

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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3rd November 2022

Volume 14 Number 8

Dear Parents

School Discos Tuesday 8th November 2022

Reception and KS1 4.45pm-5.45pm

KS2 6.00pm-7.00pm

Please refer to the SEPARATE LETTER sent out from Friends of St. Gabriel's. Please note all children attending **MUST BRING A COMPLETED FORM** as shown on the reverse of the letter.

Catholic Virtues - Compassionate and Loving

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

Pupils are growing to be compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.



Holy Souls

November is the month of Holy Souls.

We remember all those who have died, through the Feast of All Saints on 1st November and All Souls on 2nd November.

We remember all our loved ones who have died, at this time. We also try to remember those who have no one to pray for them.

Sacred Heart Church

Keep up to date with what's going on in your parish [HERE](#)

Please be aware of the opening times of the café at the Sacred Heart. A pleasant space with a wide range of food and drink available.



SCHOOL
MEMBER



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

Peter Armitage MBE

Year 6 were very lucky this Tuesday 1st November when Peter Armitage MBE came into school to give a presentation on the Post Office's involvement during World War One and Two. The children had the opportunity to try on army uniforms and handle historical artefacts from the period as well as learn about the hardships faced by soldiers fighting in the trenches. As part of their Remembrance topic, the children are learning about World War One and the importance of wearing poppies. They will be raising money by selling poppies on the KS1 and KS2 playground this week and next (as communicated by text).

There are some lovely photos on our twitter feed.

National Memorial Arboretum – Year 6 Visit

Children from year 6 visited the National Memorial Arboretum in Alrewas today, 3rd November, as part of their topic on Remembrance. The children visited many memorials, attended a service in the Millennium chapel and observed a two minute silence.

Throughout the day the children behaved with great respect and attitude to this special place and were praised by members of the public for their attitude. Thanks to Mr Fowler for organising and many thanks to Miss Cunningham, Mrs Devenney, Mr Fowler, and Mrs Hanrahan for supervising the children at this event. I would encourage all parents to consider visiting. It is free entry and on our doorstep, well worth a visit and a very moving experience.

Therapy Dog – Bodhi

Please find below the dates that therapy dog, Bodhi, will be coming in to school:

Alternate Thursdays 9:30-12pm: 10th November KS2, 24th November KS1, 8th December KS2, 12th January KS1, 26th January KS2, 9th February KS1, 2nd March KS2, 16th March KS1, 30th March KS2.

If you are not sure if you have given signed consent for your child to meet with Bodhi then please speak to your child's teacher. Thank you

Free Parent Webinar on Building a Resilient Family

Please find details below of a free webinar hosted by Role Models and Presented by Laura Kay - Head of Character Education at Role Models.

Topic: How to Build a Resilient Family When: 29th November 2022 @ 07:30 PM

A 45-minute webinar followed by Q&A, exploring how to build a resilient family in the modern world. Ideas shared are relevant for parents of children of all ages.

What you'll learn:

- Why resilience is such an important skill to foster in your family in 2022.
- What it means to be resilient.
- Ways to develop resilience.
- How embedding resilience can support your family.

Register in advance for this 45-minute webinar: [Register Here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about how to join the webinar.

Supporting us - supporting your child

As parents and carers you send your children to us to be educated and to prepare them for their future, the world of work and how to behave and act.

You would of course expect us to remind children when their behaviour falls short of what is expected. When a teacher does speak with a child, deals with a child or gives advice, support your child by not allowing them to dwell on that issue. Trust in us is important. Encourage resilience in your child by encouraging them to learn from their experience and to move forward positively. Thank you.

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RHK	Frank
1RJC	Zachary
1KG	Elizabeth
1NH	Sebastian
2BL	Freya Bi
2NT	JJ
3CC	Elena
3LH	Mason
4HB	Clayton
4LM	Thomas
5SM	Oliver
5ST	Krystal
6AC	Olivia
6BF	Willow



**Well Done Readers of the
Week!**

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.

Attendance

The attendance of our children at school has received a massive blow due to the 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. Thank you.

Twitter

Currently we have 79 active followers, a substantial increase from last week. We would love more followers! Parents who have taken the easy steps to follow our account have enjoyed seeing some lovely moments of every day school life captured through this means. In order to follow the school Twitter account please:

1. **Make a request via Twitter AND**
2. **Ensure that you email twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk confirming your personal twitter details so that we can then approve your Twitter request.**

This process ensures our account stays safe. Thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding.

Admissions to Primary Schools - Reception September 2023 - closing date 15th January

The application system opened on 1st November 2022 for September 2023 Reception places. If you/a family member/friend have a child of school age in September 2023, please make sure applications are submitted. The easiest way to apply is online and a link to the online system will be available from 1st November 2022. The closing date for applications is 15th January 2023

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.

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.

www.facebook.com/friendsofstgabriels



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. **BOTH THE LOCAL POLICE AND LOCAL FIRE SERVICE HAVE TOLD US THIS WEEK THAT "IT IS AGAINST THE LAW TO PARK OUTSIDE A SCHOOL ENTRANCE OR IN A WAY THAT BLOCKS EMERGENCY SERVICES". THIS DOES NOT SEEM TO CONCERN SOME PARENTS.**

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.

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.

Sacred Heart - Bonfire Night Friday 4th November

Tickets are on sale at the parish office for Bonfire Night at Sacred Heart on Friday 4th November at 7.00pm. There will be food, games and fireworks, Adults £3 & Children £1. Come along and join us for a fun evening!

Have a sustainable Bonfire Night

Go to a public display

To minimise the impact of multiple bonfires and a scattering of personal fireworks displays, go to a public display - [check out events in Staffordshire](#).

Avoid sky lanterns

Parts of sky lanterns can take more than a year to completely biodegrade and are a big danger to wildlife, so avoid if you can.

Go firework free

The most sustainable way to celebrate is to not use fireworks at all - but if you need your fix, opt for sparklers - they have low impact on air quality and give the desired sparkle.

True colours

To make the vibrant colours in fireworks, lots of harmful toxins are used. If you are having a private display, opt for white fireworks which contain fewer chemicals.

Burn the right materials in bonfires

Don't burn furniture or household rubbish as it can cause pollution and harm health. You can take most of your unwanted waste to your local [home waste recycling centre](#).

Keep it clean

If you see fallen debris at your own firework display or at a public display, once it has cooled down, put it in the bin to keep greenery clean and safe.



Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 8 th November	School Disco - Reception and KS1 4.45pm-5.45pm KS2 6.00pm-7.00pm
Friday 18 th November	Year 2 Mass 9.15am
Sunday 27 th November	Whole school Mass for start of Advent Sacred Heart Church @ 9.00am
Friday 2 nd December	Christmas Fayre 3.30pm-5.00pm more information to follow
Thursday 8 th December	Key Stage 2 Carol Service Sacred Heart Church @ 6.00pm
Tuesday 13 th December	Key Stage 1 Carol Service Sacred Heart Church @ 6.00pm
Friday 16 th December	Whole School Mass for end of term (led by Year 5) 9.15am Break up for Christmas holidays 3.20pm
Tuesday 3 rd January	Pupils and Staff return to school

May the souls of all the Faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.
Amen.

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher