 children also took part in a tennis tournament at St Bede's and we have been invited back next year. All of KS2 have also benefitted from tennis lessons this term with Rob at the Horsted Keynes tennis club. We still have more sporting opportunities coming up before the end of term for Years 3 and 4 as well as the Sussex Cross Country finals. We have received the list of Summer Sporting activities and have signed up for a few, so watch this space. The Summer Term will also bring our annual Sports week and Year 6 Bikeability, so plenty for our children to look forward to.

There are more enrichment activities coming up before the end of term too with a dance event at Ardingly, a Year 2 Meet the Author in conjunction with St Peter's, as well as Oak and Elm Class going to Hever Castle as part of their castles topic. We look forward to hearing about all of these in the coming weeks.

All this is in addition to our normal curriculum, our children really are lucky to have so many different enrichment experiences! None of these events would take place without the office staff, parents who organise transport and help out with the events, and the school staff who organise the in-house events and accompany the children to the out of school ones. Thanks must also go to our visiting authors and to the staff at the local schools for hosting us. It is satisfying to have forged such strong links with local schools and organisations to the benefit of our children.

Our final enrichment week for this Spring Term is Science Week, that will be taking place next week. Mrs Self and the staff have already started to think about the theme which is "Curiosity – what's your question?", and are planning activities for the week. If you would like further information on the theme and activities that you could do at home, you can find it here: British Science Week website.

With very best wishes,

Mr Savage and Mrs Coulson

Comic Relief

Next Friday 20th March is Comic Relief. The school Council have asked that everyone who wants to, wears something red (just one or two items, with their school uniform or PE kit) to school for a suggested donation of £1. There will be members of the school council collecting the money.
We will also be holding a buddies joke telling session, so children have been asked to bring their favourite jokes into school to share with their buddies.

COMIC RELIEF RED NOSE DAY
FRIDAY 20 MARCH

Oak Cake Sale

A massive thank you to parents who supported the Oak Class cake sale. Here is the new storage for the construction area, which was brought with the proceeds. A new mud kitchen is on its way too! An extra special thank you to Sam Elwell who is our own construction expert – she put this all together for us along with the new units in the Nest. Thank you so much!



PTA Quiz and Chilli Night

On Saturday 28th February, the annual PTA quiz and Chilli night took place at the Martindale with a new Quiz Master, Phillippa!. It was a huge success and a lot of fun. The night raised £1892. We would like to give a huge ***thank you*** to all the PTA members who helped organise this event, and also to staff, parents and local community members who attended. The money raised by the PTA makes a huge difference to St Giles School providing a range of resources and enrichment activities making a real difference to the children's education. Watch this space for news on what the PTA are using this money for soon!





PTA Easter Egg Hunt

The St Giles School Easter Egg Hunt is a firm favourite with the children celebrating the start of the Easter Holidays.

Thanks to our event sponsors – Mansell-McT-EGG-art and the Outdoors Project – we're able to make this happen for a donation per child rather than a set ticket price.

To make a donation to secure your child/ren's place, please head to the Just Giving page via the QR code or at www.justgiving.com/page/egghunt2026

Book Week Photos!















Sporting Achievements 1!

On Wednesday 4th March, some of our Year 1s and 2s took part in a Cricket festival at Ardingly College. It was a great day, the children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, as did Mrs Mowforth and Mrs Rose who accompanied them.







Sporting Achievements 3!

On Tuesday 10th March, our Year 5/6 Cross Country Team went to Brambletye for their annual race. All of our runners were amazing – we entered two teams for both the girls and boys races. Special congratulations to Digby, Henry, Rory and Sino who came first in their race and also to Amelia who ran two legs as we were one short!

WELL DONE EVERYONE!





Learners of the Week – 27th February, 6th and 13th March

Oak	Joe for amazing writing in topic work. Keira for her growing independence and amazing writing about the Battle of Hastings. Emilia for amazing independent sentences and having a go at Year 1 topic work. Oliver and Esme for amazing effort on their castles including key features.
Elm	Raff for incredible writing about castles with effective word choices. Astrid for super effort and progress with her spelling and writing. Matilda for an excellent start in Elm Class.
Sycamore	Byron for amazing work in maths on finding the whole. Everyone for being fantastic on our trip! Neve for lovely work on fractions.
Maple	Eliza for a very well written narrative. Cody, Harrison and Clara for amazing art when learning to draw Viking knots. Frazer for making fantastic progress in writing. Teddy for brilliant individual design for his picture of the Trinity.
Sports Stars	Cross Country – Sino, Digby, Rory, Henry, Amelia, Florence, Clara, Sophie, Sofia, Lara, Jack, Bowen, Lydia, Cassidy and McKenzie. Members of Elm Class who went to the KS1 Cricket Festival at Ardingly. Hector and James came 2nd in an Under 10s hockey tournament and 3rd in the 'Ron Easton' tournament Freddie and Frazer played really well in two U12 hockey tournaments in really horrendous wet conditions for one of them – Freddie's team came 2nd in the 'Ron Easton' tournament.
Marvellous musicians	Alfie for excellent listening to match the time in a new song. Lyra for careful and accurate listening to talking drum messages. James P-R and Zachary for such effort and enthusiasm in song practice.
Head of School	Inspire for Sophie and Clara for creating beautiful blossom in the team colours for our Spring display.

Happy Birthday to.....

Felicity, Stanley, Kaleb, Lottie, Frazer, Alexander, Finley, Ivy

Spring Term 2026 Diary Dates	
Date	**Events**
Friday 9th January - 20th March	Sycamore Swimming lessons
Monday 16th – Friday 20th March Science Week	
Monday 16th March	Ready Steady Dance Ardingly College (names to be confirmed)
Tuesday 17th March	9:30am Rock Steady Concert (change of date) PM Year 2 Author Visit to St Peter's
Friday 20th March	9:00am Eucharist in church Comic Relief – wear an item of red
Tuesday 24th March	KS1 Trip to Hever Castle
Tuesday 24th March	Year 3/4 Net Games HH College (names to be confirmed)
27th March	**Last Day of Term** 9:00am Easter Service led by Worship Team
30th March - 10th April	Easter Holiday
13th April	First Day of Term

Meal Ordering
Cut Off Days 2025 – 2026

Order cut off	For week commencing
2nd April 2026	13th April 2026
9th April 2026	20th April 2026
16th April 2026	27th April 2026
23rd April 2026	4th May 2026
30th April 2026	11th May 2026
7th May 2026	18th May 2026
21st May 2026	1st June 2026
28th May 2026	8th June 2026
4th June 2026	15th June 2026
11th June 2026	22nd June 2026
18th June 2026	29th June 2026
25th June 2026	6th July 2026
2nd July 2026	13th July 2026
9th July 2026	20th July 2026