

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

Wilnecote Lane, Tamworth, B77 2LF Tel: 01827 213910

E-mail: [office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents

Please continue to keep Mrs Hawker in your thoughts and prayers, at this continuing difficult time for her and her family.

**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.**

Please be aware of the wide range of food available from the Heart of Tamworth shop on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church. One generous bag of shopping for £4.00.

## Catholic Virtues

This half term the children and staff at St. Gabriel's will be growing to be **ATTENTIVE** to their experiences and to their vocation; and **DISCERNING** about the choices they make and the effect of these choices.



## Mrs Holmes and Mrs Keeling

Some of you will have noticed that both Mrs Holmes and Mrs Keeling are pregnant. We congratulate them on this wonderful news for them and their families. We wish Mrs Holmes and Mrs Keeling a happy and safe time ahead.

## Y6 Girls Cricket Tournament

Girls from year 6, took part in a cricket tournament last Thursday at Tamworth Cricket Club. Six schools took part in a version of cricket called 'Dynamo Cricket', which is based on the Hundred cricket tournament. The team did very well, winning all four of their games and were awarded first place! A fantastic achievement! Holly, our captain said, "I am so proud of the team and how well they performed; they were so focused and they tried their best and it really showed in the matches."

The team was: Holly M, Maisie S, Ella M, Jasmine G, Cherry E, Daniella P, Erin J, Gracie M, Ava B and Ruby-Louise H.

Many thanks to Mr Birtwistle and Mr Fowler for training the players.



SCHOOL  
MEMBER



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

### **Arts Award Qualifications – Mrs Brown writes**

Congratulations to the following children for gaining Arts Award qualifications. What a fantastic achievement!

**Y6 Bronze Award:** Ella M, Holly M, Ava B, Evie-Mae NL, Ruby-Lou HP, Maisie C and Sienna J.

**Y3 Explore Award:** Ava C, Erin L, Ivy B, Charlie S, Mia E, Jasmine B and Orla NL.

Parents of current Y2 and Y5, please look out for a letter regarding a parent's meeting to enrol onto next years Arts Award Programme. Thank you.

Thanks again to Mrs Brown for organising and arranging this wonderful opportunity

### **Hot Weather**

Now that the weather is warmer please remember to send your child in with a suitable hat to wear at playtimes. Please ensure that on hot/sunny days you apply sun cream **BEFORE YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL**. Do not send children to school with bottles of sun cream. We are not allowed to apply sun cream for children.

Children need to have had their hay fever medication before they come in to school and should bring a water bottle with them. Unless there is a medical reason, children should not be bringing sunglasses into school. Please ensure all belongings are named and labelled.

**Please see weather update from Staffordshire County Council at the end of the newsletter.**

### **Supervision by parents**

It has been brought to our attention that some children are playing, unsupervised on and around the school grounds of a morning. Please be aware that this is potentially a safeguarding issue in regards to accidents and also an opportunity for children to get into trouble. Please consider the danger and ensure you are there and are supervising your children at all times on the way to school and on the school grounds **BEFORE 8.50am**. Thank you.

### **Twitter access**

We would love more followers!

We have a number of parents who have requested to follow us on Twitter. Please ensure that you also email the following address with your twitter details so that we can cross reference twitter account requests and email addresses. This ensures our account stays safe.

Thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding.

twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

### **Family & Community Information Hub**

Please could I draw your attention to the new family and community information section on our website?

This section contains a wealth of current information on community activities from mother and toddler groups to free courses as well as job and training opportunities. It also provides information for parents of children with additional educational needs along with opportunities available to them for example short breaks. There will also be 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, as and when we get it, we will post it.

### Parish Summer Scheme

The Parish Summer Scheme Forms are available at Sacred Heart and St John's, places are going fast. The scheme was oversubscribed last year and some were disappointed not to get a place. Should you wish for your child to attend this year's Summer Scheme please return your forms promptly.

The Summer Scheme is for children currently in Year 2 - Year 7. There is an additional Teen Scheme for any older siblings in Year 8- Year 10. The Summer Scheme starts on the 25<sup>th</sup> July for two weeks.

### 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](http://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.

### Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

|     |           |
|-----|-----------|
| RHK | Sebastian |
| RJC | Jacob     |
| 1KG | Karol     |
| 1NH | Austin    |
| 2JH | Ryder     |
| 2NT | Harper    |
| 3CC | Lola      |
| 3LH | Harry     |
| 4HA | Flynn     |
| 4HB | Vinnie    |
| 5AC | Lucas     |
| 5SG | Lenny     |
| 6BF | Gracie    |
| 6ST | Erin      |



**Well Done Readers of the  
Week!**

**RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2022-2023**

**A NUMBER OF RECEPTION CLASS PLACES REMAIN AVAILABLE AT  
ST GABRIEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2022.**

**IF YOU OR A FAMILY /FRIEND HAVE A SCHOOL AGED CHILD PLEASE  
CONTACT THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO SECURE A  
REMAINING PLACE, IN RECEPTION CLASS (4-5 YEARS), AT THE SCHOOL.**

*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*

### **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.



### **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

## Dates for your Diary

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> June   | Year 3 Thanksgiving Mass for First Holy Communion 9.15am   |
| Mon 27 <sup>th</sup> June   | INSET DAY 5 - School closed to pupils  |
| Weds 29 <sup>th</sup> June  | Polesworth School Open Evening 6.00pm-8.00pm   |
| Thurs 30 <sup>th</sup> June | Sports Day Key Stage 2 @ 9.15am Parents very welcome to attend<br>Key Stage 1 @ 1.15pm School field, weather permitting!                                 |
| Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> July    | Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright @<br>Sacred Heart Church 7.00pm  |
| Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> July   | St. Francis of Assisi New Parents Meeting 6.00pm-7.30pm  |
| Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> July    | Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass for Sacrament of Confirmation 9.15am<br>Year 5 to St. Francis of Assisi, Aldridge - Curriculum taster day<br>Various activities |
| Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> July   | School Mass for end of school year - Led by Year 6   |
| Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> July  | Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Parents welcome 9.15am<br>Year 6 Leavers Party   |
| Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> July  | Final day of school<br>3.30pm Commonwealth Torch @ Sacred Heart - celebration event<br>Re: Commonwealth Games  |

"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord. Anyone who eats the bread will live for ever. Alleluia."

God Bless

Yours sincerely

*John P Hayes*

John P Hayes  
Headteacher



**15 June 2022**

## **Feeling hot, hot, hot?**

Temperatures rising in Staffordshire, peaking on Friday

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### **Weather Summary**

What's that weird glowing thing hanging in the air? That would be the sun, Timmy. It is a rare and wonderful thing.

Temperatures have been steadily rising throughout the week, and are due to peak on Friday when the mercury could hit as high as 30C in some areas of the county.

Although the [Met Office](#) hasn't yet issued any weather warnings or alerts for Staffordshire--mainly because the really hot weather will only last a day or so--high temperatures can still be uncomfortable and cause issues especially for those who are vulnerable.

We have also put out a warning to urge people not to cool off by swimming unsupervised in open water. Even the strongest swimmers can get themselves into difficulty due to the sudden change between air and water temperature, and hidden hazards beneath the water.

Instead, click on the button below for advice from the NHS on how to stay cool in hot weather.

[Staying Cool in Hot Weather](#)

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### **There's always a catch...**

With the rise, comes the inevitable fall.

Latest weather modelling shows we're in for a sharp fall in temperatures from Saturday, which is also likely to bring rain or thundery showers before turning drier. There is a possibility that the heat will persist into Saturday, but by Sunday there will be a noticeable drop. Short and sweet.

