

# St Giles School News January/ February 2026

**CELEBRATING  
100 YEARS  
1925—2025**



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

Specialist School for Physical and Sensory

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

Dear Parents, Carers, and Friends of St Giles School,

As I come to the end of my first term at St Giles, I wanted to take a moment to say how much I have enjoyed getting to know the school community since joining in January 2026. It has been a real pleasure to be welcomed so warmly by the school community.

Over the past term, I have been struck by the strong sense of care and teamwork that runs through the school. Our pupils continue to amaze me with their resilience, individuality and achievements and our staff show incredible dedication every day in making sure each child feels safe, supported and valued. I am proud to be part of a community that puts children at the heart of everything it does and works so closely together to help every pupil be the best they can be.

As we look ahead to the next term, my focus will be on continuing to build on the many strengths already in place and working closely with families and professionals as we move forward together. Open communication is very important to me and I am keen to make sure parents and carers feel connected and involved in school life.

After half term, we will be arranging a coffee morning with the Senior Leadership Team. This will be an informal opportunity to meet, chat and share ideas. Further details will be shared after half term and I hope many of you will be able to join us.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being such an important part of the St Giles community.

Wishing you all a restful half-term break and a reminder that Monday 23 February is an INSET Day.

Warm wishes,

Marianne Rodger-Weetman  
Headteacher

## DATES FOR THE DIARY

### February 2026

**Half Term: Monday 16th —Friday 20th**

**Mon 23rd Feb—Inset day (school closed for pupils)**

### March 2026

**Easter holiday: Monday 30th Mar—Friday 10th Apr**

### May 2026

**Bank Holiday: Mon 4th May—school closed**

**Half term : Monday 25th—Friday 29th**

## Purple Class

Our topic for this half-term is "Long, Long Ago: London." We are exploring the sensory story "The Three Little Pigs" and investigating different materials such as straw, wood, and bricks. During the term, we will explore how different materials feel, such as soft, hard and rough and we will express our preferences by creating a sensory material book. In DT, we will make our own houses using everyday materials.



## DPACT CIC

DPACT stands for Disabled Parents and Carers Together. We are a user led group which provides information, advice and support on a wide range of issues affecting the lives of disabled parents and carers. These may include difficulties with benefits, debt, work assessments, housing and disability discrimination to name but a few. All of our advisors will outline the options available to you so that you gain sufficient knowledge to make an informed choice about how you will move forward. We do not judge or try to influence you in any particular direction, the choice is entirely yours! We also now specialise in helping people get disability benefits and we run a disabled parents group called Together .

### CONTACT DETAILS

Carers Information Service 24 George Street Croydon Greater London ,CR0 1PB United Kingdom

Website:<http://www.dpact.org.uk/>

Email:[mandy.dpact@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mandy.dpact@yahoo.co.uk)

Tel:[08006 897474](tel:08006897474)

## Attendance and Absences

Regular attendance is vital to your child's success at school. We aim to ensure that every child reaches their full potential, and attending school consistently plays a significant role in this. If your child is unwell or unable to attend school for any reason, it is crucial that you inform the school office by 8:00 AM on the day of the absence with the reason and date of return to school if you know this. You can do this by emailing and/or calling the school office on [absence@st-giles.croydon.sch.uk](mailto:absence@st-giles.croydon.sch.uk) /0208 680 2141

## dayospace

Dayspace provides person-centred day services for adults with a learning disability across South London and Surrey, offering daytime activities and special after hours events for our customers. We currently run across three locations: Reigate, Penge, and Warlingham.

All our sessions are designed for adults with a learning disability and are tailored to the individuals in attendance. Prioritising both enjoyment and skills development, our range of sessions includes music, cookery, dance, digital skills, art, drama, and much more.

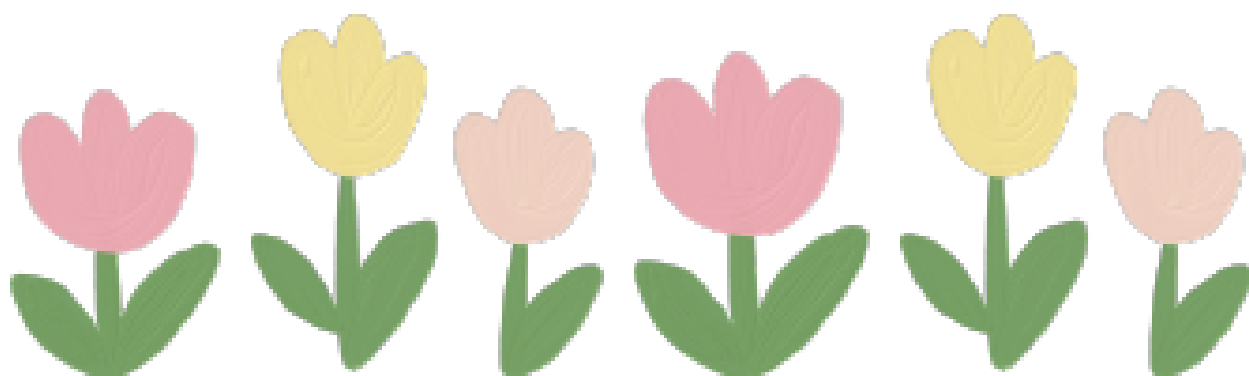
Each of our services offers its own schedule of sessions between the hours of 9.30am and 4pm. Take a look at the website to find out what sessions are being run in your area. <https://dayspace.org/in-house/>

# How was your care with the Tulip Service today?

The national Friends and Family Test (FFT) is an easy way for you to tell us if you were happy with our care and how we can improve your experience.

## Have your say

Scan our QR code on your mobile device or visit <https://bit.ly/3OrjMUE> to provide your feedback anonymously. It takes just a couple of minutes to have your say!



Please ask a member of staff if you need help to share your feedback.



**FAMILY  
HUBS**

**CROYDON**  
www.croydon.gov.uk



## FATHERS & MALE

# CARERS CONFERENCE

Join us for a focused and inspiring day bringing together fathers, male carers, services and community partners to explore the experiences of dads in Croydon and strengthening local support

### Why this conference matters

- Fathers and male carers play a vital role in children's lives, yet many face barriers to support
- This event creates space for honest conversation, shared learning and stronger collaboration across Croydon's Family Hub network

### Who should attend?

- Fathers, grandfathers & male carers
- Young dads & expectant fathers
- Professionals and local organisations supporting families

### What we'll explore

- Fatherhood in Croydon today
- Modern fatherhood & identity
- Building confidence and empowerment



**[Click here to register](#) or use the QR code -26 February 2026,  
Braithwaite Hall, Katharine St, Croydon CR0 1NX - 9.30am -4.30pm**

