

St Giles School News

October 2025

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS



Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

‘Be the best you can be’

www.st-gilesschool.co.uk

Dear Parents, Carers and Families,

October has been a full, purposeful and uplifting month in school.

Parents’ Evening — Tuesday 15 October

Thank you to all parents and carers who attended Parents’ Evening. It was a pleasure to share your child’s progress with you and to work together in partnership.

Cool Café — Friday 17 October

We were incredibly proud of our Upper Department for delivering this year’s Cool Café enterprise event. Thank you to all parents and carers who attended and supported the day. A special mention must go to the students and staff in **Hawking, Kahlo and Wonder** classes who ran the event so professionally — you represented the school brilliantly.

A further thank-you to **Ewa Wilhelm**, Head of Upper Department, who led the enterprise activity with remarkable dedication and went above and beyond in preparation. Enterprise and work-related learning experiences like this are vital for our students — they help develop independence, communication, confidence and practical life skills that matter beyond school.

I am delighted to share that **£1,360.90 was raised** in total for the Upper Department since the launch of Cool Café.. Thank you to everyone who baked, bought, organised and made the day possible. It was also wonderful to welcome **Mayor Jason Perry, MP Chris Philips, several local councillors and Shelley Davies (Director of Education for Croydon)** to witness the event. And of course... the cakes were fantastic!

Show Racism the Red Card — 17 October

Thank you for supporting the “Show Racism the Red Card” initiative by wearing red. Standing together visibly against racism matters — it teaches our students about dignity, fairness and respect. I even wore a red Arsenal top with the help and encouragement of our students — well done team!

Black History Month

Throughout the year, as part of History, PSHE and SMSC, our students learn about the achievements of inspirational figures from the past and present. In October we join the national Black History Month initiative and continue to highlight the significance of contribution, representation and identity in our curriculum.

Pink class did a sensory story recognising people of colour throughout history including Harriet Tubman, Grover Parks and Muhammad Ali.

Looking Ahead — Half Term

Well done to every student and every member of staff for such excellent work this month. We now look forward to the October half term break from **Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October 2025**. We wish all families a safe and restful holiday.

All students and staff return to school on **Monday 3 November 2025** for Autumn Half Term 2.

October 2025 has been a powerful example of our school vision in action: **“Being the best you can be.”**

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of St Giles’ School.

Warm regards,

Stephen Hehir

Headteacher

Christy Class students have created an amazing piece of Autumnal Artwork that they are really proud of.

It is weather proof so can stay outside for quite a while. They worked well as a team collecting fallen leaves, twigs and grasses and helped place them to make the beautiful outside scene.



Dates for the diary : November

October

Fri 24th—Mufti Day—	Mon 3rd—Return to
exchange for donation to	school
The Friends Association	Fri 28th—Inset day
	(school closed for pupils)

**Half term : 27th Oct—
31st Oct**

Our recent **Cool Café** event was a truly special experience, created and run by students from Wonder, Hawking and Kahlo classes, with the support of our dedicated staff.

It was more than just a café experience, it was a hands-on opportunity for our students to gain real working experience in a supportive and inclusive environment.

From taking orders to preparing food and welcoming guests. Our students proudly took on every role, showing incredible enthusiasm and teamwork.

We were thrilled to welcome parents, school governors and local authority representatives and even the Mayor of Croydon, Jason Perry who all enjoyed visiting the café and witnessing the students' hard work in action.

It was a proud moment for our whole school community and a wonderful reminder of what our young people can achieve with the right support and belief in their abilities.

We raised over £300.00

