



## St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

### Newsletter

### Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2024

*With Jesus Christ at the heart of our loving Catholic community*

#### Dates for Diary



**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
End of Term  
School closes at  
1.30pm

#### 2025

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**  
**2025**

Children return to  
school

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**  
**2025**

Break Up for Half Term

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**  
**2025**

INSET Day

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February**  
2025 Children return  
to school

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended our Early Year's Nativity and Key Stage One Carol Services this week. Both events were wonderful ways to listen to the Nativity story and prepare for the coming of Christmas.

Thank you, also, to everyone who has supported our Reversible Advent Calendar. All the many items donated have been delivered to Father Hudson Caritas and Heart of Tamworth for distribution.

Everyone looked suitably Christmassy for our Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day on Wednesday! Children and staff enjoyed a lovely Christmas Dinner and raised over £170 for CAFOD World Gifts. Thank you for all your incredibly generous support.

Christmas Fayre, Nativity, Carol Services, Bambinelli Blessings, Christmas Jumpers, Christmas Dinners, School Masses, Reversible Advent Calendars, CAFOD World Gifts – it has been a busy, but very rewarding end to our Autumn Term. Thank you to everyone – children, parents, staff, volunteers – for all your hard work and support. As always, it is a real pleasure and privilege to spend this time of year with the children, staff and families of our wonderful St Gabriel's school community.

A very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone! We look forward to seeing you all in 2025.

Mr Bright

Headteacher

**Places available for Reception September 2025 and in other Year Groups.** Visits to school are always welcomed and easy to arrange—please contact us to arrange your visit!

01827 213910 [office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk) <https://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk/web>

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#### Mrs Brown

We are very sadly saying goodbye to Mrs Brown – one of our Learning Support Assistants – this week.

Mrs Brown will be greatly missed by us all – she has helped to inspire a love of art in countless numbers of children during her twenty-two years at St Gabriel's

Thank you Mrs Brown for all that you have done – we wish you all the very best for your next exciting chapter.

#### Attendance Superstars!

**Congratulations to class 1KG who are our Attendance Super Stars this Week!**



#### Weekly Attendance

RC	RK	1AP	1KG	2LG	2NH	3LH/VN
85%	85%	89%	97%	86%	92%	89%
3SO/AM	4HB	4JH	5LM	5SM	6AC	6BF
92%	93%	93%	82%	82%	94%	93%



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**Well Done to our Learners of the Week for impressing their teachers with their hard work and fantastic learning behaviours!**

Learners of the Week						
<b>RC</b> <b>Louie</b>	<b>RK</b> <b>Bonnie</b>	<b>1AP</b> <b>Piotr</b>	<b>1KG</b> <b>Kornelia</b>	<b>2LG</b> <b>George</b>	<b>2NH</b> <b>Frank</b>	<b>3LH/VN</b> <b>Harlow</b>
<b>3SO/AM</b> <b>Archie</b>	<b>4HB</b> <b>Libby</b>	<b>4JH</b> <b>Primrose</b>	<b>5LM</b> <b>Kobie</b>	<b>5SM</b> <b>Cian T</b>	<b>6BF</b> <b>Izabela</b>	<b>6AC</b> <b>Poppy</b>

**Our Virtue Stars have been showing us how they are living out the virtues of being Intentional and Prophetic – Very Well Done!**

Virtue Stars of the Week						
<b>RC</b> <b>Charlotte</b>	<b>RK</b> <b>Patrick</b>	<b>1AP</b> <b>Simon</b>	<b>1KG</b> <b>Freya</b>	<b>2LG</b> <b>Ellie</b>	<b>2NH</b> <b>Louis</b>	<b>3LH/VN</b> <b>Georgia</b>
<b>3SO/AM</b> <b>Elizabeth</b>	<b>4HB</b> <b>Evan</b>	<b>4JH</b> <b>Konrad</b>	<b>5LM</b> <b>Fabio</b>	<b>5SM</b> <b>Bentley</b>	<b>6BF</b> <b>Jakub</b>	<b>6AC</b> <b>Wiktor</b>

### House Points

Well done to St Theresa house again  
who earned over 750 house points!



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**A massive thank you from the Mini Vinnies!**

We would like to say a big thank you for all of the donations that you have sent in for Father Hudson's and the Heart of Tamworth.

We will be sending the donations to the charities on Friday.

The donations are going to make a big difference to lots of people. We really appreciate your support.

**Merry Christmas to you all!**

**End of Term Arrangements – Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025 – School  
closes at 1.30pm**

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**Parish News**

Please see below for details of Services over Christmas at Sacred Heart and St John the Baptist churches.

**Christmas 2024**

**St. John the Baptist Parish**

*Serving St. John's & Sacred Heart Churches*

**Christmas Services**

**Christmas Eve Masses (Tuesday 24th December):**

**Family Mass (at both Churches) 4.00pm**

**Mass (at Sacred Heart) 7.00pm**

**Christmas Day Masses (Wednesday 25th December)**

Sacred Heart 9.00 am

St John's 10.30 am

Sacred Heart 12 noon





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**Christmas Jumper Day update**



We would also like to say a big thank you for all of your generous donations on Christmas Jumper day to support CAFOD World Gifts. Together, we have raised an amazing £170. With that money we will be able to purchase more than we had hoped!

We have been able to buy the following items to help transform the lives of families in need:

- A safe place to call home
- Water for a family (we have been able to purchase two!)
- A winter survival kit
- Vegetable garden
- Teach someone to read
- Super soup kitchen

**Track My Read - Helping children to love reading!**

We now have 117 active pupils on Track My Read who have reached an amazing 41,370 minutes read so far - Well Done readers!

If you are having any problems with your log in details please let your child's class teacher know and we can rectify this for you.

For more information on Track My Read visit [www.readforgood.org/track-my-read](http://www.readforgood.org/track-my-read)

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## Sunday Gospel Reflection

### Fourth Sunday of Advent – Luke 1:39 – 35 – The Visitation

This Sunday's Gospel Reading is a reading full of joy and promise.

Mary's joy at greeting Elizabeth. Elizabeth's joy at Mary's news. Even Elizabeth's baby in her womb was so filled with news he leaped with joy!

And all this joy is based on one thing – the promise of the coming of Jesus.

Jesus's birth brings true joy. Joy for everyone and a joy which lasts for ever.



#### PRAYER

#### The Hope of the World

*Beloved Jesus,  
hope of the world,  
in these days shrouded in darkness,  
help us to see your light and let it shine,  
shedding light on the path that leads us to enjoy  
your presence.  
Let the joy of Christmas remain with us always.  
Amen.*



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#### PE Days

Please see below for your child's 'PE Day.' Children should attend school in their PE kit on their PE day.



Reception Coakley	Thursday
Reception Keeling	Friday
Year One	Wednesday
Year Two	Wednesday
Year Three	Tuesday
Year Four	Tuesday
Year Five	Thursday
Year Six	Monday

#### Extra – Curricular Clubs

Please see below for details of current extra- curricular clubs going on a school

**Please note – these are current clubs – information about additional KS1 Clubs coming soon!**

Club	Day
<b>Multi-skills</b> Year 3	Tuesday 8.00am to 8.50am
<b>Multi-skills</b> Year 1	Thursday 8:00am to 8:50am
<b>Choir</b> Key Stage 2	Thursday 3.20pm to 4.15pm
<b>Choir</b> Year 5 and 6	Friday 12.15pm-1.00pm

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<b>Sacramental / Liturgical Dates</b>	
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Y5)
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Y5)
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Mini-Vinnies)
<b>Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025</b>	<b>School Mass at Sacred Heart (9am) (Year of Jubilee)</b>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y4)
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y3)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Ash Wednesday – start of Lent Distribution of Ashes Service in school (Led by Staff)
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	CAFOD Family Fast Day (Lent)
<b>Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025</b>	<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3, Sacred Heart, 6pm)</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March 2025	Mass in School (Whole School – Led by EY, Y1,)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Mass in School (Led by Y2, (Y2, 4, 6)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y6)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Mass in School – Led by Y5
<b>Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2025</b>	<b>First Holy Communion (10am, 12 noon; Sacred Heart)</b>
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y4)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Mass in School Whole School – (Led by Chaplaincy)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Mass in School (Led by EY, Y1, Y2)
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Mass in School – Thanksgiving for Sacraments (Led by Y3 + Y6)
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Mass in School - <u>Whole School (Led by Y6)</u>



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<b><u>Term Dates</u></b>		
<b><u>Autumn Term 2024:</u></b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Tues 3 Sept - Fri 25 Oct</b> <b>Half Term:</b> <b>Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov</b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Mon 4th Nov – Fri 20 Dec</b> <b>Holiday:</b> <b>Mon 23 Dec – Fri 3 Jan</b>	<b><u>Spring Term 2025:</u></b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Mon 6 Jan – Fri 14 Feb</b> <b>Half Term:</b> <b>Mon 17 Feb – Fri 21 Feb</b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Mon 24 Feb – Fri 11 Apr</b> <b>Holiday:</b> <b>Mon 14 Apr – Fri 25 Apr</b>	<b><u>Summer Term 2025:</u></b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Mon 28 Apr – Fri 23 May</b> <b>Half Term:</b> <b>Mon 26 May – Fri 30 May</b> <b>Term time:</b> <b>Mon 2 June – Mon 21 July</b> <b>Holiday:</b> <b>Tues 22rd July – Fri 29th Aug</b>
<b>INSET Days:</b> 02/09/2024, 04/11/2024, 24/02/2025, 23/06/2025, 21/07/2025 <a href="https://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk/term_dates">https://www.st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk/term_dates</a>		

## Community Information

If you need help or support over the festive period please do reach out. You can find a list of useful contacts with information about opening and closing times [HERE](#)



Do you know that we have a hygiene bank in school? Always stocked with toiletries, cleaning products and baby supplies.  
All of our school community are welcome to visit in confidence. Please bring a bag.

We keep the Community Information Hub up to date with a wide range of services, and information. It's well worth a visit. Follow the link [here](#)

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