

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

Mrs Louise Morgan

Sadly and very unexpectedly, Mrs Morgan has been diagnosed with a form of breast cancer.

This has only been confirmed very recently.

Mrs Morgan will be starting chemotherapy as soon as possible.

This will be a big shock for you all, as it is for us.

Parents in 4LM have been contacted separately, by email this morning.

Mrs Morgan is a fighter and she, her family and medical team expect to defeat this condition.

Please keep Mrs Morgan and her family in your thoughts and prayers at this very challenging time.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER TAKE A TEST AS A RESULT OF COVID SYMPTOMS, WHICH ARE:

- A HIGH TEMPERATURE (FEVER) - HOT TO TOUCH
- A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH
- A CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

YOU MUST SELF-ISOLATE AND STAY AT HOME, AS A HOUSEHOLD, UNTIL YOU RECEIVE YOUR RESULTS.

PLEASE NOTIFY SCHOOL (USING THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW) OF YOUR RESULTS, EITHER WAY, TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OTHERS IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

confirmedcovidcase@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

KEY INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROLS REMAIN IN PLACE as published in the "daily plan". By following these measures we all reduce risks in our setting and create a safer environment.

We MUST always:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
2. Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances.
3. Ensure everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
4. Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
5. Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents.
6. Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
7. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
8. Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary.
9. Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available.
10. Promote and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.
11. Manage and report confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.
12. Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Parents/Carers Mask Wearing

Thank you to all those parents and carers who continue to wear a mask when coming on to the school grounds. This is to protect yourselves and to protect others. Thank you.

Tamworth Library is now open for browsing.

Tamworth Library is now open for browsing. Opening hours are 10am-4pm weekdays and 9am-1pm on Saturdays for now, but families can now come in to choose their own books. The Library is also offering a range of "Reading Well" books which support children's mental health and wellbeing. Glascote Library is currently open Mondays and Thursday 10am-12, and Wilnecote Library is offering a doorstep service on Mondays and Wednesdays 4pm-5.30pm.

You can stay up to date by visiting [COVID-19 restrictions and what it means for libraries - Staffordshire County Council](#).

Cafod Live Assembly - Eyes of the World

Along with schools across the country, we joined the Cafod Live Assembly today - Eyes of the World - to find out more about how we can come together to help tackle the climate crisis. If you would like to find more about Cafod's Eyes of the World campaign then please visit [Primary school assemblies | CAFOD](#)



Cafod Children's Liturgy

Cafod continue to share a live Children's Liturgy each Sunday at 10am. The Liturgy can be watched live or as a recording later on. The sessions are a great way to engage with the Sunday Gospel and feature songs, prayer, readings and quizzes! Find out more and sign up to take part [CAFOD](#)

Vocations Sunday - 25th April 2021

This Sunday is Vocations Sunday also known as Good Shepherd Sunday. It is a day which reminds all of us, in the family of God, that each of us is called to holiness and to exemplify the values of our faith lived out through our own vocation - whatever that vocation may be. Our VOCATION or CALLING is an invitation from God that begins from our Baptismal Vocation. This Sunday, especially, we are asked to pray for vocations to Holy Orders (the priesthood and diaconate) and to the religious life - while encouraging all who are discerning their vocation to pray more earnestly that they may hear and respond to God's call.

This summer The Archdiocese of Birmingham is looking forward to the diaconal ordination of two seminarians, Toby Duckworth and Steven Fleming. Toby visited St. Gabriel's a couple of years ago and worked with some of our pupils. Please keep them in your prayers.

Prayer for Vocations Sunday

God our Father,
you call each of us to follow Jesus, your Son,
on the path he has marked out for us -
the way of charity, service and fulfilment.

May the homes and parishes
of the Archdiocese of Birmingham
be blessed with ever-renewed dedication
to the work of building up your kingdom here on earth.

May those whom you call
to the priesthood, diaconate and religious life
faithfully give themselves
to the service of your Church.

Prompted and strengthened by your Holy Spirit,
may I respond generously to the call
to follow you each day and live out my vocation,
to give you glory, for the good of those around me
and for my own happiness.

We ask this through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

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 or grass verges 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. Local Community Wardens and PCSO's continue to operate locally and will issue tickets where appropriate. Thank you.

Walking Bus from Morrisons

WOULD YOU COMMIT TO BRINGING YOUR CHILD/CHILDREN TO SCHOOL FROM A DESIGNATED SPACE AT THE LOCAL MORRISONS?

The meet up, route and process would all be risk assessed and checked by Staffordshire County Council. With summer, and hopefully better weather arriving it would be a great start and end to the day and a chance to stretch your legs.

It would obviously mean reducing the number of vehicles around the school.

If you are interested in taking part would you please e-mail to say you would use it?

If you were interested in volunteering to help out with running the scheme, with assistance from the County Council, then please make that clear in your email.

With thanks to Mrs Fleurat, for her initial suggestion and support with this idea.

So far 6 parents have committed. Is there anyone else?

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.

Appointments

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

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Message from the Kitchen

The school lunch menu for the week commencing Monday 26th April 2021 is as follows:

Monday: Pizza

Tuesday: Hot Dog and Wedges

Wednesday: Meatballs and Rice

Thursday: Roast Dinner

Friday: Fish Fingers and Chips

Operation Encompass

Operation Encompass is an information sharing partnership between Staffordshire Police and Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent educational settings (from Reception through to Higher Education) which allows schools to offer immediate support for children and young people experiencing domestic abuse.

The letter sent previously has further details and information about this new cross - partnership initiative.

Staffing

On-going self-isolation for staff due to their own need or needs of family members means there is a reality of us not having a full work force.

We are therefore running with less than a full staff team at this time, this week 2 members of staff have been unable to attend work.

Lateral Flow Testing for staff in primary schools means there is the chance, at short notice, of disruption to planned lessons or the need for bubble closures.

PLEASE DO HAVE A PLAN B IN PLACE FOR CARE OF YOUR CHILD IF CLASSES HAVE TO CLOSE AT SHORT NOTICE!

We appreciate your understanding of this matter. Thank you.

Catholic Parish of St. John the Baptist

You have a vibrant and active Catholic parish in Tamworth. If you are not aware please explore it at their website at www.tamworthrc.church

Please find below links from the parish for the booking of Mass, the weekly bulletin, the livestreamed Mass and Children Liturgy.

- Please book your attendance at masses through <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-john-the-baptist-catholic-church-tamworth-30528677234>
- The bulletin can be found here: <https://parish.tamworthrc.church/>
- Our link for the livestreamed Mass and Children's liturgy can be found on the You Tube channel here <http://www.youtube.com/c/StJohntheBaptistTamworth>

Help and Support

Any parent finding themselves struggling or in great difficulty with housing or finance, please approach us, in confidence. We may not have the answers but we may be able to signpost or help.

If you do not approach us, we cannot help, so please be assured of confidentiality in approaching us! We have been able to support a number of families previously and are ready to continue to try to do so.

Tamworth Telephone Support Line - Community Together CIC

This is just a reminder to let you know that Community Together CIC are continuing to provide support. **Tamworth Telephone Support Line 01827 59646**

The support line is there for anyone and can connect people and give people access to a wide range of support including -

- Access to Food
- People struggling for medication pick ups
- Befriending / Check in calls
- Activity Packs
- Unemployment support
- Debt/Finance/Benefits
- Support with Home
- Energy

Tamworth Hygiene Bank

Tamworth Hygiene Bank is a charity that offers support to families that find themselves unable to afford everyday hygiene products e.g. sanitary products, deodorants and shampoos etc.

They achieve this by putting together bespoke packages for whole families or individuals. This is facilitated by working alongside schools and other organisations without the need for them to know any details other than how many people are in a family and their ages.

They are completely funded by donated products and currently have drop off points at the Sacred Heart Church and Boots at Ventura. We now have a donation box in the school's main entrance, should you find yourself in a position to be able to donate hygiene products.

The charity have provided school with an assorted box of hygiene products that are available for anyone that might need them.

Should you wish to access this service or if we can help out with something from the assorted box, please give Mrs McKay a call.

The charity also have a Facebook page; Hygiene Bank Tamworth should you wish to find out more or to message them directly.

The Heart of Tamworth Community Shop as seen at www.tamworthrc.church

Visit the HOT COMMUNITY SHOP based at sacred heart church for your shopping. They are there to give a helping hand to those who need it.

1 bag of shopping = £4

2 bags of shopping = £7

A selection of fruit and veg is available free when you buy your bag.

Opening times: Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm, Saturday 10am - 1pm,

Sunday - closed

Thank you to all those who continue to donate food and hygiene items.

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia - EU Settlement Scheme

Citizen's Advice Mid Mercia are working alongside the Government in order to reach out to all of the families in Tamworth and East Staffordshire to support them with their EU Settled Status. The Government has recognised that not all families are aware that they need to ensure they have been granted settled or pre-settled status by the end of June 2021.

Dates for your Diary

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|----------------------------------|--|
| Tues 4 th May 2021 | Sacrament of Reconciliation - First Confession Sacred Heart Church 6.00pm Miss Caswell's class bubble 7.00pm Mrs Holmes' class bubble |
| Sat 15 th May 2021 | Sacrament of First Holy Communion Sacred Heart Church 10.00am Miss Caswell's class bubble 12 noon Mrs Holmes' class bubble |
| Thurs 1 st July 2021 | Sacrament of Confirmation - Mr Fowler's class bubble 7.00pm Sacred Heart Church |
| Friday 2 nd July 2021 | Sacrament of Confirmation - Mrs Taggart's class bubble 7.00pm Sacred Heart Church |

"Everyone should look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others." EPHESIANS 4:32

God Bless

Yours sincerely



John P Hayes
Headteacher