

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers

Julie Martin - Rest in Peace



Dear friends and family,

As we come together to honour and remember our beloved Julie, we would like to express our gratitude for the outpouring of love and support during this difficult time.

The funeral will be held on:
Friday 19th May
12.00pm
Sacred Heart Church
Silver link road
Gascote Heath
B77 2EA

Followed by:
Lichfield District Crematorium
Fradley Lane
Fradley
Lichfield
WS13 8GA

Following the service, there will be a gathering for us to remember Julie together at:

Polesworth working mens club
9 High Street
Polesworth
B78 1DX

In lieu of flowers, we kindly request that donations be made to help support our family during this time of loss.

Thank you for your understanding and support. Your kindness means the world to us.

With love

Adriana, Ian, and Emily



Reception September 2023

A number of reception places for our September 2023 remain available.

If you know of a family member or friend recently moved into the area, please ask them to make contact with us.

Catholic Virtues

Our Gospel Virtues for this half term are Curious and Active: **Curious** about everything; and **active** in our engagement with the world, changing what we can for the better.



Girls/Boys Football matches

Children in year 5/6, took part in a couple of football matches last Thursday. The girls and boys football teams played against Thomas Barnes Primary School, on the school field. Both teams did very well, and the girls won 3-0 and the boys won 7-0 - well done to both sets of players. Many thanks to Mr Fowler and Miss Cunningham for supervising and coaching the children at the event. The players were: Eleanor, Lenny, Faith, Oskar, Joel, Tymek, Dawid, Sam E, Celeste, Ella, Lola, Haitham, Inez, Izzy, Braydon, Cian and Summer-Skye.

Heart of Tamworth Firewalk Fundraiser - Saturday 24th June

HoT Firewalk is a 5 metre sponsored walk. The only catch is it's on hot coals! It's on June 24th at Sacred Heart for the Heart of Tamworth Charity. They need 100 people, please email margaret@heartoftamworth.org if you want to know more.

Stay up to date with all parish matters by searching "Catholic Tamworth" or at <https://www.tamworthrc.church>

St. Gabriel's Firewalkers

Miss Townsley, Miss Cunningham, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Brindley have bravely decided to take on the firewalk challenge, on Saturday 24th June 2023.

The firewalk is being held to raise much needed funds for the work of Heart of Tamworth. Please consider sponsoring our team if you are able to - any donation, no matter how small, will be very much appreciated. Donations can be made through the Just Giving page:

[St.Gabriel's Firewalkers - Just Giving](#)

Attendance

Parents of children with attendance below 90% have been written to recently.

The attendance of our children at school has received a massive blow due to the Covid pandemic. It has always been parents/carers legal duty to get children into school regularly, this is even more vital now due to the disruption to the children's learning. For this reason, it is so important that your child is in school for every educational hour possible AND THAT WE RE ESTABLISH OUR BEST POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE.

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE APPROVED. I would ask that any routine appointments are made out of school hours and that you consider very carefully any absence from school. We don't want the education of our children to suffer any more than it has done already.

Our expectations for attendance are as per our published Attendance Policy which you can find [here](#) , we would encourage you to read and understand this.

Current attendance for the school year so far

Overall 94.71% (5/9/22-05/05/23)

R - 92.91%	Y3 - 95.85%	Y6 - 94.95%
Y1 - 92.76%	Y4 - 95.24%	
Y2 - 95.47%	Y5 - 95.12%	

Attendance overall, as shown above, is slowly creeping upwards.

We need to improve the attendance of our pupils, particularly our youngest pupils. Thank you.

Parking

Local Councillor Paul Thompson and a representative of the local police team visited school on Thursday March 30th. Developments are expected as a result.

Please continue to be aware of the need to park responsibly in the local area and around the school. Thank you to the majority of parents who continue to park lawfully and sensibly.

Parking is not allowed in front of the school gates, the yellow lines and zig zags are there to stop people parking there and to protect and keep all of our children safe.

Please never park up on the footpaths in the surrounding roads. **You are also asked to please show consideration to local home owners and do not block garages and driveways.**

Please do not become abusive to local home owners. Parking on the grass verge along Wilnecote Lane has been raised as a COMPLAINT with local police. We have been asked to advise all parents not to do this. Parking on the grass verges is dangerous and causes blockage for neighbours. Local police will be following this up. Thank you.

Enrichment Activities and Attendance

It is really encouraging to see the amount of enrichment activities the children are attending at weekends and evenings and this is something that we actively encourage for every child.

However, we are noticing more and more that after these activities, children are not attending school because they are over-tired.

Whilst we fully appreciate that children will be tired, it is important to ensure that their attendance at school is not affected. Additionally, it is an ideal opportunity to build resilience, as we all recognise that there are things we need to do, as adults, even when we are over-tired!

I would really appreciate your support and understanding with this issue.

Family & Community Information Hub

Please could I draw your attention to the family and community information section on our website? This section contains a wealth of current information on community activities, mother and toddler groups, free courses, job and training opportunities, information for parents of children with additional educational needs along with opportunities available to them for example short breaks and also information on healthcare.

Please take some time to have a look at the information found [here](#) and keep checking in - there will be new information added most weeks

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RJC	Ellie
RAD	Stefania
1KG	Emily
1NH	Georgie
2BL	Oliver
2NT	Eliza
3CC	Mia
3LH	Harrison
4HB	Orla
4LM	Hollie
5SM	Heaven
5ST	Ronnie
6AC	Jake
6BF	Chloe



Well Done Readers of the
Week!



Bee-friendly plants

Are you taking part in [#NoMowMayStaffs](#) this month and leaving your grass to grow to help pollinators and biodiversity?

If you are unable to, or don't have grass to cut, you can introduce some bee-friendly plants to your outdoor space.

- Lavender
- Sunflowers
- Coneflowers
- Salvia
- Bee Balm
- Wildflowers

Take a step back and let nature do its thing this May while you enjoy the beauty of a thriving bee-friendly garden.

Selected libraries in Staffordshire are giving free signs to stick in your garden - [find a library near you](#).

Remember to share your pictures using [#NoMowMayStaffs](#) or on our [Facebook group](#).

Whitsun Soccer Schools | Aston Villa Foundation

Dates: Tuesday 30th May - Friday 2nd June 2023 **Time:** 9:30 - 15:30

Price: £70

Ages: 5 - 12 year olds

Please see attached flyer. PRE BOOK NOW VIA THE LINKS BELOW

[Aston \(Academy Building, Villa Park\)](#)

[Bodmoor Heath \(Aston Villa Training Ground\)](#) * limited spaces available *

[Harborne \(Lordswood Girls School\)](#)

[Sutton Coldfield \(Sutton Coldfield Town FC\)](#)

Spital Tennis Club

During the upcoming Whitsun Holidays, Spital Tennis Club are running their half term holiday tennis camps for ages 4 to 16. **Venue:** Spital Tennis Club, Wigginton Road, Tamworth, B79 8RH. Bookings can be made [HERE](#)

They have also set up some super exciting new tennis sessions for 4-10 year olds at both Spital Tennis Club and Tamworth Castle Grounds starting after half term. Children will get 6 lessons, plus a racket, tshirt, wristbands and balls, all for £35! This is run by an experienced coach, and is a great way for new or returning players to get into the game.

Spital Tennis Club session information:

Saturdays 09:00-10:00 4-9 years [Book Here](#)

Saturdays 10:00-11:00 8-11 years [Book Here](#)

Tamworth Castle Grounds session information:

Tuesdays 17:00-18:00 4-7 years [Book Here](#)

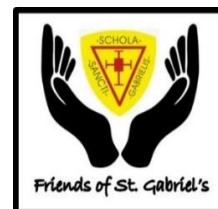
Fridays 17:00-18:00 4-7 years [Book Here](#)

Fridays 18:00-19:00 8-10 years [Book Here](#)

Please email yasmin@micro-sports.co.uk if you have any questions.

Message from the Friends of St. Gabriel's

Please join their Facebook page and keep up to date with events being run by the Friends of St. Gabriel's [HERE](#)



Bereavement Help Points

Fridays 10am-12noon @ Sacred Heart.

Thursdays 5.30pm-7.00pm @ The Cafe at Sacred Heart

If you are struggling with bereavement and loss and wish to talk to someone just come along.

Safe Haven

Safe Haven is a Crisis Cafe situated at Sacred Heart Church, for people aged 18 plus with mental health problems. This service will run between 5pm to 11pm Wednesdays to Fridays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays, and Bank holiday 1.30pm to 9pm.

Safe Haven will provide a safe, supportive, and therapeutic environment helping individuals in their recovery through promotion of self-empowerment and independence. It will be relaxed, informal and supportive, considerate of risk and safety, but focused on de-escalation and recovery. Safe Haven are currently looking for volunteers, for more information email

Claire.Griffiths@burtonmind.co.uk

Heart of Tamworth Community Shop

The community pantry at Sacred Heart has regular deliveries of good quality, fresh food. All of the food is in date but sometimes has a shorter date than others and so needs to be distributed quickly. You are more than welcome to pop down to have a look. There is a Facebook page HOT Community Shop where you can keep up to date with availability.

Dates for your Diary

Tues 9 th May to	KS2 SATS - Y6 pupils must be in school each morning to take
Fri 12 th May	their tests
Sat 20 th May	First Holy Communion Masses 10.00am Miss Caswell's class 12noon Miss O'Hanlon's/Miss Allen's class
Sun 21 st May to	LAUDATO SI WEEK "Hope for the Earth, hope for humanity"
Sun 28 th May	
Tues 23 rd May	Urban Street Artist working with Year 3
Thurs 25 th May	Tempest Photography - Individual/Family/Pre School Photos, from 8.15am
Fri 26 th May	Break up for half term
Mon 5 th June	School reopens for children and staff
Tues 27 th June	Sacrament of Confirmation - Sacred Heart @ 7pm
Fri 21 st July	Mass for end of term and end of school year. Children finish for Summer

Ever living God,
Help us to celebrate our joy in the
resurrection of the Lord and to express
in our lives the love we celebrate,
through simple acts of kindness for one another.
Amen.

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher