# St Giles CofE Primary School

Together in the light of God's love
Respect – Nurture – Inspire –Achieve
Bringing out the best in every child

# Fortnightly Flyer – 20th October 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

**Half Term Highlights at St Giles**
It's hard to believe we're already approaching the end of the first half term — time really has flown! The children have embraced their learning with such enthusiasm, and it's been a joy to visit every class and see the exciting work taking place. From Sycamore's deep dive into undersea creatures to support their Black Rock writing, to Elm and Oak's exploration of the Great Fire of London (complete with some truly magnificent artwork!), and Maple's thoughtful discussions around characters in *Letters from a Lighthouse* — the creativity and curiosity on display has been inspiring. The buzz in classrooms has been wonderful, and we're looking forward to sharing it with you during our **Sharing Afternoon** on **Friday 7th November at 2:45 p.m.** We hope you'll be able to join us!

**Coffee Mornings & Parent Workshops**
This week marks the first of our coffee mornings for parents and carers, starting with Reception families. Mrs Maynard, our English and Reading Lead, will be guiding us through how we teach reading and phonics in KS1. She's also created a helpful booklet for supporting reading at home — copies are available in the entrance hall, and it will soon be on our website too.
Looking ahead, after half term we'll be hosting a workshop and coffee morning for up to 15 parents, in collaboration with our school support team, focused on helping children with emotional self-regulation. A letter will be sent out this week with details on how to sign up. We're also planning a follow-up session in the Spring Term on supporting children with anxiety.

**Celebrating Leadership: Our New Bishop Team**
A couple of weeks ago, we held our annual School Bishop Team elections — a proud tradition at St Giles for over 50 years, and one we believe is unique to our school. Seven Year 6 pupils bravely stood for election, delivering heartfelt speeches to the whole school. Each one reflected beautifully on our values of *Respect, Nurture, Inspire and Achieve* and shared their hopes for supporting younger pupils. It was a tough decision, as all candidates spoke with such passion and maturity. We're delighted to announce that our new Bishop Team members are **Clara, Rory and Seren** — congratulations to them, and well done to all who took part!

**Year 5 & 6 Residential at Bowles**
This week, our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils are off to Bowles for their residential trip — a fantastic opportunity to build resilience, teamwork and perseverance through outdoor activities. We can't wait to hear all about their adventures… though we suspect there may be some very sleepy children by Thursday!

With very best wishes,
Mrs Coulson and Mr Savage

## Collective Worship

This week sees the celebration of the Hindu festival of Diwali – the festival of lights. In Worship this week, we thought about where light is used in other faiths and also looked into the way in which Diwali is celebrated across the world.






Our new Bishop team for this year – Clara, Seren and Rory!



Just a reminder that the deadline for ordering school photos is Monday 3rd November. Please do get in touch if you need the codes again.




Thank you to the PTA and Maple parents for this amazing start to our cake sales this year.

## Sports Stars part 1!

Congratulations to our KS2 runners who took part in the Cumnor House Cross Country – they all ran well and tried their hardest.

Congratulations too to our Year 5/6 football team who tried hard in the NEARS football tournament recently. They played really well and came 4th overall.



## Sports Stars part 2!

Congratulations to Digby and Cassidy who recently took part in a 6K Commando Obstacle Mud Run with their dads. They worked really well as a team and thoroughly enjoyed themselves.



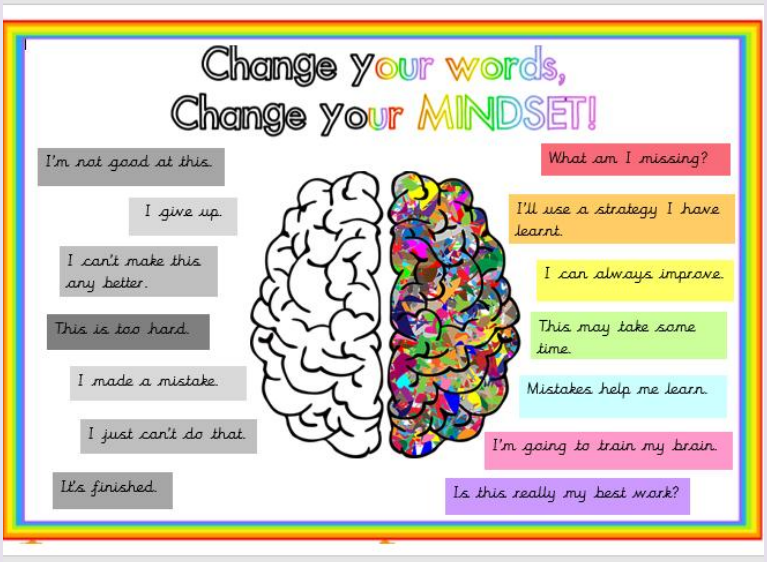



## Building Resilience and a Growth Mindset

Over the past couple of weeks, we've been focusing on developing a positive *growth mindset* across the school. The children have been learning about the importance of showing determination and resilience, and embracing the power of **YET** — understanding that even if they can't do something *yet*, with effort and perseverance, they will get there!

We've been encouraging children to see mistakes as valuable learning opportunities and to set themselves personal challenges to help them grow. It's been wonderful to see them supporting each other, celebrating progress, and showing real courage in their learning.

We're so proud of the way they've embraced these ideas, and we hope you'll continue to hear them talking about growth mindset and the power of "yet" at home too!



# Learners of the Week – 10th and 17th October

| | |
|---|---|
| **Oak** | Joe for amazing successful sentences in History.<br>Arthur for fantastic input during topic discussions.<br>Dessica for always being kind and nurturing. A great role model in Oak! |
| **Elm** | Flora, Lottie and Phoebe for incredible writing and detail about Samuel Pepys.<br>Felicity and Seb for hard work and thoughtful ideas in history – writing about what they would bury in the ground if they were Samuel Pepys. |
| **Sycamore** | Tobias for hard work in Maths.<br>Georgia B for amazing work in Maths.<br>Zachary for his fab Black Rock story. |
| **Maple** | Sofia for great first person writing.<br>McKenzie for showing great focus in class all week.<br>Ben for well thought out sentences using newly taught structures.<br>Freddie for his alarm design in science – trying different approaches to try to make it work. |
| **Sports Stars** | Year 5/6 football team for representing the school well at the NEARs tournament.<br>KS2 Cross Country runners – all of Year 3 and Year 4 and some of Year 5/6.<br>Cassidy and Digby for completing a 6K Commando Obstacle Mud Run |
| **Marvellous musicians** | Oscar for active listening when watching a concert and making connections.<br>Liv for spreading joy with her spontaneous singing.<br>Nell, Lottie and Kaleb for working well as a team with great communication to play their birdsong composition. |
| **Headteacher's Award** | **Achieve** – Frazer, Nell, Peggy, Felicity, Freddie, Jasper, Jim for helping to transform the quiet garden.<br>**Nurture** – Jack W for helping an elderly lady on the way to swimming.<br>**Nurture** – Zachary and Astrid for comforting a Reception girl when she was upset.<br>**Nurture** – Cody for being such a good role model at active club and helping the younger children.<br>**Nurture** – Astrid for supporting her friend to manage their feelings. |

Happy Birthday to.....
Seren, Guy, Sofia, and Ben



**Keep reading for the diary dates!**

| Autumn Term 2025<br>Diary Dates | |
|---|---|
| **Date** | **Events** |
| Monday 20th-22nd October | Year 5/6 residential to Bowles |
| Thursday 23rd October | Flu vaccinations for all year groups |
| **Half Term 27th -31st October** | |
| Monday 3rd November | **INSET DAY**<br>**Deadline for individual and sibling pictures** |
| Friday 7th November | School Remembrance Service – St Giles Church 9:00 a.m. led by Maple Class<br>Sharing afternoon for all classes – 2:45-3:30 p.m. Come and look at your child's work prior to parents meeting next week |
| **10th - 14th November** | **Anti-bullying Week – The Power of Good** |
| Tuesday 11th November | 9:00 a.m. – Supporting your child to emotionally self-regulate Parents Workshop<br>3:30-6:00 p.m. Parents Evening and Inclusion Manager meetings<br>*Note: these meetings take place at school. A crèche is provided* |
| Wednesday 12th November | Year 5/6 Science at Cumnor pm |
| **Thursday 13th November** | **9:30 a.m. Prospective Parent Open Morning**<br>Parents Evening 4:00-7:00 p.m.<br>*Note: these meetings take place at school. A crèche is provided* |
| Wednesday 19th November | Year 3 /4 Science at Cumnor pm |
| Friday 21st November | Non-uniform day – collecting for PTA Christmas Fair |
| **24th – 28th November** | **RE week** |
| **Tuesday 25th November** | **9:30 a.m. Prospective Parent Open Morning** |
| Saturday 29th November | PTA Christmas Fair |
| Wednesday 3rd December | Year 6 Meet the Author at Ardingly College |
| Tuesday 9th December | Nativity Performance 2:00 p.m. – for parents, siblings and preschool |
| Wednesday 10th December | Nativity Performance 2:00 p.m. – for adults only please |
| Tuesday 16th December | Rocksteady Concert 9:30 a.m. |
| Wednesday 17th December | Christmas Lunch- please order via ParentPay |
| Thursday 18th December | KS2 Carol Concert 6:30 p.m.– St Giles Church |
| Friday 19th December | Last day of term |
| **Christmas Holidays** | |
| Monday 5th January | **INSET DAY** |

# Meal Ordering Cut Off Days 2025 – 2026

| Order cut off | For week commencing |
|---|---|
| 23rd October 2025 | 3rd November 2025 |
| 30th October 2025 | 10th November 2025 |
| 6th November 2025 | 17th November 2025 |
| 13th November 2025 | 24th November 2025 |
| 20th November 2025 | 1st December 2025 |
| 27th November 2025 | 8th December 2025 |
| 4th December 2025 | 15th December 2025 |
| 25th December 2025 | 5th January 2026 |
| 1st January 2026 | 12th January 2026 |
| 8th January 2026 | 19th January 2026 |
| 15th January 2026 | 26th January 2026 |
| 22nd January 2026 | 2nd February 2026 |
| 29th January 2026 | 9th February 2026 |
| 12th February 2026 | 23rd February 2026 |
| 19th February 2026 | 2nd March 2026 |
| 26th February 2026 | 9th March 2026 |
| 5th March 2026 | 16th March 2026 |
| 12th March 2026 | 23rd March 2026 |
| 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 |