



SUCCESS THROUGH WORK AND PLAY



St Giles' C of E  
Primary School

# Weekly Bulletin

Issue 12 Friday 1<sup>st</sup> Dec '17

[WWW.STGILES.HERTS.SCH.UK](http://WWW.STGILES.HERTS.SCH.UK)

## A message from the Head

It amazes me sometimes how quickly a term rushes by; I can't believe we have entered December already. I'd like to thank Daisy Smithers for donating a real Christmas tree to the school – it will take great pride in the hall. We have also been lucky enough to have an artificial tree given to us too from Kelly Carty - the decorations will be going up from next week. Last but not least, thanks to Mark Potter for sorting out our speaker system. It is our close relationship with parents that makes our school special, so many thanks.

I'd also like to mention the Quiz night held last week. We had an excellent attendance from parents and residents of the village. I won't say which team won, but it was a well fought contest. Many thanks to the Friends for their organisation, especially Claire and Wendy, as well as Pam and Bobbie for compiling the questions. It was a real success.

On a more negative note, I am sad to report that on too many occasions children in our school are not being heard read, or have not been read to. We are also finding that spellings are not being practiced and number bonds or tables are not being learned. Time and time again, research shows that reading at home and developing a love for reading is directly linked to a child's success at school and beyond. I understand that people have

busy lives, but reading with your children is one of the few times where parents can give children their undivided attention, and more importantly, they really enjoy it. What's more, is that it's a simple and effective way to help your child at school. Please take time to read with your children on a daily basis, and practice their sounds or spellings – it's easy for teachers to see the children who have this opportunity and those who don't.

This evening is the church sleep over to raise awareness for homelessness. Thanks to Mrs. Johnson for organising this, and the parental support getting it off the ground. I hope it goes well. Please bring in sponsorship money next week.

Kind regards, Mr Smithard.

## Upcoming events

(for a more detailed list visit the school website; <http://stgiles.herts.sch.uk/news-dates/diary-dates/>)

Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Nov – Tue 5<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 3:20pm  
Scholastic Book Fayre

Fri 1<sup>st</sup> Dec @ 8pm – Church sleepover to raise money for homelessness

Sun 10<sup>th</sup> Dec @12pm – Christmas Fayre

Tue 12<sup>th</sup> Dec @ 2pm– KS1 Nativity dress rehearsal

## Effort Certificate Winners

Many congratulations to the following children for their efforts this week:

**Blanche - Phoebe Stone**

**St Alban - Dylan Ray & Mykolas Sipavicius**

**Frowyke - Alfie Carty & Alex Malinowski**

**Cecil - Ellie Doman & Freya Franklin**

## Attendance

There is a clear link between good attendance at school and achievement. Only 35% of children who miss between 10 and 20% of school go on to achieve 5 GCSEs at A – C.

**Blanche - 97%**

**St Alban -90%**

**Frowyke -96%**

**Cecil -89%**

Our current overall attendance is: 93.03%