

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

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.

Year 2 Mass

Tomorrow, Friday 6th May, parents and carers of Year 2 are invited to join the children in the school hall for Holy Mass at 9.15am.

Year 3 Retreat

Mrs Holmes writes that on Wednesday children in Year 3 enjoyed a Holy Communion retreat day led by Dan and Emily from OneLife Music. The children took part in a range of musical, physical and prayerful activities that have helped to further prepare the children for their First Holy Communion and deepen their understanding of the importance of the sacrament. Children even took part in their own last supper and led a prayer service of their own at the end! A wonderful, faith-filled and prayerful experience for all. Thank you Dan and Emily.

Catholic Virtues

This term children and staff at St. Gabriel's are growing to be **GRATEFUL** for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and **GENEROUS** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others

Our Parish

It's a good time to think about going back to Church if you have been away due to Covid. There are many opportunities to be involved in the Catholic parish in Tamworth. Have a look at www.tamworthrc.church Think seriously about going along to one of the Masses at the times shown.

A celebration of Holy Mass takes about 50 minutes. Many people find it spiritually lifting to sit in the peace of the Sacred Heart Church and listen and feel God around them. You will not know that unless you try it. Try it and tell me of your experience. Thank you.



SCHOOL
MEMBER

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

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 verges 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 continue to follow this up. We again ask you take this advice and requests on board.

Thank you.

Wow Active - Assessment 3

Well done to all the children who took part in the third round of Wow Active assessments before the Easter break. Children in KS1, were tested for the first time during their fitness sessions and did very well, working hard.

Below is a list of the highest scorers and most improved.

Highest scorers

Reception	Bobby D and Lottie B
Year 1	Vittoria M and Evan N
Year 2	Edward N and Eva S
Year 3	Sebastian K and Archie B
Year 4	Ella G, Eva T, Tia W and Haitham M
Year 5	Samuel B and Izzy C
Year 6	Sam S, Lucas T and Freya W

Most improved

Year 3	Oscar W and Mia E
Year 4	Isabella T and Jessica C
Year 5	Theo H and Anton A
Year 6	Mason P and Jacob B

CAFOD fundraising

Just before the Easter holidays, children from Year 6 ran fundraising activities during their school break times and lunch times. They sold raffle tickets, toys and books and helped raise £450.00! Many thanks to all the parent's kind donations to help stock the toy/book sale.

The Year 6 children also participated in a sponsored walk during the last of week of term walking a combined total of 200km! A very special well done to Seb H in Year 6, who raised £250.00 in sponsorship money - a fantastic achievement!

Home Learning and Reading Books

Please could we remind you that home reading books and home learning (if you are receiving a paper copy) need to be returned to school on a **Monday** morning. This allows us enough time to change reading books, mark the children's work and allocate new work in time to go home with the children on Wednesday. Many thanks for your ongoing support.

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RHK	Georgia
RJC	Willow
1KG	Spenser
1NH	Gabrielle
2JH	Mia-Rose
2NT	Cian M
3CC	Ivy
3LH	Neive
4HA	Kieran M
4HB	Chloe
5AC	Riley
5SG	Faith
6BF	Tomasz
6ST	Amelie T



Well Done Readers of the
Week!

Punctuality and Being on Time

Thanks to all those families who get your children down to school on time.

We open for business at 8.50am. Currently about half of the children are in school getting started with their day within 3 minutes. The flexi start allows less congestion outside at the start of the day.

A very small number of families are still arriving after the registration bell at 9.10am. A lot of important, key work takes place in the first few minutes. Please do get your children down to school before the bell so that they **DO NOT MISS OUT**. Thank you.

Attendance

Further to the email sent to all parents on Monday 22nd November 2021. Please assist by:

- Not taking holidays in term-time, no period of leave for holiday can be authorised
- Only request a leave of absence when absolutely necessary
- Book routine appointments where possible outside of school times
- Not taking time off school for minor ailments - ask yourself if you would stay off work for the same
- Be on time for school - lateness disrupts the start of the day for your child and many key interventions take place in the first few minutes of the day
- Remember there are 175 non-school days per year, plenty of time for holidays, visits, days out and routine appointments

Emergency Contact Details Update - Please check the details we hold are correct

It is vital that we retain up-to-date Emergency Contact details for all children. Please inform school immediately if your mobile number or email address changes. We use Teachers2Parents text and email system to communicate with you and keep you informed about what is happening at school. Please ensure all 1st Priority Emergency Contact mobiles are fully charged and switched on during the school day so we can contact you in an emergency. Thank you.

St Gabriel's Twitter

Please join our closed Twitter account - @GabrielsPrimary

We will be trialling our Twitter account with our Reception classes.

This will be used to show a screenshot of various activities throughout their day. We will be expanding upon this, over the coming months to include all other year groups in school. We hope you will find this useful.

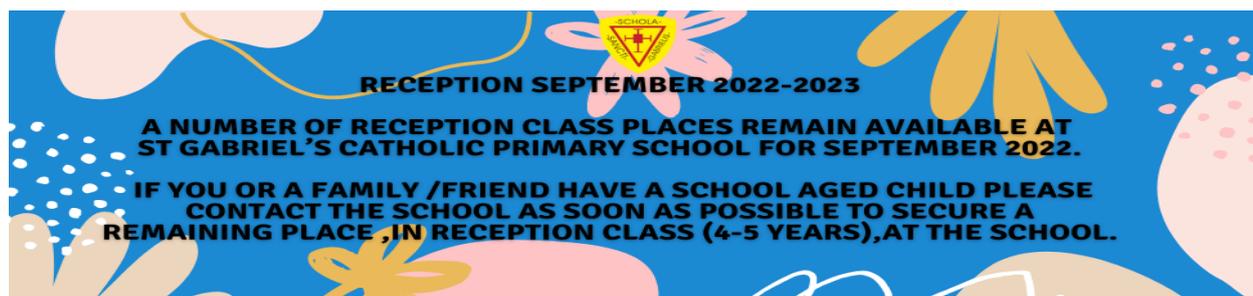
We would like to increase our followers to all parents and grandparents that are known to us. Our Twitter account is a closed account (private); therefore in addition to your request to follow the Twitter account we will need your own Twitter account username details to be sent to us, via the following email address: twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

This will allow us to accept you into the group and ensure the security of the account.

Please be aware - this account will only be used to share information and snapshots of your child's learning - please do not use this as a means of direct contact. There will be no facility to comment.

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.



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

Forthcoming Dinner Supervisor Position

If you are interested in a possible role in the future as a Dinner Supervisor please pass your interest via notice to the school office. You would be notified in due course of any availability. Thank you.

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

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.

IMPORTANT

IF YOU TAKE A CHILD FOR A PCR TEST, FOLLOWING DIRECTION FROM NHS OR YOUR GP, THEY MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHILE AWAITING A RESULT, FOR THE SAFETY OF OTHER PUPILS AND STAFF. THANK YOU.

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

IF YOU ARE INVITED INTO SCHOOL FOR A MEETING PLEASE

- Wear a mask if you can
- Sanitise hands on arrival
- Respect social distancing

Ofsted Report re Inspection Visit March 8th and 9th 2022

By this point, the Governing Board will have written to you to provide you a copy of our Ofsted Report. Please take time to read it.

The two days of inspection were very demanding.

The report has commented very positively on so many aspects of our work, that we try to get right, each and every day.

Thanks to our pupils, parents and governors. Particular thanks to our staff for their continued efforts, skills and ability to do their best.

It is a report to be proud of.

Dates for your Diary

Mon 9th May to

Thurs 12th May

KS2 SATS - Y6 pupils must be in school each morning

Sat 21st May

First Holy Communion Masses

10.00am Miss Caswell's class

12noon Mrs Holmes' class

Tues 24th May

Y6 Confirmation Retreat Day in school - Dan and Emily from One Life

Music

Fri 27th May

School closes for half term

Mon 6th June

School reopens to staff and pupils

W/c Mon 6th June

Y1 Phonics Screenings

Y4 Multiplication tables check

Fri 10th June

Tempest Photography - Individual/Family/Pre School photos

Mon 27th June

INSET DAY 5 - School closed to pupils

Almighty and ever living God, give us strength from the courage of Christ our shepherd.

Lead us to join him through the simple acts of kindness we show to each other every day.

Amen

God Bless

Yours sincerely



John P Hayes

Headteacher