



School Newsletter

Friday 27th June

'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34.

Working together with love we will provide a happy and nurturing environment where all will, **'learn to love and love to learn'**, making outstanding progress through an enriched and creative curriculum. Through our strong Christian ethos we will celebrate and embrace the richness of our community.

Learn to Love - Love to Learn

'You must love one another as I have loved you.' John 13 v 34

School Reports

Children's school reports will be Emailed to you at 4pm on Friday 4th July.

There will be an opportunity for you to discuss any concerns in relation to your child's School Report on:

Monday 14th July / Tuesday 15th July. (10am-3pm)

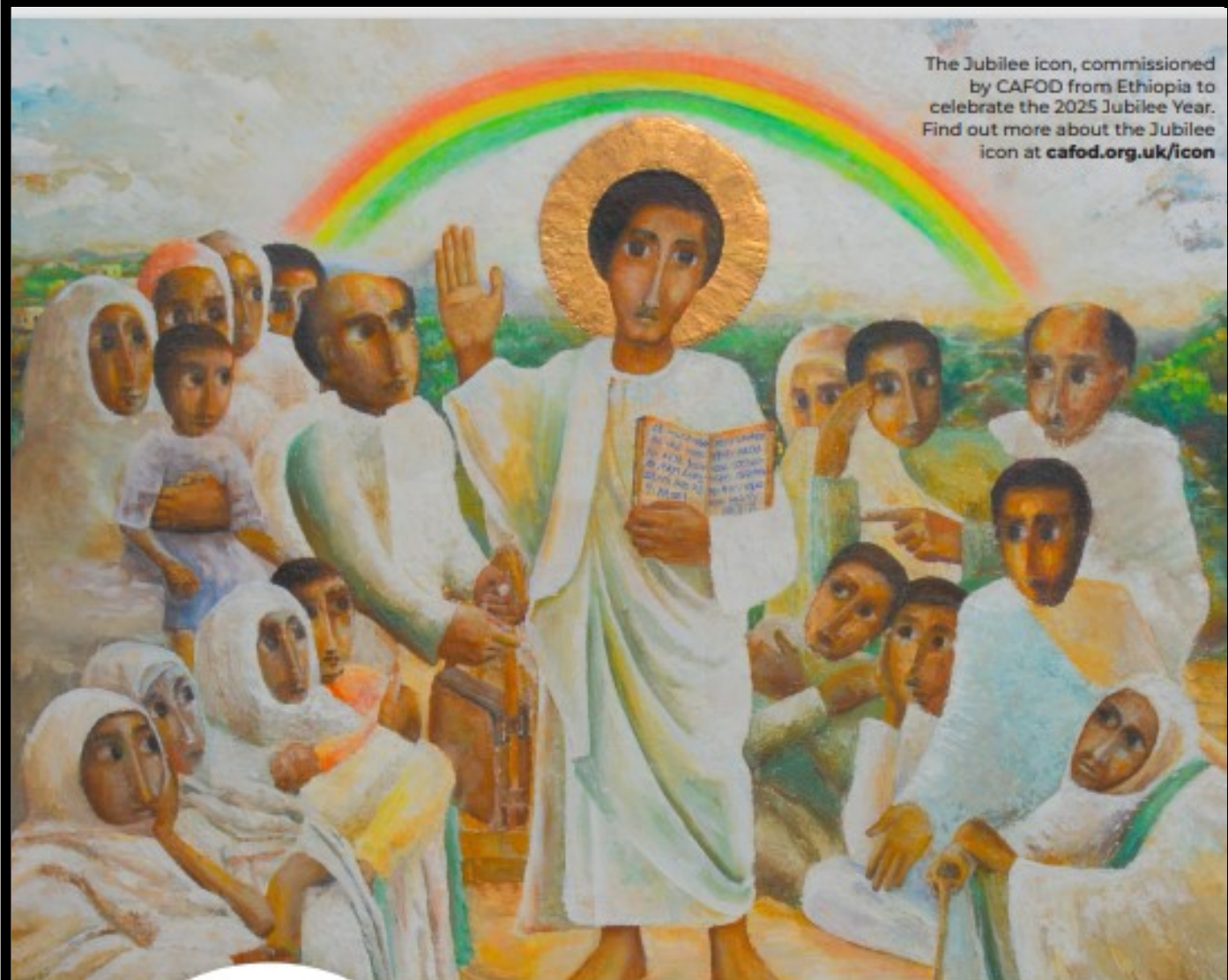
School Cloud Bookings will open on Monday 7th July once you have had chance to read the Annual School Report.

 **schoolcloud**
Parents Evening

WE ARE A UNICEF GOLD RIGHTS RESPECTING SCHOOL

Children's rights are learned, understood and lived in this school.





The Jubilee icon, commissioned by CAFOD from Ethiopia to celebrate the 2025 Jubilee Year. Find out more about the Jubilee icon at cafod.org.uk/icon



Wishing you and your whole parish a blessed Jubilee Year.



Make your Jubilee journey with CAFOD
cafod.org.uk/jubilee

“During the Holy Year, we are called to be tangible signs of hope for those of our brothers and sisters who experience hardships of any kind.”

POPE FRANCIS

Catholic Agency for Overseas Development **CAFOD**

Jubilee Art

This term, Art Club have been working with Mason, a talented A-Level Art student from St Thomas More to create a pastel piece, based on the Jubilee icon created by Mulugeta Araya, an artist and an engineer who studied at St Mary's College, Wukro, in Ethiopia, which is supported by CAFOD.

This morning the artwork was unveiled and blessed in St Giles' Church by Fr. Craig. The piece will be displayed in St Giles Church on Sunday and then within St Newman Parish over the next few weeks, before being installed in school.





Skateboarding Experience

**St Giles' CE Primary are excited to be welcoming back
Progressive Sports to school for three days of
Skateboarding Fun!**

**Sessions are led by trained skateboarding coaches and all
*safety equipment is provided for the children.**

***(Helmets/Knee Pads/Elbow Pads)**

**Please visit the School Gateway App to provide consent
and to make a contribution towards the cost of the
experience.**

Monday 14th July—Years 5 and 6

Tuesday 15th July– Years 3 and 4

Wednesday 16th July– Years 1 and 2

Virtual Reality (VR)

VR is a 3D computer generated environment that users can explore wearing a VR Headset.

Meta Quest Parental Controls

Meta Quest are one of the more popular VR Headsets. Users aged 13+ can use Meta Quest (children between 10 and 12 years old can use it through a parent managed account). *Meta Quest state that VR Headsets are not recommended for use by younger or smaller-sized children for a variety of reasons including eye strain.* Optional supervision tools are available for those aged 13–17. Find out more here: <https://familycenter.meta.com/uk/our-products/horizon-and-quest/>

Meta Quest has a Safety Centre; it includes health and safety warnings and how to set privacy settings. <https://www.meta.com/gb/quest/safety-center/>

Gorilla Tag

This is a popular game and whilst rated as PEGI 3 (even though young children should not be using VR), it is important to note that it does include in app purchases and players can interact so there is a risk of offensive/inappropriate language. <https://www.esrb.org/blog/a-parents-guide-to-gorilla-tag/>

What can I do?

- Check what games your child is accessing and make sure they are appropriate.
- Play together.
- Set time limits and ensure plenty of breaks.

Further information:

- <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/virtual-reality-headsets/>

Online Privacy

It is important to develop an understanding of how you can protect your child's privacy online. Any personal information shared online creates a digital footprint and it is vital that we control who sees what.

What are Privacy settings?

Privacy settings are tools available on most social media apps, websites, and games. They allow users to control who can view what they share online.

What can we do to support our children with their online privacy?

Talk to your child regularly: Talk to your child about what is personal information and to think about what they share online. Personal information includes their name, address, current location and the school they attend. This also includes information within photos or videos that they may share, for example does it show their current location?

Apply appropriate privacy settings: For any app, game or device that your child uses, check the privacy settings and apply them as appropriate. For example:

- o Check if their location is being shared.
- o Check who can tag them in posts (as what others tag them in can also affect their digital footprint).
- o Check who can share their content.

Check these settings regularly as new options may become available or sometimes updates can change previous settings.

Children learn from us: Think about what you are sharing online – do you share photos of your child in their school uniform or their current location?

Set strong/complex passwords: Teach your child to create strong/complex passwords and to never share them with others.

Search their name: search their name in a search engine to see what information can be seen about your child. Remind your child that they can delete any information that they no longer want others to see.

Further Information

- <https://www.childline.org.uk/info-advice/bullying-abuse-safety/online-mobile-safety/taking-care-your-digital-footprint/>
- <https://www.unicef.org/parenting/child-care/online-privacy>
- https://www.ceopeducation.co.uk/11_18/lets-talk-about/online-safety/privacy-settings/

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Instagram

You must be over 13 years of age to set up an account. Instagram is used to post photos and videos as well as send direct messages, make voice/video calls, and send disappearing messages. Users can also upload to 'Stories' (which disappear after 24 hours), broadcast live and upload reels (short videos).

Teen accounts

Teen accounts are automatically set up for users aged 13 – 17. Teens under the age of 16 will need your permission to update their safety settings. With a Teen Account, additional safety settings are applied, for example, who your child can contact is limited and the content they access will be set to the most restrictive setting to reduce exposure to sensitive content. Find out more here: <https://help.instagram.com/995996839195964>

Supervision settings

Instagram also offers a supervision facility, which is a set of tools that you can use to help support your child. It is important to note that both you and your child must agree to these settings, and they can be removed at any time by either person. Once set up you can:

- Set a time limit.
- See which accounts your child is following and who is following them.
- View who your child has messaged in the past week (you will not be able to see the contents of these messages)
- The option to block your child from accessing Instagram at certain times e.g. during school or at night.

Find out more here:

https://help.instagram.com/658522825492278/?helpref=related_articles

How to Reset Your Instagram Recommendations

You can reset recommendations, which will clear recommended content across Explore, Reels and Feed. You can find out more here:

<https://about.fb.com/news/2024/11/introducing-recommendations-reset-instagram/>

What are the risks of using Instagram?

- Cyberbullying.
- Risk of contact from strangers.
- Viewing inappropriate content.
- Echo chambers - algorithms can create an echo chamber. Once we show an interest in a subject, the app/ site will promote that content, which may mean we are overly exposed to it.

Safety Features

If your child is using Instagram, then ensure they know how to report posts and people, how to unfollow/block people as well as delete and turn off comments. Find out how: <https://help.instagram.com/269765046710559>

More information

Visit the family centre to learn more about the features available: <https://familycenter.meta.com/uk/>

Talking to your child about online mistakes

The online world is difficult to navigate, and mistakes will happen. When they do, it is important that as a parent you are ready.

Stay Calm

If your child tells you about something that they have done wrong online, then try to stay calm and listen.

Be Honest

You may not know how to solve the issue but tell them you will help them work it out.

Solve It Together

Try and resolve the problem together to help your child learn and understand what went wrong. This will also develop their digital literacy skills.

You should also take the opportunity to review/set up any available parental controls.

Help and Support

If you feel like you need support from an external organisation, then Parent Zone have listed some of the different organisations available:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/help-and-support>

Further information:

<https://www.brightcanary.io/what-to-do-when-your-child-sends-inappropriate-things/>

Texting dictionary from Internet Matters

Internet Matters have created a list of text language terms to help you understand some of the text slang that your child might be using. Find out more here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/resources/text-dictionary/>



PE Kits / Jewellery

PE and Sport is highly valued at St Giles' CE Primary. Across the school there is external, professional coaching in place to teach gymnastics, football, hockey, cricket, athletics, dance and swimming.

Due to safety concerns, children are not allowed to wear jewellery while taking part in PE and Sport. Please ensure all jewellery is removed on PE Days. *Children should also be wearing simple studs to school and not hooped/dangly rings to school for the same reasons.

Either– remove jewellery completely on PE Days or cover earrings with tape in preparation so that children can participate safely.

Thank you in advance of your full cooperation and support.



JEWELLERY IN PHYSICAL EDUCATION

General Statement

The wearing of personal effects, such as jewellery and watches, can present risks of injury to the person and/or others involved in an activity. Exposure to the risk of injury from such items can principally occur in Physical Education.

General Aims

To ensure that employees and others, such as school pupils, taking part in Physical Education lessons are aware:-

- of the hazards of wearing jewellery & watches
- that control measures are in place to avoid the risk of injury
- that to enable individuals to understand that, as well as the right to protection, they also have to exercise responsibility.

Scope

This procedure applies where persons who are wearing jewellery and watches can potentially expose themselves and others to the risk of injury while taking part in Physical Education.

There have been serious incidents and legal cases involving jewellery in PE and physical activity and this procedure protects against that happening. It is not just about making the wearer of the ear-ring safe, it is about keeping everyone safe thus making a parental disclaimer ineffective and legally unenforceable.

Procedure

The following advice applies to ALL body jewellery and watches, except for bracelets worn for religious reasons that cannot be removed. These bracelets will be covered with a sweatband and secured by tape.

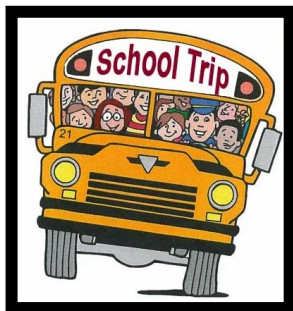
1. There should be risk assessments in place for all PE activities e.g., rugby, football, hockey, etc. The risk assessments should be made specific to each activity. Wearing of jewellery should be identified as a hazard in each risk assessment with a subsequent control measure (exemption from activity, removal of jewellery/watch, cover-up of bracelets worn for religious reasons that cannot be removed, adjustment to activity, etc.). The risk assessments should be written. All relevant staff should have the risk assessment and its findings shared with them.
2. All schools should follow the advice of the Association for Physical Education (AfPE) as follows:
 - The basic rule is that all jewellery should be removed as this then removes that

particular hazard.

- The National guidance has always been that no jewellery should be worn in PE and that includes swimming and physical activity. It is not safe to cover ear-rings / studs / sleepers with tape. The reason is both because of the potential tearing of the ear lobe, but also the chance that the post of the ear-ring could damage the neck which is where the brachial nerve is running directly to the brain. There are anecdotal cases of children wearing ear-rings / studs with plasters over being hit by a ball or coming off worse in a collision and having nasty injuries as a consequence.
- Where an item of Jewellery cannot be removed then it is the adult teaching the group's responsibility to try to establish a safe situation to enable participation by considering how, or if, the context can be made safe by amending the task, conditioning the activity, or creating some other management strategy to make participation safe. Where safe participation cannot be assured then the pupil cannot take part in that element of the lesson.
- Low risk is where children can work and be secure in their own personal space. This could be warming up, skills practices, observing and analysing, officiating or coaching.
- Higher risk is where that personal space could be compromised, either by other participants or by equipment. This could be games activities where there are elements of 'scrimmage', gymnastics where children are close to each other or where the floor / equipment could come close to the ears, swimming, dodgeball, football etc.
- It is good practice to regularly ask if anyone is wearing body jewellery. If they disclose this, then the process of removal or considering whether safe participation can be made possible should apply.
- If there is no disclosure but some body piercing is seen during the session then from that point the process above needs to be applied – remove, make safe (in the event of bracelets worn for religious reasons that cannot be removed) or take no further participation in aspects of the session that would put the wearer or others at risk.
- Pupils should remove their own jewellery. This should be made clear to parents and carers. If the child is unable to do this themselves, they should not wear any. School policy should explain this to parents from the outset.

3. PE teachers should remind classes of this at the start of every lesson.

4. Parents should be reminded that the school has the higher-level duty of care and cannot be put in the situation of looking after their child without exercising that duty of care. It is dictated by national guidance, and they need to comply. Parental disclaimers are ineffective and legally unenforceable.



School Trips and In School Enrichment Experiences

A

range of trips, visits and experiences have been arranged for the Summer Term. Experiences can only go ahead if supported financially by parents. The school works hard to reduce costs for parents and subsidises the costs of trips to reduce the financial burden upon families. Please check the School App for visits and experiences available for your child. This year St Giles Church have fully funded trips to Lichfield Cathedral for Years 4 and 6.

The school has secured also secured a fully trip to the Black Country Museum for Year 2.

~~Nursery and Reception~~—Friday 23rd May (In School Farm Experience)

~~Year 1~~—Friday 23rd May—Twycross Zoo

~~Year 2~~—Friday 6th June—Cadbury World

~~Year 2~~—Thursday 10th July—Black Country Museum (Funded by ARTS Council)

~~Year 3~~—Friday 13th June—Black Country Museum

~~Year 4~~—Wednesday 11th June—Lichfield Cathedral (Funded by St Giles Church)

~~Year 4~~—Carding Mill Valley—4S 20th /4G 27th June

~~Year 5~~—Friday 11th July St Thomas More Retreat Day

~~Year 6~~—Tuesday 20th May—Lichfield Cathedral (Funded by St Giles Church)

~~Year 6~~—West End In School /Shakespeare Drama Day - Friday 4th July

~~Year 6~~—Rock Climbing/Climbing Wall—Friday 11th July

~~Year 5 and 6~~—Skateboarding—Monday 14th July

~~Year 3 and 4~~—Skateboarding—Tuesday 15th July

~~Year 1 and 2~~—Skateboarding—Wednesday 16th July



School Attendance

For most pupils, the best place to be is in school, surrounded by the support of their friends and teachers.

This is important not just for your child's learning, but also for their overall wellbeing, wider development and their mental health. The Chief Medical Officer has [written a letter](#) to schools explaining why [regular attendance](#) is vital to the life chances of children and young people.

As a parent, it can be difficult to know when to send your child into [school](#) if they are feeling unwell or mildly anxious, but finding solutions is a team effort between schools, parents and children, and there is support and information available to help you make the best decision for your child.

There is lots of support available in school to support and overcome barriers to attendance. If you are requiring support, or would like to know what support is available, please contact Mr Dow or Mrs Leonowicz who will be more than happy to help.

ldow@st-giles.walsall.sch.uk / lleonowicz@st-giles.walsall.sch.uk



Poetry Performances

Parents are welcome to join us for our Spring/Summer Performance Poetry programme. Each week a class will perform three poems in Church.

Doors Open 8.30am with performances commencing at 9.00am.

Friday 28th February-6S

Friday 7th March-6G

Friday 21st March-5S

Friday 28th March– *4G POSTPONED

Friday 4th April-4S/4G

Friday 2nd May-3G

Friday 9th May-3S

Friday 16th May-5G

Friday 13th June,2S,2G

Friday 20th June-1G

Friday 27th June-1S

Friday 4th July-EYFS



UK Health
Security
Agency

NHS

Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox

at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over

Diarrhoea and Vomiting

48 hours after their last episode

Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)

they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.

Impetigo

their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics

Measles

4 days after the rash first appeared

Mumps

5 days after the swelling started

Scabies

they've had their first treatment

Scarlet Fever

24 hours after they started taking antibiotics

Whooping Cough

48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth

Glandular fever

Head lice

Tonsillitis

Threadworms

Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minftec>.

Term Dates

2024/25 academic year

Autumn term 2024

Term ends: Friday 20 December 2024

Spring term 2025

Term starts: Monday 6 January 2025

Half term holiday: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025

Term ends: Friday 11 April 2025

Summer term 2025

Term starts: Monday 28 April 2025

Half term holiday: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025

Term ends: Monday 21 July 2025

INSET Days / Non– Pupil Days

Half term holiday: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025

Term ends: Monday 21 July 2025

~~INSET 1– Monday 2 September 2024~~

~~INSET 2– Wednesday 25th September 2024~~

~~INSET 3– Wednesday 29th January 2025~~

INSET 4– Wednesday 25th June 2025

INSET 5– Monday 21 July 2025

Term Dates

2025/26 academic year

Autumn term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 1 September 2025
- Half term holiday: Monday 27 October 2025 to Friday 31 October 2025

Term ends: Friday 19 December 2025

Spring term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 5 January 2026
- Half term holiday: Monday 16 February 2026 to Friday 20 February 2026

Term ends: Friday 27 March 2026

Summer term 2026

- Term starts: Monday 13 April 2026
- Half term holiday: Monday 25 May 2026 to Friday 29 May 2026

Term ends: Monday 20 July 2026

INSET 1 Monday 1st September 2025

INSET 2 Wednesday 1st October 2025

INSET 3 Wednesday 28th January 2026

INSET 4 Wednesday 24th June 2026

INSET 5 Monday 20th July 2026



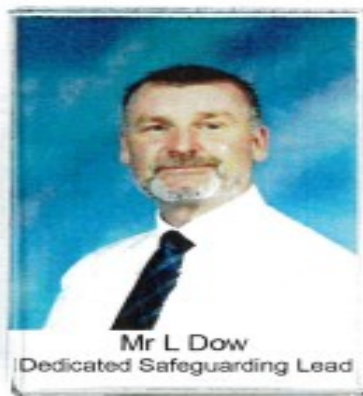
St Giles' CE Primary School **Safeguarding Team**



Mr Mark Dakin
Headteacher



Mrs Harsimrat Kaur Mavi
Deputy Headteacher



Mr L Dow
Dedicated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Lindsey Leonowicz
Safeguarding Manager



Mrs Chemaine Green
Mental Health +
Behaviour Support Worker



Cllr. Simran Cheema
Safeguarding Governor

Safeguarding at St Giles' CE Primary School

2024/25

lleonowicz@st-giles.walsall.sch.uk

ldow@st-giles.walsall.sch.uk



If you have any concerns about a child, trust your instincts and contact the NSPCC Helpline. Our specialist team will listen, advise and take any action needed.

An estimated 1 in 20 children have experienced sexual abuse. And child sexual abuse is under-reported by adults. It's time for that to change.

It's never too soon to talk to us. And what you share could make a life-changing difference to a child.

You can contact the NSPCC Helpline by calling 0808 800 5000, emailing help@NSPCC.org.uk or completing our report abuse online form.

Due to an increase in demand across our service, our voice Helpline is currently available 11am–5pm Monday to Friday. You can still email help@NSPCC.org.uk or complete our report abuse online form at any time for free. You don't have to say who you are.

If you think a child is in immediate danger, please call the police on 999 straight away.