

Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL PARENTS FROM THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE EASTER BREAK

Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, that is after 3.30 pm on Saturday 3rd April, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, that is up to Wednesday 7th April, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school (that is becoming ill on the Thursday evening, Friday or Saturday up to 3.30pm) all schools have been asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school. Parents will do this by using the confirmed Covid case e mail available via the Home page on the school website. As previously Mr Hayes, Mr Bright and Mrs Taggart will have these e-mails forwarded directly to themselves. Thank you for your continued support in sending this information to protect others.

IF YOU OR A FAMILY MEMBER TAKE A TEST AS A RESULT OF COVID SYMPTOMS, WHICH ARE:

- A HIGH TEMPERATURE (FEVER) - HOT TO TOUCH
- A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH
- A CHANGE TO YOUR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

YOU MUST SELF-ISOLATE AND STAY AT HOME, AS A HOUSEHOLD, UNTIL YOU RECEIVE YOUR RESULTS.

PLEASE NOTIFY SCHOOL (USING THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW) OF YOUR RESULTS, EITHER WAY, TO PROTECT THE SAFETY OF OTHERS IN OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY.

confirmedcovidcase@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk



SCHOOL
MEMBER

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

KEY INFECTION AND PREVENTION CONTROLS REMAIN IN PLACE as published in the "daily plan". By following these measures we all reduce risks in our setting and create a safer environment.

We MUST always:

1. Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
2. Ensure face coverings are used in recommended circumstances.
3. Ensure everyone is advised to clean their hands thoroughly and more often than usual.
4. Ensure good respiratory hygiene for everyone by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
5. Maintain enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often using standard products, such as detergents.
6. Consider how to minimise contact across the site and maintain social distancing wherever possible.
7. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
8. Ensure individuals wear the appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary.
9. Promote and engage in asymptomatic testing, where available.
10. Promote and engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.
11. Manage and report confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.
12. Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Open - Lent Daily Liturgy from One Life Music

Following the success of OPEN - Advent daily liturgy, Dan and Emily, from One Life Music, are back with OPEN - Lent which provides an opportunity in Lent for a few short minutes of prayer and unity as a school community, coming together in faith, in the classroom or from the home.

Open - Lent takes the form of a daily five minute video full of prayer, reflection and music. We have been and will continue to share the videos with the children in school.

Cafod Children's Liturgy

Cafod continue to share a live Children's Liturgy each Sunday at 10am. The Liturgy can be watched live or as a recording later on. The sessions are a great way to engage with the Sunday Gospel and feature songs, prayer, readings and quizzes! You can find out more and sign up to take part at <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy>

Earth Hour 2021 - Saturday 27th March 2021

This Saturday (27th March) is the annual Earth Hour Day! Millions of homes across the world will switch off their non-essential lights for one hour on Saturday 27 March at 8.30pm to show they care about the future of our planet - our shared home. Joining Earth Hour's switch off reminds us that even small actions can make a big difference.

If you would like to get involved with Earth Hour please visit

<https://www.earthhour.org/> and <https://www.wwf.org.uk/earth-hour>

Staffing

Please be aware that the new government guidelines mean some staff are classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. On-going self-isolation for staff due to their own need or needs of family members means there is a reality of us not having a full work force. We are therefore running with less than a full staff team at this time, this week 7 members of staff have been unable to attend work.

The start of Lateral Flow Testing for staff in primary schools means there is the chance, at short notice, of disruption to planned lessons or the need for bubble closures.

PLEASE DO HAVE A PLAN B IN PLACE FOR CARE OF YOUR CHILD IF CLASSES HAVE TO CLOSE AT SHORT NOTICE!

We appreciate your understanding of this matter. Thank you.

Catholic Parish of St. John the Baptist

You have a vibrant and active Catholic parish in Tamworth. If you are not aware please explore it at their website at www.tamworthrc.church

Please find below links from the parish for the booking of Mass, the weekly bulletin, the livestreamed Mass and Children Liturgy.

- Please book your attendance at masses through <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/st-john-the-baptist-catholic-church-tamworth-30528677234>
- The bulletin can be found here: <https://parish.tamworthrc.church/>
- Our link for the livestreamed Mass and Children's liturgy can be found on the You Tube channel here <http://www.youtube.com/c/StJohntheBaptistTamworth>

Wednesday 31st March
At Sacred Heart
Penance Service
7.00 pm (with 7 priests)
(booking not required)

Thursday 1st April
At Saint John's
Maundy Thursday Mass
8.00 pm

Friday 2nd April
Both Churches
Good Friday Service
3.00 pm

Saturday 3rd April
Sacred Heart (outside)
Swieconka (blessing of Polish food)
11.00
(booking not required)

Saturday 3rd April
Sacred Heart
Easter Vigil
8.00 pm

Please note there is no 12 noon or 6.00 pm Mass on Holy Saturday
Please book to attend services via Eventbrite
no booking needed for penance service

St John the Baptist Tamworth
Easter Sunday - 4th April
9.00 Easter Day Mass at both Churches
10.30 Easter Day Mass at both churches
12.00 noon Easter Day Mass at both churches

I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE

Help and Support

Any parent finding themselves struggling or in great difficulty with housing or finance, please approach us, in confidence. We may not have the answers but we may be able to signpost or help.

If you do not approach us, we cannot help, so please be assured of confidentiality in approaching us! We have been able to support a number of families previously and are ready to continue to try to do so.

Tamworth Telephone Support Line - Community Together CIC

This is just a reminder to let you know that Community Together CIC are continuing to provide support. **Tamworth Telephone Support Line 01827 59646**

The support line is there for anyone and can connect people and give people access to a wide range of support including -

- Access to Food
- People struggling for medication pick ups
- Befriending / Check in calls
- Energy
- Activity Packs
- Unemployment support
- Debt/Finance/Benefits
- Support with Home

The Heart of Tamworth Community Shop as seen at www.tamworthrc.church

Visit the new HOT COMMUNITY SHOP based at sacred heart church for your shopping. They are there to give a helping hand to those who need it.

1 bag of shopping = £4

2 bags of shopping = £7

A selection of fruit and veg available free when you buy your bag.

Opening times: Monday - Friday 10am - 3pm, Saturday 10am - 1pm,

Sunday - closed

Thank you to all those who continue to donate food and hygiene items.

Tamworth Hygiene Bank

Tamworth Hygiene Bank is a charity that offers support to families that find themselves unable to afford everyday hygiene products e.g. sanitary products, deodorants and shampoos etc. They achieve this by putting together bespoke packages for whole families or individuals. This is facilitated by working alongside schools and other organisations without the need for them to know any details other than how many people are in a family and their ages. They are completely funded by donated products and currently have drop off points at the Sacred Heart Church and Boots at Ventura. We now have a donation box in the school's main entrance, should you find yourself in a position to be able to donate hygiene products.

The charity have provided school with an assorted box of hygiene products that are available for anyone that might need them. Should you wish to access this service or if we can help out with something from the assorted box, please give Mrs McKay a call.

The charity also have a Facebook page; Hygiene Bank Tamworth should you wish to find out more or to message them directly.

Citizens Advice Mid Mercia - EU Settlement Scheme

Citizen's Advice Mid Mercia are working alongside the Government in order to reach out to all of the families in Tamworth and East Staffordshire to support them with their EU Settled Status. The Government has recognised that not all families are aware that they need to ensure they have been granted settled or pre-settled status by the end of June 2021.

Dates for your Diary

Thursday 1st April 2021

School closes for Easter

Monday 19th April 2021

School reopens to staff and pupils

God Bless

Yours sincerely

John P Hayes

John P Hayes

Headteacher