

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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

E-mail: office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

Website: www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers

Note for Parents on Social Networking Sites

As we all know, social networking sites such as 'Facebook' and 'Whatsapp' are widely used and enjoyed by the majority of parents and older children. However, sometimes these sites are used to publicly discuss matters which may include personal disagreements between pupils at the School or for parents to vent frustration about school matters.

You may not be aware that comments made on Social Networking Sites about individuals can be considered to be 'defamatory' and lead to the onset of legal action being taken against those who made them, therefore I feel it is important to remind users of Social Networking Sites to bear this in mind before posting comments.

Social Networking Sites are not as 'private' as we might like to think and careless or inconsiderate use of these sites can cause unnecessary distress to the individual concerned, or have an adverse impact on the School in general, or both and this is something the School seeks to avoid.

The school works hard to create a safe and happy environment for its staff and pupils and should any parent have concerns about either their child, or the School in general, I would urge them to contact the School.

Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Catholic Virtues

This half term's Virtues are **Intentional and Prophetic**. This children and staff at St. Gabriel's will be growing to be intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and prophetic in the example they set to others.



SCHOOL
MEMBER



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

Reception September 2023

A number of reception places for our September 2023 remain available.

If you know of a family member or friend recently moved into the area, please ask them to make contact with us.

Heart of Tamworth Firewalk Fundraiser - Saturday 24th June

HoT Firewalk is a 5 metre sponsored walk. The only catch is it's on hot coals! It's on June 24th at Sacred Heart for the Heart of Tamworth Charity. They need 100 people, please email margaret@heartoftamworth.org if you want to know more.

Stay up to date with all parish matters by searching "Catholic Tamworth" or at <https://www.tamworthrc.church>

St. Gabriel's Firewalkers

Miss Townsley, Miss Cunningham, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Brindley have bravely decided to take on the firewalk challenge, on Saturday 24th June 2023.

The firewalk is being held to raise much needed funds for the work of Heart of Tamworth. Please consider sponsoring our team if you are able to - any donation, no matter how small, will be very much appreciated. Donations can be made through the Just Giving page:

[St.Gabriel's Firewalkers - Just Giving](#)

CAFOD Assembly - Young People Demand Change



We welcomed our local CAFOD volunteer, Barbara, back into school this week to share with KS2 a 'Young People Demand Change' assembly.

During the assembly, the children learnt about how working together can make a change in the world and how we can put Catholic Social Teaching into action by showing solidarity with our global neighbours.

The children reflected on Pope Francis's words: "We all need each other, none of us is an island. And we can only build the future by everyone standing together" and prayed:

Loving God,

Make us wise to know when things aren't right,

Make us brave to speak out when things are unfair,

Make us open to our whole global family, so we can work together for everyone to have what they need to live life to the full.

Amen

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 94.69% (5/9/22-2/6/23)

R - 92.95%

Y3 - 95.75%

Y6 - 94.68%

Y1 - 92.92%

Y4 - 95.16%

Y2 - 95.46%

Y5 - 95.30%

Attendance overall, as shown above, is slowly creeping upwards.

We need to improve the attendance of our pupils, particularly our youngest pupils. Thank you.

Parking

Local Councillor Paul Thompson and a representative of the local police team visited school on Thursday March 30th. 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.

Enrichment Activities and Attendance

It is really encouraging to see the amount of enrichment activities the children are attending at weekends and evenings and this is something that we actively encourage for every child. However, we are noticing more and more that after these activities, children are not attending school because they are over-tired.

Whilst we fully appreciate that children will be tired, it is important to ensure that their attendance at school is not affected. Additionally, it is an ideal opportunity to build resilience, as we all recognise that there are things we need to do, as adults, even when we are over-tired!

I would really appreciate your support and understanding with this issue.

Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RJC	Owen
RAD	Harrison
1KG	Nina
1NH	Mia
2BL	Konrad
2NT	Robbie
3CC	Caleb
3LH	Niamh
4HB	Tommy
4LM	Jasmine
5SM	Haitham
5ST	Ella
6AC	Connor
6BF	Zion



**Well Done Readers of the
Week!**

Summer Fayre - Message from the Friends of St. Gabriel's

We will be running a second hand uniform stall at this year's Summer Fayre. We will need donations of unwanted uniform from parents to sell on. This will be a chance for parents to get rid of their unwanted items and in turn, get some uniform at a fraction of the price of buying it new.. If you have any spare uniform please consider donating it. The blue bin is now outside School reception after half term for any donations. Thank you.

Please join their Facebook page and keep up to date with events being run by the Friends of St. Gabriel's [HERE](#)



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

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

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

Mon 5 th June	2 week window opens for year 4 Multiplications Tables Check
Mon 12 th June	Year 6 Confirmation Parents - Catechesis session at Sacred Heart Church 7.15pm-8.30pm
Mon 19 th June	Vocations Week
Weds 21 st June	Parent meeting for Reception September 2023 intake @ 9.30am
Thurs 22 nd June	SPORTS DAY KS2 9.15am-11.45am KS1 1.15pm-3.00pm
Sat 24 th June	Firewalk Event at Sacred Heart from 10.00am onwards
Tues 27 th June	Sacrament of Confirmation - Sacred Heart @ 7pm
Thurs 20 th July	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9.15am - Parents welcome to attend
Fri 21 st July	Mass for end of term and end of school year. Children finish for Summer

"O Sacred Heart of Jesus, I place all my trust in Thee."

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes
Headteacher