

# St Giles School News

## July 2025



**CELEBRATING  
100 YEARS  
1925—2025**



Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

**'Be the best you can be'**

[www.st-gilesschool.co.uk](http://www.st-gilesschool.co.uk)

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another vibrant and successful academic year, I want to take this opportunity to celebrate the many achievements of our school community throughout 2024-2025.

The Autumn Term was packed with energy and excitement, including our much-loved WOW events and a heartwarming Old Scholars Day where former students returned to inspire and reconnect with us. We finished the term with our magical Winter Wonderland celebrations, which truly captured the spirit of the season. I would also like to thank all parents/carers who attended 'Irresistible curriculum' class based events to see the curriculum in action and the wonderful progress your son/daughter(s) are making.

Spring Term brought with it innovation and creativity. Our upper students ran their very own 'Cool Café' enterprise event with professionalism and flair, while all students experienced the unique Colourscape sensory event — learning through sound, light, and touch in ways that amazed us all. It was also amazing to see students learning about cultures around the world during 'International Week'.

The Summer Term has been no less special, filled with wonderful showcases of learning, local trips full of exploration, and joyful celebrations such as the Leavers' Prom for our upper students and heartfelt goodbye parties across departments. It was a wonderful 100th year of St Giles!

Throughout every term, students across the school have made incredible progress, achieved accreditations, and engaged in exciting, meaningful learning experiences. I would also like to thank parents/carers attending and supporting 'parent/carer workshops' throughout the year and our very own 'Friends of St. Giles' School'. It is with great pleasure to announce that the recent Summer Fair raised over £3300. These funds will go towards the students, their sensory needs and the promotion of school trips.

We are also extremely proud to share that St. Giles' School has been awarded our very own prestigious Nurture School Award 2025. This award recognises schools that have embedded nurturing principles throughout their setting, creating a positive and supportive environment for all students. Why does this matter? Because a nurturing school environment leads to improved student engagement, attendance, and behaviour — and supports stronger academic outcomes. This achievement reflects our commitment to understanding and meeting the social and emotional needs of every student through the National Nurturing Schools Programme (NNSP), which includes using tools like the Boxall Profile to assess and respond to those needs with care and insight.

We are also delighted to announce that from September 2025, Stacey McDougall will take on the role of temporary Head of the Lower Department, following the promotion of Nicole Todd to Assistant Head. As a result, Stacey will be teaching Indigo class, and we warmly welcome Anjanie Gibbons as the new class teacher for Simmonds class. There will be opportunities in September to meet these new teachers and help your child transition smoothly into their new class environment.

A reminder that the Summer Term ends on Tuesday 22nd July 2025 at the normal time.

Autumn Term 2025 begins on Monday 1st September 2025 with two INSET days for staff training on Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September. All students will return to school on Wednesday 3rd September 2025 at the normal time.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of our parents and carers for your ongoing support throughout the year. It has been a year of celebration, progress, and partnership, and we are truly grateful for the trust and collaboration you bring to our school community.

Wishing you all a peaceful, safe, and restful summer break.

Warm regards,

**Stephen Hehir**  
Headteacher - St. Giles' School

### **DATES FOR THE DIARY**

**Last day of term** – Tuesday 22nd July 2025 at normal time.

**First day back for students** – Wednesday 3rd September 2025 at normal time.

**Orange** Class had an exciting trip to the bowling alley this term. With lots of smiles and enthusiasm, the children used ramps to knock down the skittles, showing great coordination and teamwork. The highlight of the day was definitely beating the teachers in a friendly competition! We all had lots of fun. Well done Orange Class!



The annual prom in the Upper department was a truly unforgettable and emotional evening, celebrating our incredible leavers. The night began in style, with students arriving on the red carpet alongside their families, a moment that touched the hearts of everyone. The event was made even more special with a live DJ, a former student from St Giles', who brought positive energy and fun to the prom. Seeing the students dressed up, dancing and enjoying the music alongside friends was deeply moving. There was laughter and heartfelt moments as we celebrated not just the end of their school years but the memories, growth and friendships made along the way. It was a night filled with joy, pride and love, a perfect send-off for our leavers. Heartfelt thanks goes to St Giles' staff, Tulip nursing staff, volunteers and governors whose hard work and support made an evening magical and meaningful, a night that our students will always remember.



On the 7th July upper school attended a free concert given by London Mozart Players and several music students from Croydon schools.

The musicians gave a mesmerising performance consisting of musical works by Delibes, Mozart, The Beatles as well as St Giles' favourites such as wind the bobbin up and twinkle twinkle little star.

The students engaged our learners throughout with their perfectly pitched expert musical knowledge and demonstrations of instruments such as the violin, the viola and the cello. They also wowed us with their opera singing performing a live version of *Lakmé* - Duo des fleurs - otherwise known as the Flower Duet.

Our learners were inspired so much that some have enquired how they can pursue individual or group music lessons in the borough. This newsletter gives details of 2 different groups in Croydon that would highly encourage St Giles learners to attend.

A big thank you from St Giles to Croydon music arts, London music players and the music students for such a wonderful morning and we hope you will visit us again!



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ARTS COUNCIL  
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Croydon  
**MUSIC  
& ARTS**

# NEW: JUNIOR ACCESS MUSIC MAKERS!



**9-10am Saturday Mornings**  
**A new class for disabled and neuro-  
divergent children in years 3-6**  
Oasis Academy Shirley Park

Children will make and create music using their voices, percussion instruments, and technology. They will develop musical skills and confidence, work in a team, make new friends, and have fun!

The first half term will be free!

We ask that a parent/carer also attends the sessions initially

Sign up by scanning the QR code  
or email [MusicandArtsEducation@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:MusicandArtsEducation@croydon.gov.uk)

The Upper department Leavers' assembly was a special event, celebrating the achievements of our nine wonderful leavers. Each student was presented with an achievement folder, filled with memories and milestones from their time at school. All leavers also were gifted a book, chosen by the class teams. During assembly, staff shared special memories that captured their journey through school. It was a beautiful send-off, filled with smiles, pride, joy and plenty of applause as we wished them all the best for their next steps.

This summer, the Upper, Middle and Lower departments in our school each put on fantastic shows, all thoughtfully tailored to the talents and interests of the learners.

Every performance was a success, with students shining in the ways that reflected their personalities, interests and abilities. From singing and dancing to creative storytelling, each show was a joyful celebration of the students and staffs hard work.

These special moments brought the whole school together, leaving lasting memories of pride, achievement and fun.



## Jannah in Hawking Class work experience

I was lucky enough to do some work experience with the nursing team and on Reception. I weighed some children, I helped label milks and checked Emergency bags and also helped to check blood pressure.

On reception with Maria I helped her with phone calls and I helped with the online register and learnt how to send a text message to Staff and Parents. I proudly made a sign for the stationery cupboard and Maria has now used my design. It was a great opportunity and I enjoyed both roles. It is great to be given the opportunity to do some work experience at St Giles'.



# FOOD FESTIVAL

WEEK 1  
Autumn Winter 2025/26  
\*Dates to be entered by RO managers, as start dates vary by unit

# LUNCHTIME

PRIMARY  
HALAL TRADITIONAL



| MONDAY                                    | TUESDAY                 | WEDNESDAY                                           | THURSDAY                | FRIDAY                                          |
|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Cheese and Tomato Pizza Slice with Wedges | Meatball Marinara Pasta | Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Skin on Roasties and Gravy | Bangers, Mash and Gravy | Golden Fish Fingers or Salmon Fingers and Chips |



|                                      |                                      |                                                       |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Baked Sweetcorn Fritters with Wedges | Cheesy Pea Frittata with Pasta Salad | Roasted Vegetable Strudel, Skin on Roasties and Gravy | Veggie Bangers, Mash and Gravy | Cheesy Bean Wrap with Chips |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|



|                  |             |                     |              |      |
|------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|------|
| Vegetable Sticks | Mixed Salad | Carrots and Cabbage | Mixed Greens | Peas |
|------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------|------|



|                            |                            |                            |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|



|                           |                                |                          |                     |                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Butterfly Pastry Biscuits | Strawberry and Pineapple Jelly | Banana Bread and Custard | Apple Cinnamon Buns | Lemon Drizzle Cake |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|

What impact has your meal had on planet Earth today?

A Very Low  
B Low  
C Medium  
D High  
E Very High

AVAILABLE DAILY  
DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT

PASTA TWIRLER  
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

TOPPED PASTA  
HOT PASTA TOPPED WITH HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE & CHEESE

# FOOD FESTIVAL

WEEK 2  
Autumn Winter 2025/26  
\*Dates to be entered by RO managers, as start dates vary by unit

# LUNCHTIME

PRIMARY  
HALAL TRADITIONAL



| MONDAY            | TUESDAY                          | WEDNESDAY                                           | THURSDAY                        | FRIDAY                        |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Vegetable Lasagne | Creamy Chicken & Sweetcorn Pasta | Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Skin on Roasties and Gravy | Mild Chilli Con Carne with Rice | Golden Fish Fingers and Chips |



|                                         |                                    |                                     |                                 |                            |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Green Veg & Butter Bean Pie with Wedges | Veggie Whole Grain Pasta Bolognese | Cheddar & Broccoli Crustless Quiche | Vegetable Bean Chilli with Rice | BBQ Veggie Wrap with Chips |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|



|           |          |                  |              |             |
|-----------|----------|------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Sweetcorn | Broccoli | Carrots and Peas | Mixed Greens | Baked Beans |
|-----------|----------|------------------|--------------|-------------|



|                            |                            |                            |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|



|                        |                        |                            |                          |             |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Chocolate Popcorn Bars | Orange and Peach Jelly | Apple Tea Cake and Custard | Iced Vanilla Sponge Cake | Carrot Cake |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|

What impact has your meal had on planet Earth today?

A Very Low  
B Low  
C Medium  
D High  
E Very High

AVAILABLE DAILY  
DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT

PASTA TWIRLER  
AVAILABLE EVERY DAY

TOPPED PASTA  
HOT PASTA TOPPED WITH HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE & CHEESE

|                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                        |                                                                   |                                                                               |                                                     |                                           |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|--|
| <div><div>FOOD FESTIVAL</div><div>by Aspens</div></div> <div>WEEK 3<br/>Autumn Winter 2025/26<br/>*Dates to be entered by RO managers, as start dates vary by unit</div>                       |                                                        | <div>LUNCHTIME</div> <div>PRIMARY<br/>HALAL<br/>TRADITIONAL</div> |                                                                               |                                                     |                                           |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | MONDAY                                                 | TUESDAY                                                           | WEDNESDAY                                                                     | THURSDAY                                            | FRIDAY                                    |  |
| <div><div>MAIN EVENT</div><div>MEAT-FREE MAGIC</div><div>RAINBOW ALLEY</div><div>BIG TOPPING</div><div>DESSERT TROLLEY</div></div>                                                             | Cheese and Tomato Pizza Slice with Wedges <div>B</div> | Lasagne <div>C</div>                                              | Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Skin on Roasties and Gravy <div>C</div>              | Chicken & Sweetcorn Pie with Mash <div>B</div>      | Golden Fish Fingers & Chips <div>B</div>  |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Macaroni Cheese <div>C</div>                           | Vegetable Ratatouille with Rice <div>B</div>                      | Carrot & Stuffing Puff Pastry Plait, Skin on Roasties with Gravy <div>B</div> | Root Vegetable and Bean Stew with Mash <div>A</div> | Vegetable Fingers with Chips <div>A</div> |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Vegetable Sticks                                       | Sweetcorn                                                         | Roasted Roots                                                                 | Peas                                                | Baked Beans                               |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo <div>B</div>                | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo <div>B</div>                           | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo <div>B</div>                                       | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo <div>B</div>             | Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo <div>B</div>   |  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                | Sweet Potato Chocolate Brownie <div>C</div>            | Jelly <div>C</div>                                                | Eve's Apple Pudding & Custard <div>B</div>                                    | Muesli Bars <div>B</div>                            | Vanilla Cookies <div>B</div>              |  |
| <div>AVAILABLE DAILY</div> <div>DAILY SALAD BOWL, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, YOGHURTS AND CUT FRUIT</div>                                                                                            |                                                        |                                                                   |                                                                               |                                                     |                                           |  |
| <div><div>PASTA TWIRLER</div><div>AVAILABLE EVERY DAY</div></div> <div><div>TOPPED PASTA</div><div>HOT PASTA TOPPED WITH HOMEMADE TOMATO SAUCE &amp; CHEESE</div><div><div>C</div></div></div> |                                                        |                                                                   |                                                                               |                                                     |                                           |  |

We are an all inclusive IDTA dance company who are looking to build confidence in individuals of all ages and abilities. Our aim is to prevent loneliness in the community and break down barriers in accessing activities. We also provide an outlet for SEND children and adults to express themselves freely. Everybody should have the freedom to show who they are in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

## Our Classes!

Get ready to move and groove at our friendly and relaxed dance classes. We offer classes for all mobilities and abilities. Our classes cater for everyone. Come join us and discover the joy of dancing!

We offer SEND dance classes in 3 locations: Croydon, Reigate and Hookwood! We cater for children from 3 upwards as well as adult classes! All locations are fully accessible throughout.

We offer senior dance classes in Old Coulsdon! No minimum or maximum age limit to our classes- we adapt our lessons to meet everyone's needs!

**St Giles— EVERY OTHER SATURDAY— Ages 3-8 years: 9:00-9:45 - Ages 9-16 years: 10:00-10:45**

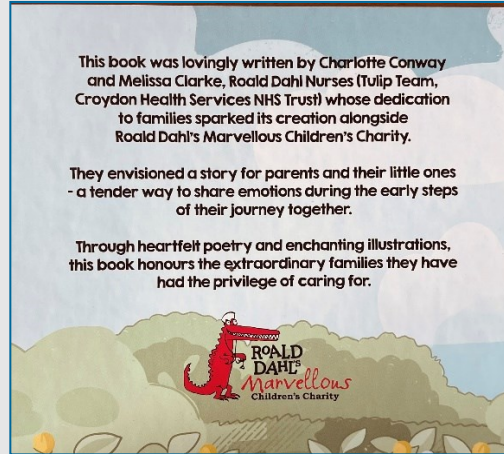
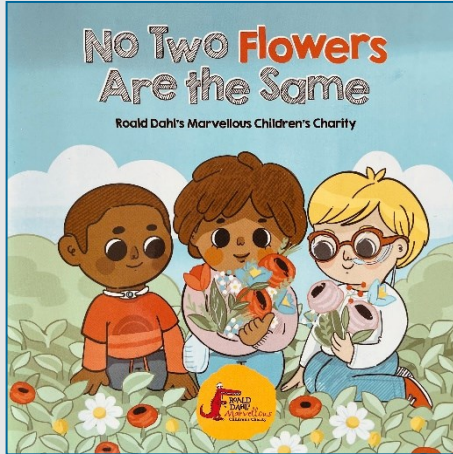
**<http://adaalldanceabilities.org.uk/>**

**See website for more venues**



## Roald Dahl book

Last year we were able to implement our new pathway for babies and children under the age of 2 with complex disabilities. Recognising how parents may feel at the time when their child is first given a diagnosis we wanted to offer not only clinical advice but personal support at this time. As part of the offer we were lucky enough to be involved in creating a children's book for families of children with disabilities. This was published earlier this term by Roald Dahls marvellous children's charity and will be available to all families of children with disabilities through their Roald Dahl nurses around the country.



Did you know about the NHS App?

[About the NHS App - NHS](#)

## Medications sending home and bringing back in the summer

We will be returning medications home at the end of term. With the exception of emergency medications that will not expire over the summer. Please can you ensure that medications are sent back to school on the first day of term, that they are in date and have clear prescriptions with administration details included. Your child's new school care plan for the next academic year will be sent out to you in the Autumn term via your child's school bag. Please sign and return these making any changes you feel they require in their health needs summary. (Please note careplans are written to meet statutory guidelines for IHCP's and EHCP's and therefore templates and provision cannot be altered)

If your child is remaining at school for the next academic year we will be sending out paracetamol consent forms prior to the end of term. Please sign and return these if possible before the summer holidays. Paracetamol consent has to be updated annually in line with our Trust patient group directive. We are unable to administer paracetamol in September without an up to date signed consent form.

The NHS App gives you a simple and secure way to access a range of NHS services. Download the NHS App on your smartphone or tablet via the [Google play](#) or [App store](#). You can also access the same services in a web browser by logging in through the NHS website

## Do more with the NHS App!



- Order repeat prescriptions
- Use NHS 111 online
- Find NHS services
- View your GP health record
- Book appointments
- Get reminders and messages

### And much more...

You can also use these services by logging in through the NHS website

Need help?  
Get support in the app or visit [nhs.uk/helpmeapp](https://nhs.uk/helpmeapp)



## lplato

The team are using text messages to request further supplies of milk feed or medications for your child, when our supplies are low or stock we hold is due to expire. Please could you look out for these messages and provide us with new supplies as soon as possible.

## Summer 2025 HAF Programme Now Live – Help Us Spread the Word!

We're excited to announce that the Summer 2025 Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme is now live – with 55 fantastic providers offering 67 activity clubs across Croydon!

That means thousands of free places available for children and young people eligible for benefits-related free school meals – complete with exciting activities and a nutritious meal each day.

For this Summer, we need your support to help us reach every child who could benefit from this offer. Please share this with your networks, families, and anyone who may need a little extra support this summer.

### What's New for 2025

This Summer, Children can attend up to 16 days of HAF provision across the summer. Schools have already distributed voucher codes via HolidayActivities, and have helped identify an additional 15% of children who may need extra support as well.

We've already filled 40% of programme places, and now we're making a big push to ensure every space is filled before the holidays begin.

For the first time ever, we have 5 programmes supporting children with SEN to access the programme along with all our other providers supporting children with additional needs as well. More information on the clubs we are working with can be found in our [interactive brochure](#) that you will have received if in receipt of free school meals.

## Family Cinema Club at the David Lean Cinema

Family-friendly films at £5 a ticket including:

Thursday 24 July – [Lilo & Stitch \(live action cut version\)](#)

Saturday 26 July – [Inside Out 2 \(relaxed screening\)](#)

Thursday 31 July – [Inside Out 2](#)

- Thursday 7 August – Paddington in Peru
- Monday 14 August – The Wild Robot

All showings are at 11am. Book tickets at <https://www.davidleancinema.org.uk/listings/>.

David Lean Cinema  
Katharine St  
Croydon  
CR9 1ET

## Family Hub Fun Day

Come to a free Family Hub Fun Day at Woodlands Family Hub on 30 July, from 10am.

Take part in activities and games for families and children of all ages.

- Wednesday 30 July
  - 10am to 11:30am – crafting
  - 1pm to 2:20pm – games and activities
- You do not need to book.

Woodlands  
Site of Quest Primary School  
Farnborough Avenue  
South Croydon  
CR2 8HD