

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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30<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

## **Whole School Mass - tomorrow, Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March @ 9.15am**

Parents and carers are invited to come in for celebration of Holy Mass, led by Year 4, tomorrow morning from 9.15am in the school hall.

## **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.



## **One Life Music - Open for Lent**



During Lent, the children have been watching One Life Music's daily 'Open for Lent.' Open for Lent is a short daily burst of prayer, song and reflection on a reading from the Bible.

Open for Lent continues for the first four days of Holy Week (next week) - If you would like to access the daily sessions with your child/ren you can do so by clicking on the links below:

[Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April](#)

[Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April](#)

[Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April](#)

[Holy Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April](#)



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 94.48% (5/9/22-24/03/23)

R - 92.68%                      Y3 - 95.62%                      Y6 - 95.17%

Y1 - 92.33%                      Y4 - 95.01%

Y2 - 94.83%                      Y5 - 95.05%

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	Noah
RAD	Harry
1KG	Tommy
1NH	Avalon
2BL	Kaia
2NT	James
3CC	Lucas
3LH	Liam
4HB	Jacob
4LM	Hollie
5SM	Mark
5ST	Alex
6AC	Oliver
6BF	Theo



Well Done Readers of the  
Week!

## 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.



## 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.

## 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](mailto: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 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Mass - Whole school led by y4 9.15am Break up for Easter holidays
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Sunday
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	School reopens for children and staff
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	BANK HOLIDAY - May Day
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	BANK HOLIDAY - King's Coronation
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May to Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 SATS - <b>Y6 pupils must be in school each morning to take their tests</b>
Saturday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	First Holy Communion Masses 10.00am Miss Caswell's class 12noon Miss O'Hanlon's/Miss Allen's class
Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> May to Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	LAUDATO SI WEEK "Hope for the Earth, hope for humanity"
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	School reopens for children and staff
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	Sacrament of Confirmation - Sacred Heart @ 7pm
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Mass for end of term and end of school year. Children finish for Summer

**Mass and Service times for Holy week and Easter**

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> April- Penance Service 7.00pm - 7 priests Sacred Heart

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April- Maundy Thursday 7.30pm- St John's

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April- Good Friday 3.00pm both Churches

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April- Swieconka (Blessing of Polish Food) 11.00am Sacred Heart

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> April Easter Vigil Sacred Heart- 8.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY- 9.00am Easter Day Mass at Sacred Heart

10.30am Easter Day Mass at St John's

12.00 Noon Easter Day Mass at Sacred Heart

Please note there is no 10.30am Mass or 6.00pm Mass at St John's on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup>

God Bless

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John P Hayes".

John P Hayes  
Headteacher