

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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

E-mail: [office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

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Dear Parents

## Mass for end of school year - Tomorrow, Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 9.15am

The school will join together for celebration of Holy Mass in the school hall at 9.15am, led by Year 6. Parents and carers are very welcome to attend.

## Addressing Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

I have placed an information poster on the parent's section of the website. It concerns ACEs. Can I ask you all to take the time to read it, to process the information and reflect and think?

The uncertainty, negativity, trauma and anxiety caused by even low level abuse, neglect and not having the right home environment is proven now in the damage it causes to a child's development.

I urge you again to:

- Make routine
- Talk to your child positively
- Celebrate their success
- Love them unconditionally
- IF YOU CAN, read a few pages with your child at bedtime
- Have a calm home
- Limit or prevent shouting, arguments, hitting etc

It's all hard work. I certainly did not and do not get it right each day as a parent!! But each day is a chance to start again. Look into your child's face. Look at the endless possibility for goodness, development and growth. Never forget the way that child depends on your stability, calmness and being positive.

**Thank you for your efforts to get these things right for your child as they grow.**

**IF ANY PARENT IS WORRIED OR CONCERNED ABOUT PUTTING FOOD ON THE TABLE AT THIS TIME THEN PLEASE DO APPROACH ME OR THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN CONFIDENCE, WE WILL ALWAYS TRY TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN.**

Please be aware of the wide range of food available from the Heart of Tamworth shop on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church. One generous bag of shopping for £4.00.



Headteacher: Mr J P Hayes BEd Hons NPQH  
Deputy Headteacher: Mr W Bright BA PGCE

## Catholic Virtues

This half term the children and staff at St. Gabriel's will be growing to be **ATTENTIVE** to their experiences and to their vocation; and **DISCERNING** about the choices they make and the effect of these choices.



## School Meal Prices from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

We regret to inform you in these difficult times that the School Meal Prices will increase from £2.34 per meal to £2.57 per meal from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2022. Please see attached to the Newsletter a letter from Chartwells Schools (our catering provider) explaining the increase.

Pupils in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will continue to be able to have a Free School Meal as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM). Pupils who are entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) will continue to be able to have a Free School Meal.

If you feel your child/children may be entitled to Free School Meals but you have not applied then see the information on Pupil Premium/Free School Meals section (dropdown heading under Parents Information) on the school website. You can also ask any member of the Office Staff in strict confidence for assistance. This is particularly important if your child is in Year 2 this year receiving a Free School Meal as part of the Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM) but not entitled to Free School Meals (FSM) at present as from September 2022 you will have to pay for meals taken in school.

## School Terms and Holiday Dates 2022/2023

Please find attached the terms and holiday dates for the next academic year. A copy can also be found on the school website. Thank you.

## Miss Allen

Miss Allen is leaving us in August. At very short notice last year she came on board to fill a gap in our teaching team. We thank her for her hard work and wish Miss Allen well for the future.

## Mrs Hunt Squires

Mrs Hunt Squires is leaving us in August. At very short notice last year she came on board to fill a gap in our teaching team. We thank her for her hard work and wish Mrs Hunt Squires well for the future.

## Supervision by parents

It has been brought to our attention that some children are playing, unsupervised on and around the school grounds of a morning. Please be aware that this is potentially a safeguarding issue in regards to accidents and also an opportunity for children to get into trouble. Please consider the danger and ensure you are there and are supervising your children at all times on the way to school and on the school grounds BEFORE 8.50am. 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 sun 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 should 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.

### **Request from Mrs McKay**

Mrs McKay is looking for some assistance from anybody who may be able to make some new covers for the beanbags in the Jungle Room. This room is well used by the children in school and the beanbags are looking a bit tired, unfortunately the covers aren't removable so Mrs McKay would really like some zip on covers made. If you are able to help please have a chat with Mrs McKay. Thank you.

### **Family & Community Information Hub**

Please could I draw your attention to the new family and community information section on our website? This section contains a wealth of current information on community activities from mother and toddler groups to free courses as well as job and training opportunities. It also provides information for parents of children with additional educational needs along with opportunities available to them for example short breaks. There will also be 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, as and when we get it, we will post it.

### **Twitter access**

We would love more followers! There are some lovely moments of every day life captured through this means. We have a number of parents who have requested to follow us on Twitter. Please ensure that you also email the following address with your twitter details so that we can cross reference twitter account requests and email addresses. This ensures our account stays safe. Thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding.

[twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

### **Change to School Menu W/c 18<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Please note the following changes to the school menu:

Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Picnic Lunch
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Fish Fingers and Chips

### **Heart of Tamworth - Free School Uniform Event**

Heart of Tamworth are looking for donations of good condition school uniform, sports uniform and good quality, paired shoes. Donations can be dropped off at Sacred Heart Church before Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July.

### Parish Summer Scheme

The Parish Summer Scheme Forms are available at Sacred Heart and St John's, most days are now fully booked. Should you wish for your child to attend please return your forms and payment promptly. The Summer Scheme is for children currently in Year 2 - Year 7. There is an additional Teen Scheme for any older siblings in Year 8- Year 10. The Summer Scheme starts on the 25<sup>th</sup> July for two weeks.

### School uniform swap-shop coming to town hall

Tamworth Borough Council are supporting a new incentive to help families source school uniforms for their children, ready for the new school year 2022/2023.

The council are encouraging families to donate good quality uniforms no longer required, as part of an event to support residents in saving money on school uniform costs.

Residents are invited to bring all good quality uniforms (including those with a school logo) to Tamworth Town Hall on Friday, July 29, between 12noon and 3pm. Donations will then be sorted and available at the town hall the next day, Saturday, July 30, for any families that would like to come along and source uniforms between 12noon and 3pm.

There will be no charge for uniforms collected but people are invited to make a small donation to the mayor's charity -Tamworth Wellbeing & Cancer Support Centre, if they wish.

### Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RHK	Ignacy
RJC	Zac D
1KG	Kaiden
1NH	Vittoria
2JH	Freya
2NT	Harrison
3CC	Tommy
3LH	Nela
4HA	Alex
4HB	Heaven
5AC	Oliver
5SG	Evie
6BF	Freya
6ST	Evie H



**Well Done Readers of the  
Week!**



*Do you know of any families who have moved into Tamworth? We currently have a small number of spaces in some other year groups. If a family you know is interested please ask them to contact the school office in the first instance. Thank you*

### **Ukraine - Humanitarian crisis situation**

The March For Ukraine Campaign has been set up in Tamworth to collect essential supplies for refugees. It involves numerous organisations that includes Heart of Tamworth and The Parish of St. John the Baptist. They are helping as members of the organising group, collecting supplies, being a delivery centre and some transport. They are strictly only collecting new or nearly new items from the following list: Nappies, wipes, children's colouring books and pencils/crayons. Large blankets and sleeping bags. First aid items. Protein bars, baby food pouches (without milk or meat), sterilising tablets and dried food (pasta, rice, tea, biscuits etc). New nests, socks and pants. Toiletries. Donations can be dropped off at Sacred Heart Church.



### **Living with Covid**

The Government recently announced their Covid 19 response "Living with Covid-19" strategy for England. It means that most of the measures in place to prevent the spread of the virus are no longer required.

**National guidance now urges us all to take personal responsibility so that our actions minimise the risks of transmission.**

In school we will continue to:

- Offer frequent and proper handwashing for staff and pupils
- Encourage good respiratory hygiene - this includes continuing to follow "catch it, bin it, kill it"
- Have additional cleaning of major touch points
- Have additional ventilation

### **IMPORTANT**

**Get the basic principles of virus controls done well as part of your behaviour.**

**The spread of ALL variants will be reduced by:**

- **Limiting your mixing**
- **Keeping your distance**
- **Good hand, nose and mouth hygiene**
- **Good ventilation**

## SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT ADVICE

### UPDATED FROM 1ST APRIL 2022 ONWARDS

- Staff or pupils who are unwell, particularly with a fever or high temperature, **SHOULD STAY OFF SCHOOL** until they are feeling well and temperature has returned to normal.
- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for Covid unless directed to by a health professional.
- Pupils who do test positive, after following direction to take a test by the NHS or GP, **SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL FOR 3 DAYS** (This is the day of the test plus 3 clear days). After the 3 days they should continue to stay off/away until they are feeling well and temperature is back to normal.
- Adults who test positive **SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL FOR 5 DAYS** ((This is the day of the test plus 5 clear days). After the 5 days they should continue to stay off/away until they are feeling well and temperature is back to normal.

### Dates for your Diary

Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15am School Mass for end of school year - Led by Year 6
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> July	9.15am Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Year 6 Parents welcome - Respectfully - please limit this to 2 adults per family Year 6 Leavers Party
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Final day of school NOTE - GOVERNING BODY DECISION TO CLOSE SCHOOL AT 1.30PM 3.30pm Commonwealth Torch @ Sacred Heart - Celebration event
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept	INSET DAY 1 - School closed to all pupils
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept	School re opens to pupils

Wishing you a happy and safe period over the summer holiday time. Take care and mind yourselves.

God of hope, love and joy,

We thank you for what we have been given throughout this school year.

Bless us all and let us find refreshment in the time ahead.

Through Christ Our Lord

Amen

God Bless

Yours sincerely



John P Hayes

Headteacher