



SUCCESS THROUGH WORK AND PLAY



St Giles' C of E
Primary School

Weekly Bulletin

Friday 26th Jan '18

WWW.STGILES.HERTS.SCH.UK

A message from the Head

Thank you for your support with the opening times. It is really working well from the teacher's perspective having all the children in at once focused and ready to learn. The children have commented that they like the opportunity to talk to each other and run around in the morning too. At the moment the walking bus hasn't had any passengers for a while. If you intend to start using the walking bus, please let the school know, otherwise we will suspend it. That is a pity because the bus has been going for quite a few years, but it does seem daft for our volunteers to be sat waiting in the cold with no one to walk to school.

One thing I do need to talk about is lateness. If you are late dropping your child to school, the impact is felt by many. The office has to record and adjust the lunch numbers as well as the registers and walking into class late disrupts the teacher, who has to go back over the work set, meaning that it upsets the flow of the lesson and the focus of the rest of the class. It also makes life difficult for your child, who has to go over the work again, misses out on the opportunity to talk to friends before school and starts the day all flustered and rushed. Some parents have made us aware that the timings are difficult, but this is a very small number in comparison to the number of children arriving late. The gate closes at 8:45am. Please help us by making sure that your children are in school on time.

Kind regards, Mr Smithard

P4C Question of the week:

Don't forget to discuss this question with your children. There are no right or wrong answers, just ask the children to explain their thinking and you can explain yours to them.

Would you rather climb the highest mountain or swim the longest river?

Upcoming events

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

Tue 30th Jan 1:30 to 3:30pm – Yr 4 Speed Stacking Competition @ Dame Alice Owens'

Sat 3rd Feb – Cross Country Championships for selected Class 4 students

Tue 6th Feb – Cecil Class Young Voices concert @ The O2

Fri 9th Feb @ 8am – Friends Pancake Breakfast

Mon 12th to Fri 16th Feb – Half Term

Sat 24th Mar – Rotary Sponsored Swim

Tue 27th Mar – Yr5 to Mount Grace for gym & dance display

The Christian Value we are focusing on at the moment is:

Obedience

The Biblical definition of obedience means simply, to hear, trust, submit and surrender to God's word.

While it can sometimes be seen as a negative thing, Christians believe that first and foremost you should obey God's word. This means being kind to each other, being caring, trustworthy and honest. Obedience to God is about making the right choices not necessarily just doing what your told by others, or blindly following rules.

Attendance

Missing just 10 days of school a year means that your child would miss out on 50 individual lessons.

Blanche - 93%

St Alban - 97%

Frowyke - 97%

Cecil - 86%

Our current overall attendance is: 93.17%

Effort Certificate Winners

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

Blanche - Naz Alcicioglu

St Alban - Laci-Jai Lawrence-Watson & Chantelle Reece

Frowyke - Katelyn Reece & Ayla Weston

Cecil - Ella Cullen & Milly Clarke-Stewart

This week's Value certificate is awarded to:

Ava Quinn



Herts County Council Needs Your Help!

Please click on this link to complete a short survey on Childcare Provision - <https://surveys.hertfordshire.gov.uk/s/6Z24L/>

A Compliment from a Local Resident

"Last Saturday, my son organised a fundraising day at St Albans market to help his friend whose daughter has a neuroblastoma and is only 2 years old. She needs a vaccine which is only available in New York at a cost of £155k. During my stint, I had the pleasure of the Baker family joining me on one of the coldest wettest days of this year. Logan was there with his sister Brooke and brother Ollie. For me, Logan was just unbelievable in the effort he put into getting people to donate - he had had us laughing so much with his banter. What delightful children they are! We raised £909, which was an astonishing amount for such an awful day. I would really like the school to congratulate all three children, but especially Logan. We now have raised well over the £100k needed. Many thanks, Mary O'Boy."

E- Safety advice - How do I ensure that my child is safe when gaming online?

Gaming has changed a lot since the days of the Super Nintendo and the Sega Mega-Drive. Now many consoles can access the internet, which gives users the opportunity to stay up to date with the latest games, as well as learn new tips and tricks. This also means that players play games with other people online, meaning that your child could be interacting with strangers in an environment they feel completely comfortable and at ease in. Many game sites allow users to create a profile using personal information, and some online games have chat functions where users can interact with others. There is also the question of how you know if a game is age appropriate or not

What steps can I take to ensure my child is safe?

- Understand the capabilities of the gaming devices in your home. Ask the vendor what it can do online.
- Find out about the parental controls available - it helps if you are the one to set up the gaming device so you are in control of these. Gaming devices have parental controls to help parents manage their children's gaming, for example, to prevent internet browsing or restrict access to age-restricted games.
- We often hear of children playing games that are not appropriate in school. Find out about PEGI age ratings to help you decide which games are appropriate for your child's age. Play the games yourself and test for appropriateness.
- Talk with your child about safe and responsible gaming and agree a set of family rules. Perhaps you could agree rules with your child about how long they are allowed to play for, how they should behave towards other gamers and agree rules about not meeting up with people they have only met online.
- Think carefully about where you keep the games console. Keeping it in a family room makes it easier to monitor what your children are up to, and you can control when it's time to switch off.

Sources: Parents Protect! (2018) https://www.parentsprotect.co.uk/online_gaming.htm

UK Safer Internet Centre (2018) <https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-centre/parents-and-carers/parents-guide-technology/gaming-devices>