

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

Wilnecote Lane, Tamworth, B77 2LF Tel: 01827 213910

E-mail: office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

15th September 2022

Volume 14 Number 2

Dear Parents

Queen Elizabeth II - 1926-2022



Following the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, a period of National Mourning has started. This is a period of time for reflection in response to her death.

The date of the State Funeral is Monday 19th September. This has been declared a Bank Holiday and all schools and colleges will close as a mark of respect.

May Queen Elizabeth rest in peace.

Year 5 Mass - Friday 16th September 2022 9.15am

Year 5 will lead a celebration of Holy Mass for their year group from 9.15am tomorrow morning in the school hall. Parents and carers of year 5 are very welcome to attend.

Catholic Virtues - Compassionate and Loving

This half term, the children and staff at St. Gabriel's are growing to be Compassionate and Loving.

Pupils are growing to be compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.



Dogs on the school grounds

A reminder please that dogs must not be brought beyond the school gates and onto school premises. Dogs are banned from all school grounds because of the danger of toxicariasis in dog waste. This is in line with County Council guidelines.

Please respect this request at all times. Thank you.

Safeguarding/Child Protection

At times we as a school have to act when children or family members report issues of possible physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse or neglect.

Physical abuse **MAY** be hitting, shaking, throwing, burning, scalding, suffocating, bruising or biting a child. THIS IS NOT A CHECKLIST AND CAN INVOLVE OTHER ACTIONS.

Emotional abuse **MAY** be the maltreatment of a child to cause persistent negative effects on a child and their development. It **MAY** involve making a child feel worthless, unloved, being made fun of, deliberately silencing them, causing a child to feel frightened or in danger. THIS IS NOT A CHECKLIST AND CAN INVOLVE OTHER ACTIONS.

Neglect **MAY** be failure to meet the basic needs of a child, such as, enough food, shelter, clean clothing and ability to wash. THIS IS NOT A CHECKLIST AND CAN INVOLVE OTHER ACTIONS.

When we do act, it could mean us talking to you as parents or carers, advising parents or passing information on to Children and Families Services. You could then be asked to take part in follow up meetings or processes.

We are not doing this to intrude or be nosey. We are doing it to make sure all our children are safe, that their voice is heard and that they are protected. It is part of our job. It is the most important part of our job.

Thank you to all parents who understand this and who continue to do the best they can for their children on life's journey. If you are ever worried about this or have any other worries come in and talk to me or the other staff.

Season of Creation 1st September to 4th October 2022



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation is an annual celebration uniting Christians in prayer and action for the protection of our common home. September 1st marked the start of the celebration which will run until 4th October 2022 - the feast day of

St. Francis of Assisi - the patron saint of ecology.

During the Season of Creation we are encouraged to pray with and for the natural world in order to deepen our relationship with our God, our neighbour and the earth we share.

Pope Francis is encouraging us all to look after our environment by becoming greener and more environmentally friendly in our daily choices and actions. In school, pupils will be taking part in activities and prayer to help them understand the vital role we all play in being more attentive to our environment and all those who we share it with. We are called, in particular, this year to 'Listen to the Cry of Creation.'

As part of our celebration of the Season of Creation this year we are taking part in One Life's Open for Creation virtual retreat sessions. Open for Creation is a virtual 'burst of liturgy' each day delivered by Dan and Emily from One Life Music reflecting on the key messages of the Season of Creation.

Attached to this email is a copy of a prayer written by Pope Francis - A Prayer for Our Earth - which you might want to use at home during the Season of Creation.

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

Early Years	Stefania
	Lana
1KG	Isla-Blue
1NH	Autumn
2BL	Teddy
2NT	Maximus
3CC	Ryder
3LH	Bentley
4HB	Natan
4LM	Mia
5SM	Tia
5ST	J'Ron
6AC	Faith
6BF	Seraphine



Well Done Readers of the Week!

Resilience/Independence

Do encourage your child to organise themselves properly each morning. Encourage them to carry their own bag and belongings. Talk to them about organising their belongings, so they are not misplaced. Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance

The attendance of our children at school has received a massive blow due to the 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.

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. Thank you.

Reading

Mrs Hughes writes to remind us that as parents/carers, you play a vital role in developing our children as readers. It is essential that children have regular practice of reading at home in order to become fluent, confident readers.

This year we will be providing our early readers (children who are reading books from our reading scheme) with two books to bring home each week:

A **Reading Practice book**, matched to your child's phonic stage, that they can read to you to improve their reading fluency.

A **Sharing book** that they can talk about and enjoy with their parent/carer. This will be chosen by your child from their classroom library in order to foster their love of reading. This will be an age appropriate book but will not necessarily be a text that your child is capable of reading independently, the idea being that you will share it together.

Those children who are **free readers** will not bring home an additional book as they are already reading books which they have chosen themselves.

Thank you for your continued support.

Making the Sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation

Children in year 3 and year 6 will have brought a letter home from Fr. Michael earlier in the week. You are asked to hand the completed form back in as an expression of being keen to receive the Sacrament.

Please note the 2 meeting nights being run by the parish:

Tuesday 27th September - First Holy Communion Parents @ Sacred Heart 6pm or 7pm

Wednesday 28th September - Confirmation Parents @ Sacred Heart 7pm

St. Francis of Assisi Catholic College - Open Evening

Please note, our local Catholic secondary feeder school, St Francis of Assisi Catholic College, will hold their open evening on Thursday 22nd September 2022 as detailed below. The St. Francis of Assisi prospectus can be found [here](#)

A promotional poster for St Francis of Assisi Catholic College. The background is dark blue with a large, faint white cross. At the top center is the college's crest, a shield with a gold cross. To the right of the crest, the text 'St Francis of Assisi CATHOLIC COLLEGE' is written in white. Below the crest, the words 'Open Evening' are written in large, bold, yellow font. Underneath that, 'Thursday 22nd September 2022' is written in yellow, followed by '5:30pm - 8pm' in white. Below this, 'Open Mornings Monday 26th - Friday 30th 09:30 -12:00' is written in white. At the bottom, a yellow horizontal bar contains contact information in black text: 'Tel: 01922 740 300', 'Email: postbox@stfrancis.cc', 'Web: www.stfrancis.cc', and 'Facebook: @SFACTC'.

Non Uniform Day - Friday 30th September

Our Chair of Governors, Mr Rob Vernon, is running the London Marathon on Sunday 2nd October. All funds raised are in aid of Children with Cancer UK - helping children and young people with cancer to ring the bell. We will be holding a non uniform day on Friday 30th September to help with the fundraising. Voluntary contributions can be made directly through Mr Vernon's Just Giving Page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/roblondon22>

Break Time Snacks

As part of our healthy school policy all Key Stage 1 children are provided with fruit during morning break time. For older children or if your child prefers to bring in their own snack, please ensure it is a healthy snack such as a piece of fruit. For health and safety reasons please avoid sending the children into school with fruit that contain stones e.g. cherries. If your child is bringing in grapes, can these please be cut in half. Thank you for your cooperation.

Parking

Please continue to be aware of the need to park responsibly in the local area and in 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.

Parking at Belgrave Club

We have been informed that from September 2022 the Belgrave Club will continue to offer the facility of parking for parents/guardians. Please be aware that the cost for use of the car park remains at £5.00, per car, for the school year (club members are free).

We will notify you once new parking permits are made available to purchase. In the meantime, please continue to display last year's permit.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 16 th September	Year 5 Mass - School Hall 9.15am
Monday 19 th September	SCHOOL CLOSED. Bank Holiday as a mark of respect for the State Funeral of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II
Wednesday 21 st September	Alton Castle Trip Year 6
Thursday 22 nd September	St Francis of Assisi Open Evening 5.30pm-8.00pm
Friday 23 rd September	Year 6 return from Alton Castle
Tuesday 27 th September	First Holy Communion parents meeting Sacred Heart 6pm or 7pm
Wednesday 28 th September	Flu Immunisations Reception-Year 6 Confirmation parents meeting Sacred Heart 7pm
Friday 30 th September	Non Uniform Day - Voluntary donations to Children with Cancer UK

Friday 7 th October	Open Morning for prospective Reception 2023 parents
Tuesday 18 th October	Parents Evening 3.30pm-6.00pm
Wednesday 20 th October	Parents Evening 3.30-6.00pm
Friday 21 st October	School finishes for half term
Monday 31 st October	INSET DAY 2
Tuesday 1 st November	School re opens for pupils

Almighty God, source of all consolation,
 we pray for the members of the Royal family
 who mourn the loss of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth.
 Uphold them in your love
 and pour out on them the consolation of your healing spirit.
 Let them find in your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ
 comfort in their sadness
 certainty in their doubt
 and courage to live through this hour.
 We ask this through Christ our Lord.
 Amen.

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
 Headteacher