

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

Welcome back to all of our children and families.

Particular welcome to the children in Reception and to our new families who have joined us through the school.

Mass - Friday 8th September 2023 9.15am

Yea 6 will lead a celebration of Holy Mass for the school from 9.15am tomorrow morning in the school hall. Please feel free to join us in our first celebration of Holy Mass this year. Please note Reception year will not attend this Mass.

Catholic Virtues - GRATEFUL AND GENEROUS

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

Pupils are growing to be GRATEFUL for our own gifts, for the gifts of other people and for the blessings of each day; and GENEROUS with our gifts, becoming men and women for others.



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. Thank you.

Season of Creation 1st September to 4th October 2023



SEASON OF CREATION

The Season of Creation runs from 1 September (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to 4 October (the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi) each year.

This ecumenical season is dedicated to prayer and action for the protection of creation. It is a time to renew our relationships with God our Creator, and with all creation, as we join together in prayer.

Throughout the Season of Creation events will be taking place across the world to celebrate and promote the key message of valuing, caring for and protecting our common home and all who live in it.

The Season of Creation is celebrated by many different Christian denominations as well as people of other faiths as well. In the Catholic Church the Season is inspired by Pope Francis's encyclical 'Laudato Si' and many of the events will be promoted and organised by the Laudato Si Movement which is a worldwide organisation which works to promote the message and ethos of Laudato Si.



Let Justice and Peace Flow

This year the theme for the Season of Creation is 'Let Justice and Peace Flow.' The symbol for this year is a 'Mighty River.'

Prophet Amos cries out "But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!" (Amos 5: 24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate and ecological justice, and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity. Attached to this email is a copy of 2023 Season of Creation prayer- A Prayer for Our Earth - which you might want to use at home during the Season of Creation.

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.

Asthma

Over the next week, any child who is on the Asthma Register will be receiving a letter to confirm the asthma plan in place.

Can I just remind you that it is the parent's responsibility to ensure that we have an in date inhaler in school at all times and that spacers are taken home regularly to be washed. Thank you.

Summer Reading Challenge / Reader of the Week

Well done to all those children who took part in the Summer Reading Challenge during the holidays. If you have received your certificate and would like to bring it into class please do!

Well done to the readers of the week!

1KG	Cesc
1NH	Janice
2LG	Jacob
2NT	Liam
3CC	Teddy
3SO	Myla
4HB	Abbie
4LM	Selena
5VN	Sebastian
5SM	Mia E
6AC	Grace
6BF	Lucy

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.

Parking

The council have now placed wooden posts on the grass verge on the side of Wilnecote Lane to prevent parking there. You will also note that Staffordshire Police have provided us with some signage to encourage parents and carers not to park on or block Wilnecote Lane and the school driveway.

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.

Parking at Belgrave Club

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

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.

Key Dates

Please find attached a list of key dates for the academic year ahead.

Dates for your Diary

Fri 8 th September	Holy Mass - School Hall 9.15am
Thurs 21 st September	St Francis of Assisi Open Evening 6.30pm-9.00pm
Weds 27 th September to	
Fri 29 th September	Alton Castle Trip Year 6
Sun 1 st October	Whole School Mass @ Sacred Heart 9.00am
Fri 6 th October	Open Morning for prospective Reception 2024 parents
Mon 9 th October	Flu Immunisations Reception-Year 6
Tues 24 th October	Parents Evening 3.40pm-5.40pm
Thurs 26 th October	Parents Evening 3.40pm-5.40pm
Fri 27 th October	School finishes for half term
Mon 6 th November	INSET DAY 2
Tues 7 th November	School re opens for pupils

"I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life."

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher