



St. Giles CE Primary School

Achieving Through Adventure

June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all managing to make the best of this stunning weather that we are currently blessed with. Here is an update on dates and news for the final half term of the school year.

Please note that **Monday 7th June is an INSET day** and children should **return to school on Tuesday 8th June**.

Children's Air Ambulance Clothing Bank

I am pleased to announce that the Children's Air Ambulance Service are going to base one of their clothing collection backs in our car park. We're expecting it to arrive on June 10th. I'll send more information when I have it but please consider using it to donate any unwanted clothing or accessories that you have.

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 23rd June – 6pm - White Hall Parents' Evening (In the school hall if restrictions allow)

Thursday 24th June – South Peak Sports Event (After-school – please note this event depends on whether government rules at the time allow)

Friday 25th June - INSET DAY – School closed to pupils.

Friday 2nd July – “Move-Up Day” – All children spend the day in their new classes.

Thursday 8th July – 9:30am - Sports Day

Tuesday 13th July – 6pm – School Junior Production – We still don't know what format this will take.

Tuesday 13th July – 9:30am - Reserve Sports Day

Wednesday 14th Friday 16th July – Whitehall Residential Trip – Years 5 and 6

Thursday 22nd July – 11am – Leavers' Service at St Giles Church

Thursday 22nd July – Last Day of School

Thursday 2nd September – INSET DAY

Friday 3rd September – INSET DAY

Monday 6th September – Children return to school

Covid Testing

There is a bit of confusion around concerning the different types of tests available at the moment, so I wanted to clarify what they should and shouldn't be used for. The two types are PCR tests and LFD (or LFT) tests.

LFD tests – These are the home tests that can be collected from pharmacies and test centres, or ordered to be delivered to your house. They are free of charge and should be used twice a week. The point of them is to identify people who have Covid, but are not displaying any symptoms. The government recommends (and I fully support their recommendation) that everyone (from secondary age children upwards) test regularly twice a week using these test kits. They are not 100% accurate, but they do identify people that need to isolate, who would otherwise be circulating in the community without knowing they were spreading Covid19. You can also have an LFD test at The Imperial Rooms, Imperial Road, Matlock, DE4 3NL, 7 days per week, from 9am to 5pm on weekdays and 10am to 2pm on weekends. Free parking is available while you are having your test at the Imperial Rooms car park. **However, these tests should not be used if a person has symptoms or has been in contact with a suspected case of Covid 19.** They are not reliable enough, and in these circumstances a PCR test should be immediately requested.

PCR tests – If anyone has one of the 3 covid symptoms:

T: 01629 56813

E: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk

Starkholmes Road, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3DD

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- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

They should isolate, along with the rest of their household, and request a PCR test immediately. These tests are much more reliable than LFD tests and are the only way of confirming that people with symptoms do not have Covid. The speed of processing tests has massively increased and our experience at school is that most people are able to get a PCR test on the same day and get the result back the next day.

If you have started isolation due to having a suspected symptom, only a **negative PCR test** allows you to end your isolation period early.

Dinner Money, Breakfast Club and After School Club

Please check any outstanding balances on Parent Pay and settle as soon as possible. Thank you.

Arrival Times

We hope that in September we will be able to return to normal drop off and collection times and procedures, but, until then please make sure that you stick to the following arrival time:

Infants only – 8:40 to 8:50am Juniors or mixed siblings – 8:50 to 9:00am

We still have a regular bunch of Junior children that arrive too early. This makes social distancing and bubble separation much more difficult.

Snacks

Infant children are provided with a piece of fruit every day and junior children are allowed to bring their own fruit.

On Fridays, children can bring a “treat” which can be a biscuit, piece of cake, cake bar, chocolate biscuit, piece of fruit or packet of crisps, **but please NOT SWEETS OR CHOCOLATE BARS.**

PLEASE DO NOT SEND NUTS OF ANY KIND INTO SCHOOL. This includes biscuits or cakes that may contain nuts. There are children in school with nut allergies and we must do all we can to ensure they do not come into contact with any.

Reporting absence

If your child is ill and cannot come to school please let us know by 9.30am either by telephoning the school office (leave a message if no one answers) or by emailing: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk. Please do not message Teachers on Class Dojo; not all our Teachers are in school every day and they may not see the message.

I wish you all a happy rest of the holidays and look forward to welcoming all the children back on **Tuesday 8th June.**

Yours faithfully

Ben Twelves
Executive Head Teacher

T: 01629 56813

E: enquiries@st-giles-matlock.derbyshire.sch.uk

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