



St Giles C of E Academy

School News

Thank You for Nine Wonderful Years

As we reach the end of another half term, I wanted to take a moment to simply say thank you. This newsletter is a particularly significant one for me as it is my final newsletter before moving on to St Michael's after the half-term break. As a proud Pontefract lad, it has been a real privilege to spend the last nine years giving something back to the town where I grew up. To serve this community as Headteacher has been an honour and something I will always be grateful for.

During my time here, both our families and our staff have been incredible. Education works best when schools and families work together and I've always felt that at St Giles. We've never claimed to be perfect, and like everyone, we've got things wrong from time to time. What I can honestly say is that every decision has been made with the very best interests of our children at heart and I've always appreciated the trust and support you've shown us in that shared goal. If the families at my new school are even half as welcoming, supportive and understanding as the families of St Giles have been, then I know I will be a very lucky Headteacher once again.

Without a doubt, these have been the happiest nine years of my twenty-three years in education. That's down to the amazing staff, the wonderful families and, most of all, the fantastic children who fill our school with laughter, energy and joy every single day. The children will know that I often finish assemblies with the same message: whatever you do in life, give it your all and 'be the best that you can be.' It's something I genuinely believe and something I hope every child takes with them long after they leave St Giles. Thank you for your kindness, your support and for allowing me to be a small part of your children's journey. St Giles will always hold a special place in my heart, and I will leave with many happy memories and a huge sense of pride at what we have achieved together.

Have a wonderful half-term break, enjoy some well-deserved time together and thank you.

Mr Grace

Parents' Evening

Thank you to those of you who joined us for Parents' Evening this week. It was lovely to see so many families in school and to share the fantastic progress the children are making. If you were unable to attend, please contact the school office to arrange a telephone appointment. We will be happy to find a suitable time for you to speak with your child's teacher.

Parent Governor Election

Please remember to check Class Dojo for details of how to vote in our Parent Governor election. It's fantastic to see so many parents willing to support the school in this important role and a great reflection of the strength of our school community.

Half-Term Break

A reminder that school reopens on Tuesday 3rd November and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting half term.



Value – Respect —Thursday

22nd Oct 2026

**'Respect for ourselves guides our morals,
respect for others guides our manners.'**

Laurence Sterne



ENHANCE ACADEMY TRUST



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This Term's 'Respect' Value Award Winners

Nursery – Ella-Mai W

You are always considerate, kind and polite and give your all to everything we do. You have been an absolute superstar throughout the whole half term and have been so mature and supportive of our new nursery starters. Thank you for being you Ella-Mai, we are so proud of you!

Reception 1 – Ocean K-A

Ocean deserves the Headteacher's Award for being such a kind, caring and respectful member of our class. She is a wonderful friend to others and always follows instructions sensibly. Ocean tries really hard with her Phonics and shows a fantastic attitude towards her learning. She should be very proud of herself for always trying her best and being such a lovely role model to her friends. Well done, Ocean! Keep shining!

Reception 2 - Shalom M

Shalom receives this award for always greeting everyone with his amazing smile and bringing such positivity to our classroom. He consistently tries his very best in all areas of learning and approaches every challenge with enthusiasm. Well done, Shalom

The Ark - Everyone

For settling back into the Ark routine and having a positive half term. Miss Towler and I love seeing your happy faces every day. We can't wait to get back after the holidays to make more memories with you. We are so proud of you all.

Class 1 – Lily W

Lily you consistently demonstrate kindness, consideration, and respect towards others. Your positive attitude, excellent manners, and willingness to listen make you a wonderful role model at St Giles. Keep shining and setting such a fantastic example for everyone around you!

Class 1/2 - Lola H

Lola lives and breathes our value of respect. Her warm, kind and caring nature shines through every single day. She is such a wonderful friend who is always there to help and support anyone in need. Her beautiful manners are second to none and she sets such a lovely example to those around her. We are lucky to have her. Keep shining Lola – you are a true superstar!

Class 2 – Isabelle C

Isabelle is a sensible and thoughtful girl who has worked consistently hard all half term. She wants to do well and make further progress, so she always listens carefully to any advice and guidance that she is given. Everyone in the class loves her as she is so kind and respectful. You are brilliant Isabelle!



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Class 3 –Ada-Grace C-E

What a wonderful member of our class she is! Ada always shows respect to her classmates and teachers. She is ALWAYS ready to learn and is extremely helpful and polite. Ada just has a positive energy that shines through in her interactions with friends and staff. Well done, Ada, keep it up!

Class 3/4— Reggie D

Reggie could get this award week in, week out! He is a kind, caring soul who just brightens up any classroom he walks into. Everyone in the class adores he and that is down to his kindness! Never change Reggie you will go a long way in the world!

Class 4 – Rory M

Rory has shown real maturity so far in Year 4. He makes us smile every day and consistently shows respect to everyone around him. His recent English work, a diary entry, was amazing, and we have seen such an improvement in his handwriting, presentation and independence. He is a superstar! We are so proud of you Rory, and you should be proud of yourself too!

Class 5 – Amelie C

Amelie is receiving this award for showing **respect** every day in our school and classroom. She is kind and thoughtful, listens to others and treats everyone fairly. Amelie is a wonderful role model who helps others feel happy, safe and valued. Well done, Amelie! Keep shining!

Class 5/6 – Will C

To stand out in a class full of superstars takes some doing, so Will should be incredibly proud of himself. This term, Will has embodied all the values we hold dear at St Giles, especially respect. He is always willing to help others and often goes out of his way to go the extra mile, making a real difference to those around him. I have been blown away by Will's start to the year, and this award recognises not only his fantastic attitude but also the kindness, consideration and respect he shows every single day. Keep being brilliant, Will!

Class 6 - Jack T

Jack brings life to the classroom every day! He is full of enthusiasm and has an outstanding work ethic. He has really stood out for me this term and I know all the class would say the same - you are going to do great things Jack Trevor. Keep being the star we know you are.

Staff Members Of The Term – All the St Giles team

A special thank you to every member of staff I have worked with over the past nine years. Your dedication, care and commitment have made a real difference to the children and families of our community. It has been a privilege to work alongside you, and I am truly grateful for your support and friendship.



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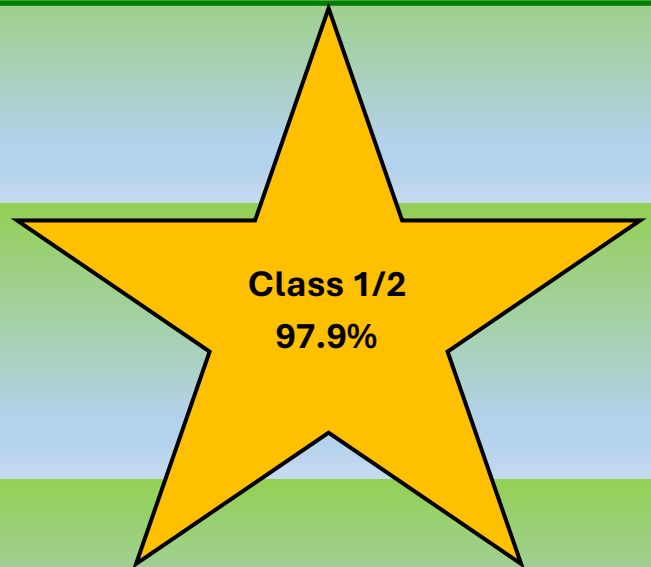
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St Giles C of E Academy School News



St Giles School Attendance Matters for this Term – 95.9%			
Reception 1	96%	Class 3/4	96.2%
Reception 2	90.5%	Class 4	97.6%
Class 1	95.4%	Class 5	95.9%
Class 1/2	97.9%	Class 5/6	96.9%
Class 2	95.7%	Class 6	97%
Class 3	97.1%	Target	97%



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