

Friday 17th September 2021

Dear Parents,

A very big **'Welcome'** to all our new Foundation and Nursery parents. We look forward to working with you and supporting your child through their Early Years at Giles Brook. Our Early Years Team will be sharing with you all the exciting opportunities the children have in the weeks and months to come and I look forward to getting to know your children and learning all their names! It has been great to see so many of you have already activated your Tapestry accounts and are picking up some of the things our teachers have been posting. The children have settled brilliantly into their new routines - it's actually hard to believe they have only been in school a week!



Pupil Voice

Our KS1 and KS2 classes have been voting for School Council and Eco Council representatives this afternoon along with many other roles. There has been a lot of excitement in classrooms and lots of great ideas shared. We will announce all our Council representatives next week and we look forward to working with them to turn some of the super suggestions into reality! Well done to all our children who put themselves forward.



Macmillan Coffee Morning - Friday 24th September 8:50 - 10:00 a.m.

We have decided to go ahead with our Macmillan coffee morning this year. This will take place in the hall, which is a large well-ventilated space and, if the weather is nice we will add tables and chairs outside too. If you are able to come along, please come around to the main entrance after school drop off and join us for a chat, coffee and a cake! It is an ideal opportunity to meet others whilst raising money for such a worthy cause. Any donations of cakes will be warmly received on Thursday 23rd September - a few scones, cupcakes or a Victoria sponge always go down well so if you feel like a bit of baking, we would be most grateful.

Instrumental Lessons

Lessons are now underway at Giles Brook and we have had some lovely feedback from all the MK Music teachers who have been very impressed with the enthusiasm shown by our children. If your child has a place, details regarding payment for the Autumn Term will come out to you from the school office in the next couple of weeks. Payment will be through School Gateway. **We have one offer currently available to Year 3 pupils** - the opportunity to learn either the oboe or bassoon. If your child is in Year 3 and interested in learning either of these instruments, please email the school office (FAO Angie Bailey) and David Lloyd, our woodwind teacher, will do trials next Friday morning.



Y3 Sports Day

At the end of last year, our Y2 children (now Y3) missed out on their Sports Day due to a bubble closure. This will now take place next Friday afternoon during their PE time - it will be an internal event. Fingers crossed, we get a lovely sunny afternoon!



School Tours - September 2022

We are now offering school tours to those parents looking for a place in September 2022. If you have a child who is due to start school next September, feel free to contact our school office and book a visit. Likewise, if you know of any parents looking for a school place, please pass on our details.



Friends Association AGM - Tuesday 28th September 6:30 p.m.

We will be holding our Giles Brook Friends Association Annual meeting on Tuesday 28th September. If you would like to find out more about our Friends Committee or could offer some time to support our school we would love to hear from you!

Come along for cheese, wine and nibbles before the meeting, chat with our existing Friends and find out how the Friends of Giles Brook get involved with our school. We really want to make this a year for our children and we are very open to any new ideas!

Dates for this half term - with updates in blue

- 17.9.21 - Voting day for school committees, school councils etc.
- 22.9.21 - Foundation children start full time
- 24.9.21 - Macmillan Coffee Morning - school hall/outside 8:50 - 10 a.m.
- 28.9.21 - Friends Association AGM - Cheese and wine 6:30 p.m.
- 1.10.21 - Harvest Celebrations
- 4.10.21 - Reading and Phonics Parent Workshop for Year 1 and Year 2 parents 6p.m.
- 5.10.21 - Y2 Oxford University Museum - dinosaurs!
- 6.10.21 - Y6 Oxford University Museum - evolution
- 7.10.21 - School Photos
- 8.10.21 - Hello Yellow - Mental Health day
- 13.10.21 - Reading and Phonics Parent Workshop for Foundation Stage Parents 6p.m.
- 14.10.21 - Y1 Sculpture Trail in Campbell Park/CMK
- 19.10.21 - Parents evening
 - Y3 visit to Hazard Alley
- 20.10.21 - Parents evening
- 21.10.21 (Thursday) School closes for the half term break

Finally, it is great to see so many people walking to school with their children or making use of the car park at the Pavilion and walking from there. This makes such a difference to the immediate area around the school and, of course, is good exercise too! There is also plenty of space to leave bikes and scooters in the bike sheds which will be locked for safety during the school day.



Although still very busy, the short staggering window that we have retained for the start and end of the school day, seems to have had a positive impact on the car park. Those leaving earlier at the end of the day are making way for parents collecting slightly later. Please avoid parking on the yellow lines or near any crossing points and continue to be mindful of our local residents if parking on the surrounding roads. Thank you.

Have a great weekend and I look forward to seeing everyone on Monday.

Best wishes

Angie

Angie Bailey

Deputy Headteacher/Head of School