

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers

Tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day. It is not a non-uniform day. However, any child wishing to wear a little bit of green may of course do so.

Reception and Year 1 Mass – tomorrow, Friday 17th March @ 9.15am

Parents and carers from Reception and Year 1 are invited to come in for celebration of Holy Mass tomorrow morning from 9.15am in the school hall. Mass will be celebrated by Fr. Ramesh.

Mother's Day Sale



Children may bring in a maximum of £3.00 (in a named envelope/ purse/wallet) to the sale for tomorrow. The children will attend in groups between 2.00pm-3.00pm.

END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS AS NORMAL.

The Mother's Day Sale will be open for all families to come in and attend from 3.30pm-4.00pm. Thank you.

Catholic Virtues – Learned and Wise

This half term the children and staff at St. Gabriel's will be growing to be LEARNED through finding God in all things and WISE in the ways we use our learning for the common good.



Routine Medical/Dental Appointments

Parents and carers are asked wherever possible not to arrange routine medical/dental appointments during school sessions, except in cases of urgency, so that interference with school work is avoided.

If you cannot avoid a school time appointment please inform the school office as soon as you are notified by presenting your appointment letter, card or text to request permission to take your child out of school.

Please do not keep children out of school for the whole day unless absolutely necessary.

Thank you for your co-operation with this. Thank you



SCHOOL
MEMBER



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

Attendance

Parents of children with attendance below 90% have been written to recently.

The attendance of our children at school has received a massive blow due to the Covid 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 AND THAT WE RE ESTABLISH OUR BEST POSSIBLE ATTENDANCE.

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE APPROVED. 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.

Current attendance for the school year so far - Overall 94.57% (5/9/22-09/03/23)

R - 92.57%

Y3 - 95.95%

Y6 - 95.37%

Y1 - 92.25%

Y4 - 95.22%

y2 - 94.90%

Y5 - 95.02%

Attendance overall, as shown above, is slowly creeping upwards.

We need to improve the attendance of our pupils, particularly our youngest pupils. Thank you.

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RJC	Maya
RAD	Louis
1KG	Olive
1NH	Ignacy
2BL	Lucy
2NT	Natalia
3CC	Romeo
3LH	Isabella
4HB	Franc
4LM	Piotr
5SM	Martyna
5ST	Marcus
6AC	Orlando
6BF	Riley



Well Done Readers of the Week!

Traffic

Obviously, we can all see there is greater congestion on local roads at the moment. The closure of the slip road off the A5 nearest to the M42 has added to traffic using Marlborough Way. Reduction of the A5 to one lane in places and speed restrictions have now added to delays. Please do factor this in to your journeys and try to leave some extra time at the start and end of the day, to drop off and collect in time. Thank you.

Parking

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.

Lost Property

The lost property trunk is once again full to the brim! Unfortunately the majority of the clothing is unnamed and therefore impossible to return. Please do come along and have a look through the lost property and reclaim any missing items. Any unclaimed items will be donated to a charitable cause over the Easter Holiday. Thank you.



Message from Gabriel's Angels

If you wish to book your child/ren into holiday club over Easter, please do so by **Monday 20th March AT THE LATEST**. If we do not receive enough bookings by this date, then the club may be closed.

We will be open on the following dates:

Week 1 - Monday 3rd - Thursday 6th April

Week 2 - Tuesday 11th - Friday 14th April

Our opening hours are 9am to 3pm, and the cost will be £20 per child, per day.

All places must be booked in advance. Please do not just turn up without having booked a place, as we may not be able to look after your child/ren. There will only be enough staff on site to look after the amount of children booked in. If you no longer need the place after booking, please let us know, otherwise you will still be charged.

To book in, please contact Julie Smith on 07772943655.

Thank you.

Family & Community Information Hub

Please could I draw your attention to the family and community information section on our website? This section contains a wealth of current information on community activities, mother and toddler groups, free courses, job and training opportunities, information for parents of children with additional educational needs along with opportunities available to them for example short breaks and also 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.

Easter Fun! Free #HolidayActivities and Food (HAF)!

Keep your children entertained over the Easter holidays with #HAF2023

There will be lots of different holiday clubs offering Easter themed activities.

Plus, the favourites including dodgeball, cooking, horse-riding, dance, football, swimming, bushcraft and lots more!! They'll get a chance to socialise, have fun and be fed a healthy meal!

✓ **FREE** for eligible children aged 5-16 years in receipt of benefits related free school meals.

✓ Eligible children will get a code to register.

✓ Registration opens at 4pm on 17th March 2023.

Find out more on the Staffordshire County Council website

[HERE](#)



Message from the Friends of St. Gabriel's



Please join their Facebook page and keep up to date with events being run by the Friends of St. Gabriel's [HERE](#)

Bereavement Help Points

Fridays 10am-12noon @ Sacred Heart.

Thursdays 5.30pm-7.00pm @ The Cafe at Sacred Heart

If you are struggling with bereavement and loss and wish to talk to someone just come along.

Safe Haven

Safe Haven is a Crisis Cafe situated at Sacred Heart Church, for people aged 18 plus with mental health problems. This service will run between 5pm to 11pm Wednesdays to Fridays and 9am to 5pm on Saturdays and Sundays, and Bank holiday 1.30pm to 9pm.

Safe Haven will provide a safe, supportive, and therapeutic environment helping individuals in their recovery through promotion of self-empowerment and independence. It will be relaxed, informal and supportive, considerate of risk and safety, but focused on de-escalation and recovery. Safe Haven are currently looking for volunteers, for more information email

Claire.Griffiths@burtonmind.co.uk

Heart of Tamworth Community Shop

The community pantry at Sacred Heart has regular deliveries of good quality, fresh food. All of the food is in date but sometimes has a shorter date than others and so needs to be distributed quickly. You are more than welcome to pop down to have a look. There is a Facebook page HOT Community Shop where you can keep up to date with availability.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17 th March	Early years and Y1 Mass 9.15am MOTHER'S DAY SALE - TOILETRIES/PERFUME etc 2pm-3pm - <u>Children</u> visit the hall with an opportunity to buy. 3.30pm-4pm - Open to ALL families after school
Thursday 23 rd March	Year 3 - Sacrament of Reconciliation, Sacred Heart Church 6pm
Thursday 30 th March	Tempest Photography Reception & Y6 Vistas and Year Groups
Friday 31 st March	Mass - Whole school led by y4 9.15am Break up for school holidays
Sunday 9 th April	Easter Sunday
Monday 17 th April	School reopens for children and staff

"Go out to all the world and tell them the Good News."

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher