



Giles Brook School

NEWSLETTER

We are half way through the term and what a busy one it has been so far! Our newsletter this week is jam packed with information so please take the time to read about what's happening



LANGUAGE ANGELS

We are pleased to announce that the new look Language Angels website and app have been launched and all children in Key Stage 2 now have an individual log on. Over the next week, your child will bring home their own username and password to access the Language Angels karaoke songs and games related to the units which they are learning in school. You can access these via the Language Angels website (<https://www.languageangels.com/schools/login>) or the new app which is available to download for both Apple and Android devices. As your child progresses through the units, more and more games and songs will become available so keep checking back regularly for more content!



Celebrating our pupils!

Last week, Key Stage One were treated to some Irish dancing by Sophia and Keira, two of our Year 2 children. They performed brilliantly! Keira along with Poppy in Year 4 also took part in the Southern Regional Qualifiers for the World Championships. Keira, in her first major competition, placed 8th in the under 6 category whilst Poppy placed first in the Ceili 8 hand under 10 team! This means she qualifies for the World Championship which will take place in Glasgow.

Samuel C in Year 6 was involved in the CMK Open Meet Swim Gala on Sunday 19th November, and achieved a personal best in both his events (50m Freestyle & 50m Backstroke).

Amii-May in Year 3 also achieved her Level 1 Beginners Gymnastic Award after successfully completing her beam, bar and floor work.

We have a lot of children who pursue interests outside of school and should you wish any achievements to be celebrated in this newsletter, please contact the school.



Governors Award

Our awards this term will focus on Inclusion. At Giles Brook School we value and nurture every child as an individual; as someone whose uniqueness, interests and passions are supported and celebrated. We are a community who learn together, care for one another and make the most of every opportunity

To ensure your nomination is included and certificates can be handed out at the end of term, please can we have all responses back by Friday 8th December.

You can do this by clicking on: [governor award nomination](#)

We encourage you to consider all the community of GBS when deciding who to nominate – students, teachers, office staff, cleaners, lunch team, volunteers, coaches, and anyone else you can think of. Whether you interact with them a lot, or a little is fine – do not feel like you have to nominate only from members of your classroom



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- 27.11.23 Friends auction closes at 6pm.
- 05.12.23 Reception Christmas performance to parents (2pm & 6pm)
- 05.12.23 Playful Pottery to Nursery for ceramic painting
- 11.12.23 Reception and Nursery singing at Shenley Retirement Village
- 12.12.23 KS1 Christmas performance to parents (2pm & 6pm)
- 13.12.23 Christmas lunch
- 14.12.23 Y3 visit MK Theatre (pantomime)
- 14.12.23 Friends Christmas shop
- 15.12.23 Friends Christmas shop
- 19.12.23 Reception visit The Stables (Hansel and Gretel)
- 20.12.23 Rock Steady concerts
- 21.12.23 KS2 Carols on the playground (2.45pm)
- 22.12.23 School closes for the Christmas break

Spring term 2024 - dates to note

- 18.01.24 Year 1 to Milton Keynes Art Gallery
- 18.01.24 Year 6 to the British Museum
- 11.03.24 Year 3 to Roald Dahl Children's Gallery
- 12.03.24 Reception to Mead Open Farm
- 18.03.24 Year 1 to Milton Keynes Museum

Boughton Woods residential - Year 4

If you would like a place for your child on the Year 4 residential to Boughton Woods 4 and 5 July 2024, please reserve this on SchoolGateway by this Tues, 28 Nov 2023.

Sheringham residential - Year 5

If you would like a place for your child on the Year 5 residential to Sheringham 12 to 14 June 2024, please reserve this on SchoolGateway by this Tues, 28 Nov 2023.

This week's sports fixtures

It's been another great week of sports for us. Monday we were set for two fixtures but whilst the dodgeball went ahead our basketball fixture was postponed. We took a team of year 5 and one year 4 and year 6 to Middleton for a great night of dodgeball. The children represented us brilliantly and won every game. Amazing throwing from Cam and Phoebe kept us ahead but we actually had one player, Eleanor, managing to not get hit at all. It was fun to listen to the parents from the other school say wow when they played our school, well done everyone!!

Wednesday saw the finals of the MK Tag Rugby league. Looking at previous results, the MK Partnership created three pools of teams. GB Team 1 were in pool A whilst GB team 2 were in pool 3. GB2 played 5 games and won 4 and narrowly lost 1 whilst GB1 also played 5 games winning 3 and losing 2. Each team had a player of the tournament as chosen by the other schools, GB1's player was Oscar W and James L was announced player of the tournament for GB2. Overall team GB1 were the third placed team in the whole of Milton Keynes and the children looked so proud wearing their medals.

The children of both teams have worked so hard over the last 4 weeks giving up their lunchtimes to practice their games and as you can see it paid off. Thank you as always to Simon and David for their great coaching and support of the teams and also Andy as he stepped up and helped coach GB1 with David this week and his words were invaluable. As coaches and as a school we are so proud of you all.

Lastly, on Thursday we took our year 5/6 football team to the MK Football league at Fairfields. We played valiantly losing our 3 games unfortunately. Even though we were some experienced players down, the children gave their all, especially Thomas the goalkeeper who was, in the words of the other coaches, "Outstanding"



Arts Council

Our Arts Council children have been busy planning ways to further promote Art in our school and are keen to get involved in lots of different activities both in and out of school. Their first idea is linked to Milton Keynes celebrating one year since achieving city status. To mark this occasion, MAKE (Milton Keynes Arts Education) have launched a free downloadable activity pack that the children can access here:

<https://make-miltonkeynes.org/new-school-activities-celebrate-mk-as-a-city/>

There are lots of fun, creative ideas that the children can get involved in and I know the Arts Council would love to see your child's work too! If you do have the opportunity to complete any of the activities, please feel free to send in their work/ a photo of their work for your child to share with us.



After school clubs

We have recently been experiencing a few late collections. Please can we remind parents that our after school club finishes at 4.30pm for the early session and 6pm for the late session. Please can you therefore ensure you collect your child promptly. If children are collected late we do reserve the right to charge a late collection fee in line with our policy. Thanks for your support and understanding.

Primary Mathematics Challenge

For the second year running we have entered an enthusiastic group of mathematicians into the Primary Mathematics Challenge. They completed the challenge brilliantly and we're very proud of how they've done. There were 2 bronze, 24 silver and 4 gold certificates. We now have to wait to see if any of our pupils have scored high enough to be invited to take part in the Bonus Round! Well done to all who took part.



The auction goes live today and is open for the weekend! Check out the following link for a bargain: [Winter auction](#)



Last week children in Years 3-6 took part in England Rocks. Combined we were able to score over 39,000 points! Based on average points scored per class our top classes were: Rowan in 3rd place, Ash in 2nd place and Elm in 1st place. Our top three players in the school were also from Elm. Well done to Lenny, Carter and Mitchell.

For improved accuracy over the last week, congratulations to David and Caitlin in Year 3, Riley in Year 4 and Oscar and Jack in Year 6. As a result of our TTRS competition, we had an astounding 14 children who recorded over an hour of playing time last week! Well done Thomas, Amber and Zac in Year 3; Katherine, Catherine, Melody, Mariam and Sebastian in Year 4; Anaya and Ella in Year 5; Lenny, Mitchell, Georgia and Riley in Year 6. Incredible work everyone!



For any parents who would like to know more about Autism, take a look at these flyers provided by Autism Milton Keynes.

Parent/ carer workshops **FREE**

5 Week Course

A virtual course for pre-diagnosed and newly diagnosed families

When: Wednesdays, 11am - 2pm
 Dates: 28th Feb, 6th March, 13th March 2024
 20th March & 17th March 2024
 Venue: TBC (Milton Keynes)
 Course topics: Week 1: Diagnosis journey
 Week 2: What is Autism?
 Week 3: Sensory Needs
 Week 4: Communication
 Week 5: Behaviour & local support

For families living in Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES:
 ☎ 01234 214871
 ✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org

BLMK
 Autism MILTON KEYNES
 Autism BEDFORDSHIRE

If you want to find out more how Milton Keynes supports children with SEN please click:
[MK SEND Local Offer](#)

Well done!

We raised an amazing £359.28 for our spectacular efforts last Friday. Thank you to everyone who supported!

LET'S TALK! **FREE**

The First Steps to Supporting an Autistic Individual, and those Pursuing a Diagnosis

For families living in Milton Keynes, Bedfordshire and Luton

Join us for a relaxed session on autism for parents and carers of undiagnosed or newly diagnosed children. Learn some practical tips, meet other parents, and find out about local support.

Thursday 12th October 2023
 6:30pm - 8:30pm
 Virtually via Zoom

Thursday 14th December 2023
 4:45pm - 6:45pm
Face-to-Face
 The Willow School & Early Years Centre
 Fishermead Blvd, Fishermead, Milton Keynes MK6 2LP
 (Woodland room)

Monday 12th February 2024
 10:30am - 12:30pm
Face-to-Face
 Kingston Gymnastics Centre
 15 Winchester Cir, Kingston, Milton Keynes MK10 0BA
 (dance studio)

Wednesday 17th April 2024
 11:30am - 1:30pm
 Virtually via Zoom

TO BOOK PLEASE CONTACT ENQUIRIES: ✉ enquiries@autismbeds.org ☎ 01234 214871



Parent/ carer virtual training **FREE**

Autism Workshop

See Autism Bedfordshire's website for more details on course content

For families living in Milton Keynes and Bedfordshire

AUTUMN 2023

23/11/23	Autism & Sensory Processing	10am-1pm
28/11/23	Autism & Demand Avoidance	10am-1pm

SPRING 2024

11/1/24	Autism & Behaviour	10am-1pm
18/1/24	Autism & Demand Avoidance	10am-1pm
18/2/24	Autism, Women & Girls	6pm-9pm
27/2/24	Autism & Eating Disorders	10am-1pm
14/3/24	Autism & Mental Health	6pm-9pm

SUMMER 2024

18/4/24	Autism & Sensory Processing	10am-1pm
26/4/24	Autism & Behaviour	6pm-9pm
1/5/24	Autism, Women & Girls	10am-1pm
7/5/24	Autism & Eating Disorders	6pm-9pm
6/6/24	Autism & Mental Health	10am-1pm

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 Autism BEDFORDSHIRE

Diarrhoea and vomiting

Please could we remind parents that if children experience any diarrhoea and/or vomiting they should remain at home for 48 hours following the last bout of illness. We are grateful for your support regarding this, so we can limit the transmission of nasty bugs within school. Thank you.