

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers

## Julie Martin - Rest in Peace

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Julie Martin aged 11, a former pupil who was attending St. Elizabeth's (in Year 6) and who died on Good Friday. Please pray for her sister Emily. To Mr and Mrs Martin and the wider family we pass on our sympathy and condolences at their huge loss. May Julie rest in peace.

Julie's funeral Mass will take place at 12 noon on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> May at Sacred Heart Church. This will be followed by a cremation at Lichfield and District Crematorium at 1.30pm.

## Whole School Mass - tomorrow, Friday 21<sup>st</sup> April @ 9.15am

Parents and carers are invited to come in for celebration of Holy Mass, led by Year 5, tomorrow morning from 9.15am in the school hall.

## Catholic Virtues

Our Gospel Virtues for this half term are Curious and Active: **Curious** about everything; and **active** in our engagement with the world, changing what we can for the better.



## Athletics County Finals - Staffordshire and Stoke County School Games 2023

A huge congratulations to the 5/6 indoor athletics team, who are county champions after winning the School Games tournament on Tuesday in Stoke-on-Trent. Ten schools took part, as district winners, from around the county and the team did incredibly well winning by two points. This is the first time the school has won this competition so the children should be very proud of their efforts. Our captain, Inez said, "I think that the team deserves this win because they tried their hardest and even if they fell down they got back up and tried even harder." Many thanks to Mr Fowler and Mr Birtwistle for training the children and Mrs Hanrahan for helping to supervise the children at the event.

The team was: Inez, Izzy, Amelia, Tymek, Seraphine, Lucas, Sam E, Dawid, Faith, Eleanor, Dominika, Lola, Ruby, Lenny, Oskar, Jake B, Joel, Haitham, Jake S, Ronnine, Ella, Celeste, Nikola, Maja and Sam B.



SCHOOL  
MEMBER



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

## Friends of St. Gabriel's - Summer Fayre Planning Meeting

The Friends of St. Gabriel's wish to invite any parents along to our meeting after school on Friday 28th April at 3.30pm. This is to begin planning our school Summer Fayre. Thank you.

### 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 94.45% (5/9/22-14/04/23)

R - 92.67%	Y3 - 95.52%	Y6 - 94.99%
Y1 - 92.34%	Y4 - 95.11%	
Y2 - 94.93%	Y5 - 94.98%	

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	Daisy
RAD	Evie
1KG	Lulu
1NH	Florence
2BL	Alicja
2NT	Macie
3CC	Elena
3LH	Louie S
4HB	Lucas
4LM	Harriet
5SM	James
5ST	David
6AC	Brayden
6BF	Logan



Well Done Readers of the  
Week!

## **Parking**

Local Councillor Paul Thompson and a representative of the local police team visited school on Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup>. Developments are expected as a result.

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.

## **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.

### Mr Jeff Orme - Janitor

The school janitor, Mr Orme, is retiring at the end of next week. Mr Orme has been our school janitor for 13 years. We thank him for his work in the school over the years. We wish Mr Orme health and happiness in his retirement.

### Dates for your Diary

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

Alleluia, alleluia!

Christ is risen.

Jesus said "You believe because you can see me.

Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe!"

Alleluia!

God Bless

Yours sincerely



John P Hayes  
Headteacher