

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

Don't Give Up Now

IN LIGHT OF THE LATEST CONCERNS REGARDING THE NEW VARIANT, IT IS ONLY SENSIBLE TO CONTINUE WITH THE CAUTIOUS WAYS OF WORKING, TO TRY AND MINIMISE INCREASED SPREAD.

Staffordshire County Council have launched a "Don't Give Up Now" campaign. We are all asked to keep following the guidelines, get tested twice a week and to book a vaccination when we're offered one.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER TAKE A TEST AS A RESULT OF COVID SYMPTOMS, WHICH ARE:

- A HIGH TEMPERATURE (FEVER) - HOT TO TOUCH
- A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH
- A CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

YOU MUST SELF-ISOLATE AND STAY AT HOME, AS A HOUSEHOLD, UNTIL YOU RECEIVE YOUR RESULTS.

PLEASE NOTIFY SCHOOL (USING THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW) OF YOUR RESULTS, EITHER WAY, TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OTHERS IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

confirmedcovidcase@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

Thank you to all these parents who have continued to inform and communicate with us via this e-mail.

KEY INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROLS REMAIN IN PLACE as published in the "daily plan". By following these measures we all reduce risks in our setting and create a safer environment. We **MUST** always:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
2. Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances.
3. Ensure everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
4. Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
5. Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents.

6. Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
7. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
8. Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary.
9. Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available.
10. Promote and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.
11. Manage and report confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.
12. Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

DEFERRED INSET DAY

The school cancelled the Inset day which was to be taken on 29th January 2021 in order to stay open for key worker and vulnerable children. In line with government guidance, I have consulted with the chair of governors and have identified when this day will now be taken. This teacher training day will now be taken on **Wednesday 21st July 2021**. The final day for pupils will therefore be Tuesday 20th July 2021.

Collection at end of day

All parents and carers are reminded - wait patiently as children are dismissed. We can only send one child at a time, while the teacher records the adult collecting. Please be clear that this is to satisfy safeguarding requirements and to ensure ALL children go home safely. Parents are asked NOT TO QUEUE OFF MARLBOROUGH ROAD OR WILNECOTE LANE as this is blocking the flow of local traffic. Thank you.

Hot Weather

Now that the weather is warmer please remember to send your child in with a suitable hat to wear at playtimes. Please ensure that on hot/sunny days you apply cream BEFORE YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL. Do not send children to school with bottles of sun cream. We are not allowed to apply sun cream for children.

Children need to have had their hay fever medication before they come in to school and bring a water bottle with them. Unless there is a medical reason, children should not be bringing sunglasses into school. Please ensure all belongings are named and labelled. Thank you

Bikes

If using the cycle rack to leave bikes or scooters on the school premises then please ensure they are secured with a bike lock. We cannot accept any responsibility for any bikes or scooters left on school premises. Thank you

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly and School Party - Monday 19th July 2021

On Monday 19th July, Y6 children will be hosting a live leavers' assembly via Microsoft TEAMS, that all parents can log on to and attend.

Mr Fowler's class assembly will be from 10.30-11am. Mrs Taggart's will be from 11.00-11.30.

There will also be a party on the school field for the children on that day.

Your child will be ready for collection at 3.40pm from the KS2 playground - note the slightly later end to the school day.

Please see separate letter sent by e-mail on Tuesday 22nd June for full details. Thank you.

Outdoor Holiday Activities and Food Programme



The government has launched a Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) Programme enabling local authorities in England to deliver inclusive activities including a hot meal over the school holidays.

It's **free** for children and young people aged 5 - 16 years who receive benefit related free school meals.

Staffordshire County Council will be writing to all parents/carers of eligible children (via school) with a unique code to register their interest and receive a timetable of activities.

Registration will be live from 5th July and closes once all the eligible places have been filled.

To avoid disappointment, parents/carers should register and book as soon as possible at:

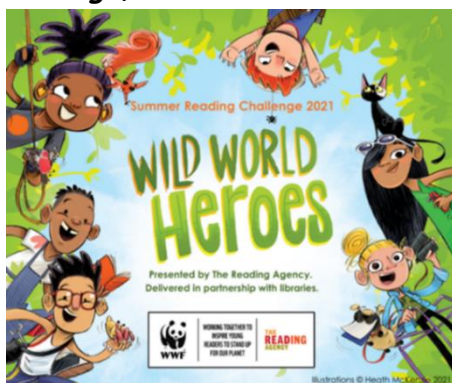
www.staffordshire.gov.uk/holidayactivities

Summer Reading Challenge

The 2021 Summer Reading Challenge is going to be launching in libraries across Staffordshire and the rest of the country on Saturday 10th July!

This year the Summer Reading Challenge has a Wild World Heroes theme:

Pack your bags, we're headed for Wilderville!



It's a pretty cool place, but there are lots of things that the Wild World Heroes can do to make their town even better for the people and animals that live there.

*Join the Wild World Heroes for the Summer Reading Challenge and discover how **you can make a difference** to the environment too.*

*We're teaming up with **WWF** for a very special nature-themed Challenge that will inspire you to stand up for the planet!*

Wild World Heroes will feature amazing books, awesome rewards, and plenty of ideas for taking care of our environment.

Are you excited to join the #WildWorldHeroes this summer?

You can join the Summer Reading Challenge at your local library or online - visit

<https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/> for more details.

To complete the challenge you just need to register and read 6 books during the Summer - as you read you can collect rewards include stickers and certificates!

The Summer Reading Challenge is a fantastic way to encourage your children to keep reading during the Summer - please do take a look and take part!

Message from the Kitchen

The school lunch menu for the week commencing Monday 28th June 2021 is as follows:

Monday: Pizza, Pasta and Sweetcorn
Tuesday: Sausage, Mash, Veg and Gravy - look out for the **GOLDEN TICKET!**
Wednesday: Roast Dinner
Thursday: American Theme Day - see attached menu
Friday: Fish Fingers and Chips

The Heart of Tamworth Community Shop as seen at www.tamworthrc.church

Visit the HOT COMMUNITY SHOP based at sacred heart church for your shopping. They are there to give a helping hand to those who need it.

1 bag of shopping = £4

2 bags of shopping = £7

A selection of fruit and veg is available free when you buy your bag.

Opening times: Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm, Saturday 10am - 1pm, Sunday - closed. Thank you to all those who continue to donate food and hygiene items.

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia - EU Settlement Scheme

Citizen's Advice Mid Mercia are working alongside the Government in order to reach out to all of the families in Tamworth and East Staffordshire to support them with their EU Settled Status. The Government has recognised that not all families are aware that they need to ensure they have been granted settled or pre-settled status by the end of June 2021.

Parish Mission Saturday 19th June to Sunday 27th June 2021 - Information from the Parish

St. John the Baptist Parish with Sacred Heart Church

Dear Parents,

You may or may not be aware of our up and coming Parish Mission Week Sat 19th June – Sun 27th June. We take this opportunity to invite your families to join us for this special time. A time to have fun and reflect; where we can appreciate the precious gift of each other as a community. A time to engage with ourselves and our faith that is enriched through our connection with Christ.



Below is a schedule for the events happening in our Parish Mission Week

Come and join us and be refreshed.
Look forward to seeing you there,

The Parish Team



From Sat June 19th till Sunday June 27th

What the Mission will look like:

June Dates	Time	Activity
Sat/Sunday June 19 th /20 th	Usual Masses	The opening of the Mission with Masses led by Fr Gareth and input from Sion team members Corpus Christi procession led by FHC children after 9 am Mass Picnic after 12 noon Mass
Monday 21 st	9.30am SJ 7.00pm SH 11-12 noon SJ	Morning and evening Masses followed by a short session with teaching on how to pray. Holy Hour – quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday 21 st	2-4.00pm SH Evening	An afternoon talk for the retired involved in parish life, followed by afternoon tea - Tickets for the Afternoon tea £2 to cover costs How to maintain/deepen your faith in a foreign land – in Polish
Tuesday 22 nd	9.30am SH 7.00pm SJ 11-12 noon SH 6.30 -7.30 pm	Masses with testimonies at each Church followed by some reflection on praying with the Bible Holy Hour – quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament Online session with parents
Wed 23 rd	9.30am SJ 11-12 noon SJ 7.00pm SH	Mass at St John's with workshop: Catholic Prayers - praying the rosary Holy Hour – quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament Service at Sacred Heart focussing on the call to serve, with a blessing on all who are doing God's work in some way, followed by refreshments.
Thurs 24 th	9.30am SH 7.00pm SJ 10-12 am 11-12 noon SH 6.30-7.30pm	Feast of St John the Baptist, our parish patron. Masses at each Church. Talk after 7pm Mass – <i>What does Baptism mean for me?</i> One to one sessions with members of Sion team Holy Hour Parents online – <i>'My vocation/calling'</i> Retreat Day in both schools
Friday 25 th	9.30am SJ 7.00pm SJ 10.15 – 11.15am 11-12 noon SJ	Morning and evening Masses. Evening Mass will have sacrament of the sick and prayers for healing. 'Prayer walks' will be arranged at St John's after Mass. Holy Hour – quiet prayer in front of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 26 th	Both Masses led by Sion team	Youth Activity Day – fun with spiritual focus – 9.00am to 3.40pm for Y3-Y6. Forms in Church porch.
Sunday 27 th	3 Masses	Fr Gareth leading Masses and preaching. Dan Callow doing music at Sacred Heart with a focus on families Refreshments after the 12 noon Mass

We don't expect anyone to do all of this.

**We just hope everyone will dip into the things that will help them and
use the booklets to pray each day.**

Some important moments include:

- *Daily prayer and prayer workshops*
- *Celebrating our generous volunteers (Wednesday evening)*
- *Celebrating our Feast Day and the gift of Baptism (Thursday)*
- *Healing Mass (Friday)*
- *Parents' sessions online - contact alex@tamworthrc.church for details*

Dates for your Diary

Sat 19 th June 2021 to	Parish Mission - The theme will be "My Light and My Hope"
Sun 27 th June 2021	Please keep the dates in your diary. Themed events, retreat days, Interesting activities all at the Sacred Heart and run by Sion
Thurs 1 st July 2021	Sacrament of Confirmation - Mr Fowler's class bubble 7.00pm Sacred Heart Church
Fri 2 nd July 2021	Sacrament of Confirmation - Mrs Taggart's class bubble 7.00pm Sacred Heart Church
Mon 19 th July 2021	Y6 Leavers Assembly via Teams and Y6 Leavers Party
Tues 20 th July 2021	Last day for pupils
Weds 21 st July 2021	INSET DAY - School closed to pupils

Prayer to St. John the Baptist - Parish patron - Feast day today

O God, you raised up St. John the Baptist to prepare a perfect people for Christ.

Fill your people with the joy of possessing this grace and direct the minds of all faithful in the way of peace and salvation.

Grant that St. John was martyred for truth and justice, so we may energetically profess our faith in you, and lead others to the way, the Truth and Eternal Life.

Amen.

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher