

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MEETING - Tuesday 12th October 6.00pm

Fr. Michael has arranged to speak to parents only of children, where parents wish for their child to make their First Holy Communion.

A separate letter from Fr. Michael directly will be sent on later.

VERY IMPORTANT UPDATE - "RESPONDING TO INCREASING RATES OF COVID 19" - Updated Wednesday 29th September 2021

Parents and carers are asked to note that there has been a huge increase in the presence of Covid cases across Staffordshire and in Tamworth.

Staffordshire Local Outbreak Control have advised ALL school settings to be proactive to prevent and reduce transmission, until half term.

For the next few weeks we have been asked to reintroduce a range of controls, that were in place pre-summer.

Part of this will be **STRONGLY ADVISING THAT ALL CONTACTS OF A SCHOOL CASE TAKE A PCR TEST.**

It may also involve the need for a precautionary PCR test 7 days later.

PLEASE BE CAUTIOUS AND FOLLOW THIS ADVICE.

- **Where pupils have a brother, sister or household member who tests positive there is a high risk of infection.**
- **PCR tests are strongly advised for ALL people in the household.**
- **Pupils/household are advised to stay at home pending results.**
- **Parents are reminded that children should not attend if they have any of the 3 main symptoms of Covid or are "generally unwell". In these cases a PCR test should be booked and taken.**

This advice was provided on Wednesday 29th September 2021. Staffordshire County Council have the support of the Director of Public Health, Cabinet Members and DFE, in taking these steps to control the rate of increase and confirmed spread.

Thank you

Many thanks to those parents who have continued to liaise, contact, communicate and follow our advice around Covid requirements.

Mask wearing

Many of us in school are still wearing masks, for the protection of each other and yourselves. We encourage all those coming onto site, to please also wear a mask.
Thank you.

Autumn Term Parent's Evenings

Your child will bring a letter home tomorrow regarding the arrangements for our Autumn Term Parent's Evening. Please return the appointment request slip as soon as possible.

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.

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. We again ask you take this advice and requests on board. Thanks to those parents who were supportive of PCSOs and PCs present at the school earlier in the week.

Parking at Belgrave Club

The 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 - see below). Parking permits must be clearly displayed at all times. Parents/guardians who are club members are asked to collect their passes from the club during opening times.

Please abide by the club rules:

- Only designated parking spaces are to be used.
- Please do not park on the yellow lines, hatched areas, in front of bottle banks
- Please park with care and avoid hitting the perimeter fence when parking
- Please obey the speed limit in the car park at 5 mph
- Please adhere to the one-way system around the car park
- Please do not leave rubbish behind. Rubbish should be taken away and disposed of correctly.
- Children should be supervised at all times.
- Bike/scooters are not permitted to be used on the car park at any time

Parents/guardians who require a parking pass via the school - Please complete and submit the request form which can be found on the school website Parent Information/Belgrave Parking Pass

https://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk/web/belgrave_parking_pass

The school office will notify you via text when the pass is available for collection. Please have the correct money when collecting your pass.

PLEASE DO NOT COME TO THE SCHOOL OFFICE TO COLLECT PASSES UNTIL NOTIFIED. Thank you.

Wear It Pink

Wear It Pink is a charity event for breast cancer on October 22nd at Sacred Heart. Sacred Heart are looking for raffle prizes and cakes for a cake bake sale. Can anyone help please? It is for a cause that has affected countless families and maybe yours too? If you can then contact Annette on net72@live.co.uk

Please note that to mark this, we will have a non-uniform day in school on the day.

All proceeds to this cause. We will be asking for non-uniform donations to be paid via ParentPay. This is to reduce the amount of cash having to be handled within school.

Alpha - In person or Online

A choice of two Alpha courses. One on Thursday evenings at Sacred Heart 7.30-9.00pm from 30th September or one online on Zoom- day and time to be confirmed. So it's meeting up or Zooming in? The choice is yours. Watch an inspiring video and follow with discussion! Why not give it a try? Please book so that we know numbers via email alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403

Journey in faith

Are you, or do you know anyone else, interested in becoming a Catholic or finding out more about the Catholic Faith? Please get in touch with us soon as the course starts at the end of September. Email alex@tamworthrc.church or phone 01827 769403 to speak with Fr Michael or Alex Parker to book a place and find out more.

Youth Band

Starting on Friday 24th September 6.15-7.00pm at Sacred Heart Church in the Modwen Room. New members welcome. It is open to all young people in Year 6 and above. If you enjoy singing or can play an instrument, why not give it a try we'd love to see you.

Please contact Alex Parker alex@tamworthrc.church for more details and to register your interest or feel free to just turn up! Parental Consent forms will need to be completed with contact details at the first practice. The Youth Band leads the music at one Mass probably about once every month to six weeks and meets during term time. Thank you.

Message from the kitchen

The school lunch menu for the week commencing Monday 11th October will be:

Monday:	Pizza, Potato Wedges and Salad
Tuesday:	Chicken Pie, Mash, Sweetcorn and Broccoli
Wednesday:	Roast Dinner
Thursday:	Spaghetti Bolognese, Peas and Broccoli
Friday:	Fish Fingers, Chips, Peas or Beans

Sustainable Staffordshire Tip of the Week



These boots are made for walking...

Transportation is one of the main contributors to emitting greenhouse gases, and pollution from vehicles is by far the largest source of air pollution in Staffordshire.

Why not try and get your 10,000 steps in and walk more instead of driving? It's not only better for the environment, but a brisk 10-minute walk a day has lots of health benefits. You can also save money on fuel and parking.

You don't need to give up your car completely, walking one day a week can make a massive difference!

Entrust Music Groups for Tamworth School Children

Entrust are providing some FREE music groups which place on a fortnightly basis for school aged children in Tamworth.

There are range of music groups for children to attend including a choir, ukulele club, training and senior string orchestra and wind bands.

They rehearse fortnightly (term time) on Saturday mornings from 9.15am at Landau Forte QEMS Sixth Form, B79 8AA. The next rehearsals are on Saturday 9 October, 13 and 27 November and then a concert on 4 December.

Children can simply arrive on the day or contact Tamworth Music Centre Manager, Alison McAusland alison.mcausland@entrust-ed.co.uk for more details.

All of the music groups are FREE of charge and they hope that many of our children will take the opportunity to come along and enjoy music making with us.

Dates for your Diary

Tue 12 th October	Y3 First Holy Communion meeting for parents 6pm Sacred Heart
W/C Mon 18 th October	Parents Consultations - more information to follow
Fri 22 nd October	Non-uniform day in school - wear pink
Fri 22 nd October	School finishes for half term 3.20pm
Mon 1 st November	INSET DAY 2
Tues 2 nd November	School re-opens

God Bless

Yours sincerely



John P Hayes
Headteacher