



St Giles' C.E. Primary School Newsletter 4.9.26

Welcome Back to School!

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed a wonderful, relaxing, and memorable summer break. As we begin a new school year, I would like to extend a warm welcome back to all our returning children and a special welcome to those joining our school community for the first time.

The start of a new school year brings exciting opportunities for learning, growth, and achievement. Our staff have been working hard to prepare classrooms, develop engaging lessons, and ensure that every student has the support they need to succeed. We are looking forward to seeing our classrooms filled once again with energy, curiosity, and enthusiasm.

This year promises to be one of discovery, challenge, and accomplishment. We encourage every child to approach the year with a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, and the confidence to try new things.

We greatly value the partnership between home and school. By working together, we can create a positive and supportive environment where all children can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. We encourage families to stay connected with the school and to reach out whenever assistance or support is needed.

As we begin this exciting journey together, I wish each of our children a successful, rewarding, and enjoyable year ahead. Let us make this school year one filled with kindness, respect, perseverance, and achievement.

Welcome back, and here's to a fantastic year ahead! We look forward to meeting with you at the forthcoming 'Meet and Greet' sessions.

Warm regards,

Mr M Dakin

Headteacher

'Meet and Greet' come and visit your child's classroom with your child and talk with their teacher.

Tuesday 29th September 5.00-6.00pm. (Except 3G)

Meet and Greet 3G- Wednesday 7th October (5.00pm-6.00pm)

Meet and Greet

come and see your child's classroom
with your child and talk with their teacher.



**TUESDAY
29TH SEPTEMBER**

5.00-6.00PM
(EXCEPT 3G)



MEET AND GREET

3G

**WEDNESDAY
7TH OCTOBER
5.00PM-6.00PM**

We look forward to seeing you! 

St Giles CE Primary School

Wraparound Club

Academic Year 2026-2027



WHAT TO EXPECT

1

Active Kids Zone Play dodgeball, archery, multi-skills and more in a fun and relaxing environment.

2

Wellness Kids Zone Relax with your friends in a comfortable space.

3

Discovery Kids Zone Play board games, lego, construction and much more.

4

Creative Kids Zone Enjoy arts and crafts, role play, music and much more.

TIMES & PRICES

BREAKFAST CLUB

Session time: 7.30 - 8.30

Price: £6.95

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Short Session: 3:15pm - 4:30pm - £6.95
(Includes a small snack)

Extended Session: 3:15pm - 6pm - £10.85
(Includes a small and large snack)



BOOK NOW:

progressive-uk.co.uk/parents/before-after-school-clubs/



Scan Here!

At Progressive, we know that every child is unique. That's why our before and after school club is designed to spark joy, nurture growth, and inspire a lifelong love of learning and activity.

School Uniform /PE Day Reminders

Thank you for ensuring children attend school looking smart in their school uniforms. As a reminder, it is essential that children attend wearing school shoes and not boots, particularly now as we are hopefully over the winter weather.

On PE Days— please ensure your child attends wearing the agreed kit:

1) White Polo Shirt under the school jumper/cardigan

2) Black Shorts /Black Jogging Bottoms

3) Trainers

Support as always is much appreciated.



Sports and Music Clubs

start next week.

Football - Dance - Netball - Recorders



3.30pm - 4.30pm



Book via the
School App.



Online Safety Newsletter

Sept 2026

Childline under 12s site

Childline have a separate area on their website for under 12s. The pages are written for primary school children. The area includes a section full of games and a Buddy Zone with tips, such as how to speak to a trusted adult and information on where to get extra support from.

You can access this area here:
<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-support/u12-landing/>

How to manage parental controls for different ages?

Internet Matters asked online experts, Karl Hopwood and Richard Waite to share their advice on how to manage parental controls for different ages. Find out more here:
<https://www.internetmatters.org/hub/question/managing-parental-controls-for-different-ages/>

Would you like to read this newsletter in a different language? You can use the translation tool on our web version:
<https://www.knowsleycitylearningcentres.org.uk/september-2026-primary/>

New guidance issued due to concern of AI-manipulated images

Photos of children that seem completely innocent can be manipulated using artificial intelligence (AI) to create sexualised or abusive images. There is a growing threat that children's images shared online are being manipulated by criminals into AI generated sexual abuse material. As concerns grow, the Internet Watch Foundation (IWF) and the National Crime Agency (NCA) have issued new guidance to help you understand the risks around AI image manipulation and advice on how to speak to your child about AI and image consent.



The IWF states that child sexual abuse images or videos created or altered using AI may include:

- Everyday images of a child or young person that are manipulated into child sexual abuse imagery, including images taken from social media, websites or messaging apps, that are manipulated into sexualised or abusive imagery. These are sometimes known as 'deepfakes'.
- Images or videos that look like a real child but are completely artificial.
- AI technology that digitally removes clothing from existing images to create nude or semi-nude images, sometimes known as 'nudifying'.

[source: IWF <https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/> accessed 25.08.26]

What can I do?

The guidance provides practical advice about sharing photographs of your child online. Some useful things to consider are:

- Think before you share photographs online. The IWF suggest creating a 'close friends' group to share images.
- Check and adjust your privacy settings on all social media accounts.
- Understand the steps to take if you or your child has any concerns and the organisations you can contact.

Where can I find the new guidance?

The full guidance can be accessed at the link below. It also includes a video highlighting how everyday photos can be misused using AI tools.

<https://www.iwf.org.uk/resources/ai-child-abuse-imagery-parent-guide/>

You can find the full press release/announcement here:

<https://www.nationalcrimeagency.gov.uk/news/new-guidance-for-parents-and-carers-as-ai-manipulated-images-of-children-become-a-growing-concern>

YouTube

YouTube is one of the most popular platforms, available across many different devices - phones, tablets and Smart TVs etc. **YouTube is intended for users over the age of 13**, however, younger children can still access YouTube with consent from a parent/guardian. There are different options available to access YouTube, depending on your child's age:



1. YouTube Kids – a separate app that includes a smaller selection of videos based on the age category you select: Preschool (ages 4 and under), Younger (ages 5–8) or Older (ages 9–12).

2. Supervised accounts – a parent-managed version of YouTube that allows you to control the content your child can access. You can select one of the following options:

- **Explore** - Generally for viewers aged 9+.
- **Explore more** - Generally for viewers aged 13+.
- **Most of YouTube** - This setting includes almost everything except for videos marked as 18+.

Find out more: <https://support.google.com/youtube/answer/10315420>

What do I need to be aware of?

Whilst YouTube can be educational and fun, it is important to be aware of the potential risks, such as:

- **Inappropriate content**
- **Excessive Screen time** – particularly due to the autoplay feature.
- **Unwanted contact / cyberbullying** – particularly via comments if your child is sharing videos.
- **Algorithms** – algorithms influence what we see to keep us engaged. This can lead to a user being exposed to large amounts of content about one topic/theme, which may not be helpful if it is negative.
- **Adverts** that may not be aimed at or suitable for your child's age.

What can I do?

- Set up appropriate parental controls.
- Show your child the reporting and blocking tools available.
- Watch YouTube together or supervise use.

Further information

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/youtube-app/>

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date released 01.09.26. The inclusion of any links does not imply any affiliation with or endorsement of the linked websites, documents, or videos, nor are we claiming any ownership or copyright in the content of the linked materials.

A guide for parents and carers on managing children's digital lives

The Children's Commissioner has published this guide to help you support your child and make starting conversations about their online world easier. It's a useful read:

<https://assets.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wpuploads/2025/12/cc-what-i-wish-parent-guide.pdf>

Nex Playground

Nex Playground is a new video game console, which features games to get kids active. The games have no ads, no violence and no chat features, however it does rely on purchasing either a yearly or quarterly game subscription. You can find out more here:

<https://www.nexplayground.com/en-gb>

Online Safety Quiz

The NSPCC have created this quiz to test your child's knowledge on how to stay safe online. It's a great way to start a conversation with your child about their online life. You can access the quiz here:

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

WhatsApp Usernames

WhatsApp is introducing the use of usernames, so people no longer have to share their phone number. Wayne Denner provides an overview of the new features, what you need to consider and steps you can take here:

<https://www.waynedenner.com/whatsapp-usernames-what-parents-need-to-know/>

CAMHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Come and join our Parent/Carer Workshops, run by Black Country CAMHS services (on MS Teams for 1 hours). Groups held 12pm - 1pm.

We know that suffering from mental health difficulties does not only affect the person struggling, but also the family around them. Parenting a child/young person with mental health difficulties can create additional challenges for parents.

We are running workshops exploring a range of difficulties that children/young people may experience, that can impact their emotional wellbeing.

22.04.2026 - Anxiety

27.05.2026 - Understanding Autism

17.06.2026 – Low mood in Children

15.07.2026 - Anger Conduct

23.09.2026 – Trauma with attachment

21.10.2026 – Self Harm with DBT skills

18.11.2026 – Anxiety and OCD



To register your interest telephone **Andrea Ehgartner / Nicole Whitehouse** on
01922 607400



bchft_camhs



www.blackcountrychildrens.nhs.uk/camhs

IMPORTANT REMINDER: BRING YOUR BOOK BAG!



Our school has invested thousands of pounds into providing quality reading books for the children.

To help us keep these books in great condition:



Please ensure your child attends school with a book bag.



Please do NOT place water bottles inside book bags.

Water bottles are causing books to become water damaged beyond repair, and we want every child to enjoy these wonderful reading resources.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Together we can protect our books and foster a love of reading!



NATIONAL YEAR OF READING GO ALL IN

2026/27 academic year

Autumn term 2026

Term starts: Tuesday 1 September 2026

Half term holiday: Monday 26 October 2026 to Friday 30 October 2026

Term ends: Friday 18 December 2026

Spring term 2027

Term starts: Monday 4 January 2027

Half term holiday: Monday 15 February 2027 to Friday 19 February 2027

Term ends: Thursday 25 March 2027

Summer term 2027

Term starts: Monday 12 April 2027

Half term holiday: Monday 31 May 2027 to Friday 4 June 2027

Term ends: Wednesday 21 July 2027

SCHOOL INSET- SCHOOL CLOSED

~~**INSET 1 Tuesday 1st September 2026**~~

INSET 2 Wednesday 30th September 2026

INSET 3 Wednesday 25th November 2026

INSET 4 Wednesday 27th January 2027

INSET 5 Wednesday 30th June 2027

NSPCC 
HELPLINE
0808 800 5000
help@nspcc.org.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.