

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Volume 15 Number 16

Dear Parents and carers

## **BELGRAVE CLUB PARKING - IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Please note the following changes to parking arrangements at Belgrave Club.

- **ANY PARKING PASSES ISSUED BY SCHOOL ARE NO LONGER VALID**
- ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) will be in operation controlled by Parkingeye
- Unfortunately, at this stage, we have not been provided with any other information regarding the new terms and conditions
- Any parents/carers choosing to park at Belgrave Club are strongly encouraged to check parking terms and conditions directly with the Club

## **Sacred Heart Church**

Keep up to date with what's going on in your parish [HERE](#)

## **Winter**

Please be aware that at times the ground, playground and surrounding footpaths can be very icy. Please do remind the children to take care coming to and leaving school. **Parents and Carers are reminded to keep to the gritted footpaths around the perimeter of the school building at all times.**



It is imperative that pedestrians do not walk across the car park at any time. During icy weather the footpaths are gritted for your safety. Thank you

## **Emergency Closures**

If for any reason the school has to close due to adverse weather, a text message will be sent to all parents and the county council website page for school closures will be updated.

[Staffordshire School Closures](#)

[St Gabriel's School Closure Procedure](#)



SCHOOL  
MEMBER



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

### **Coats**

Can I ask all parents and carers to make sure your child brings a coat to school?

The weather has been very cold. The number of children without coats in school at times is shocking. THANK YOU IN ANTICIPATION OF YOUR CO OPERATION WITH THIS MATTER.

### **Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights**

The Families' Health and Wellbeing service will be in school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 from 9.30am to deliver the National Child Measurement Programme.

Parents and carers of Reception and Year 6 pupils were emailed on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January with full details. If you do not want your child to take part you MUST opt out. Thank you.

### **Big Garden Birdwatch 2024**

During the weekend of 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> January 2024 the RSPB will be holding their annual Big Garden Birdwatch - and you can take part! All you need to do is to spend an hour counting the birds you see in your garden and then tell the RSPB what you have seen.

Taking part in the Big Garden Birdwatch helps the RSPB to build up a national picture of our garden bird population.

It is open to experienced twitchers and absolute beginners! If you would like to sign up please see [HERE](#)



### **Online safety**

The school has become aware that some children are taking part in various online challenges that are promoted or circulated on social media such as Instagram and TikTok. These usually involve people recording themselves doing something difficult or silly, which they share online and encourage others to repeat. Whilst some of these challenges are harmless, many of them are considered to be dangerous and can cause risks to individuals mental and physical health. Please do talk to your child about this and remind them that anything online that asks them to perform tasks or challenges maybe not be the best thing for them to do; they should always ask permission from a parent or guardian before acting on anything they see online.

For more information see [Internet Matters - Online Challenges](#) OR [Childnet](#)

### **Twitter**

IF YOU HAVE NOT TAKEN A LOOK YET, DO PLEASE VIEW @GabrielsPrimary on X formerly Twitter for a range of moments capturing school life. We currently have 180 followers. If you have a phone please follow us. Thank you.

### **Help and Support**

If any family member is ever at the point of crisis, money worries or otherwise, ALWAYS BE BRAVE AND REACH OUT TO US. We will always try to help by signposting to the correct services. Where food provision is a worry - TELL US - we will always try to help.

We will always aim to help you in a DIGNIFIED and CONFIDENTIAL way. Thank you, Mr Hayes.

### Hygiene Bank NOW AVAILABLE in School

We are now regularly supplied, by Tamworth Hygiene Bank, with personal hygiene products and some household cleaning products. If you would like to make use of this valuable resource in the current economic climate, just give the office a call IN COMPLETE CONFIDENCE to arrange a time to call in and take whatever you need. All we ask is that you bring your own carrier bag.

### FAMILY PRACTITIONER SERVICE PARENT SUPPORT

The Family Practitioner Service is currently taking referrals from schools for the following support sessions they are running: -

- **Teen Parenting Programme** - this is a six-week programme for parents and carers of 11-17 years old. It covers communication, home rules, safety, peer pressure and how to manage challenging situation. A course started on the 10<sup>th</sup> January but, there will be further courses running.
- **Young Parents Support Group** - over an 8-week rolling cycle a range of topics will be explored to help teenage and first-time parents including; child development, sleep routines, feeding and weaning, play and interaction, childhood immunisations and health, financial advice and budgeting and looking after yourself. Babies and toddlers are welcome at these sessions. This currently runs every Wednesday afternoon from 12.30 - 2.30 pm

Please contact Mrs McKay in school if you are interested in any of these courses.

### Struggling with energy debt?

Individuals and families can apply for grants to clear domestic gas and electricity debts. Before applying to the Trust you must get money or debt advice first. The British Gas Energy Trust would encourage you to contact your local Money Advice Agency for help before applying for a grant. If you get advice, this will help your chances of a successful grant application.

Click [here](#) to find your local advice centre or find online debt and money information at [turn2us](#), [Step Change](#) and [Citizens Advice](#).

Criteria that must be met to be eligible:

- Have energy debt up to £2,000 and have a credit energy account OR use a Pre-Payment Meter in your main residence and the energy account must be in the name of the applicant
- You live in England, Scotland, or Wales
- You have not received a grant from the British Gas Energy Trust within the last 2 years
- You must be seeking a grant to clear an outstanding debt on a current or open gas, electricity or dual fuel energy account in your name and the energy account must relate to your main residence. If your application is successful, your energy account will be credited with the grant. Please note the British Gas Energy Trust does not award cash payments
- You have electric and/or gas debt
- You must be in or facing Fuel Poverty
- You have received help from a money advice agency

## Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RJC	Alex
RHK/AD	Victoria
1KG	Darci-Blue
1NH	Ellie
2LG	Kuba
2NT	Imogen
3CC	Catherine
3SO	Anthony
4HB	Jack
4LM	Rosa
5VN	Gwen
5SM	Hollie - Grace
6AC	Tia
6BF	J'Ron



**Well Done Readers of the Week!**

## Catholic Virtues - COMPASSIONATE and LOVING

This half term, the children and staff at St. Gabriel's are growing to be Compassionate and Loving.

Pupils are growing to be compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.



## Parking

The council have now placed wooden posts on the grass verge on the side of Wilnecote Lane to prevent parking there.

You will also note that Staffordshire Police have provided us with some signage to encourage parents and carers not to park on or block Wilnecote Lane and the school driveway.

- Please continue to be aware of the need to park responsibly in the local area and around the school. 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 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.

We have received complaints from several businesses situated on the Seaton Industrial Estate: "Over the past several months, we have noticed an increase in parents parking their vehicles on our industrial estate while dropping off or picking up their children from St Gabriel's School. While we understand the importance of ensuring the safety of students, the overflow of vehicles onto our property has become a persistent problem. This unauthorized parking disrupts our daily operations in several ways:

1. *Restricted Access:* Parents' vehicles block access to our service entrances and parking spaces designated for our employees and clients. This impedes the timely delivery and shipment of goods, leading to delays in production and customer service.
2. *Safety Hazards:* The additional traffic and congestion caused by parked vehicles on our estate create safety hazards for both pedestrians and drivers. This jeopardizes the well-being of our employees and visitors.
3. *Business Disruption:* The disruptions to our operations have a negative impact on our productivity, and it also reflects poorly on our reputation when we are unable to meet our commitments to clients due to these parking issues."

**Please do not park on the Industrial Estate.**

Local councillors continue to be involved and taking an active interest because of irresponsible driving behaviour by a small minority. Thank you to the majority of our parents and carers who continue to park lawfully and sensibly.

### **Dates for your Diary**

#### **January**

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights - Please see email from 10.1

#### **February**

Sun 4<sup>th</sup> Sacred Heart School Led Mass 9.00am

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> PARENTS EVENING 3.40pm-6.30pm

Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> PARENTS EVENING 3.40pm-6.30pm

Fri 9<sup>th</sup> School closes for half term 3.20pm

Weds 14<sup>th</sup> Ash Wednesday - MARKS START OF LENT

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> School re opens for all 8.50am

#### **March**

Weds 6<sup>th</sup> SACRAMENT OF FIRST CONFESSION - Sacred Heart 6.00pm

Thurs 21<sup>st</sup> Tempest Photography - Reception and Y6 Vista (Year Group) photos

Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> Mass for End of Term in School Hall 9.15am.

**NOTE school closes at 1.30pm by decision of School Governing Body**

Sun 24<sup>th</sup> PALM SUNDAY

Sun 31<sup>st</sup> EASTER SUNDAY

#### **April**

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> School re opens for all 8.50am

Mon 29<sup>th</sup> INSET DAY 3 SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

#### **May**

Mon 13<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> } KS2 SATS - ALL Y6 PUPILS MUST BE IN SCHOOL FOR EACH OF THE 4 MORNINGS

Sat 18<sup>th</sup> SACRAMENT OF FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Fri 24<sup>th</sup> School closes for HALF TERM 3.20pm

## June

Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> School re opens for all 8.50am  
Sun 9<sup>th</sup> Parish SUMMER FAYRE at Sacred Heart  
Weds 19<sup>th</sup> Tempest Photography - individual, family and Pre School photos  
Mon 24<sup>th</sup> INSET DAY 4 - School closed for join training with Tamworth and Lichfield Catholic Schools

## July

Tues 2<sup>nd</sup> SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION - Sacred Heart 7.00pm led by Canon Paul McNally  
Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Mass for end of school year  
**NOTE school closes at 1.30pm by decision of School Governing Body**  
Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> INSET DAY 5 - SCHOOL CLOSED TO PUPILS

And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you into fishers of men."  
And at one they left their nets and followed him. Mark 1:17

"To always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan" Blessed Carlos Acutis

God Bless

Yours sincerely

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

John P Hayes  
Headteacher