



St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

Thursday 12th December 2024

With Jesus Christ at the heart of our loving Catholic community

Dates for Diary



Monday 16th December

Early Years Christmas
Nativity

Tuesday 17th December

Key Stage One Carol;
Service (6pm, Sacred
Heart)

Friday 20th December

End of Term

School closes at 1.30pm

Monday 6th January 2025

Children return to school

Friday 14th February 2025

Break Up for Half Term

Monday 24th February 2025

INSET Day

Tuesday 25th February

2025 Children return to
school

Our Virtues this Half Term are Intentional and Prophetic. **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.

Dear Parents and Carers,

We had a fantastic Christmas Fayre last week. Thank you to everyone involved in preparing, supporting and attending on Friday. A very special thank you must go to the 'Friends of St Gabriel's' for all their time, energy and enthusiasm in making our Fayre such a success. It was a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit!

Thank you, also, to everyone who attended our Key Stage Two Carol Service on Tuesday. It was a very prayerful and faith-filled evening. Thank you to all the staff for their hard work preparing the children and children – Well Done – you sang and read beautifully. Thank you for giving us all an opportunity to stop and pause and ready our hearts for the arrival of Jesus. We look forward to our EY Nativity and KS1 Carol Service next week.

On Wednesday (18th), we have our Christmas Dinner and Christmas Jumper Day. Our Mini-Vinnies are hoping to raise money on the 18th to go towards the purchasing of a CAFOD World Gift – all the details are available further into this week's newsletter.

God Bless

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!

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

Attendance Superstars!

**Congratulations to class 6AC who are our Attendance Super Stars this
Week!**



Weekly Attendance

RC	RK	1AP	1KG	2LG	2NH	3LH/VN
84%	79%	91%	88%	92%	85%	89%
3SO/AM	4HB	4JH	5LM	5SM	6AC	6BF
93%	89%	89%	96%	92%	100%	92%



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House Points

Well done to St Joseph house again who earned a record 892 house points!



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

Learners of the Week						
RC Mayson	RK Connie	1AP Anthony	1KG Owen	2LG Janice	2NH Noah	3LH/VN Austin
3SO/AM Zach E	4HB Isabella	4JH Marcel	5LM Caleb	5SM Zoe	6BF Harry C	6AC Riley

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

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Virtue Stars of the Week

RC Oliver D	RK Gabriel	1AP Kevin	1KG Kornelia	2LG Oliver	2NH Harry D	3LH/VN Olivia
3SO/AM Isla-Blue	4HB Mason	4JH Kaiden	5LM Willow	5SM Martha	6BF Aubrey	6AC Rosie



Mini Vinnies News



On Wednesday 18th December 2024, we will be having a Christmas Jumper day. Everyone is encouraged to please donate £1 (if they can) via ParentPay.

The money raised will be donated to CAFOD so we can buy World Gifts.

What are World Gifts?

World Gifts are CAFOD's range of life-changing virtual gifts.

World Gifts are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families and communities living in poverty.

Want to know more, follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqWfe-nfKJc>

We are so lucky to have access to a home, food, water, warm clothes and access to someone helping us to learn how to read.

With the money raised would aim to buy the following items:

CAFOD
WORLD
GIFTS



Top Gift!

Teach someone to read
£10.00



Super soup kitchen
£10.00



Winter survival kit
£30.00



Top Gift!
Water for a family
£33.00



Safe place to call home
£49.00



Vegetable garden
£5.00



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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

Parish Carol Service:

Thurs 12th Dec at 7.30pm at Sacred Heart

Penance Service:

Wednesday 18th Dec - 7pm at Sacred Heart (*with 6 priests*)

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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Track My Read - Helping children to love reading!

We now have 117 active pupils on Track My Read who have reached an amazing 36,060 minutes read so far - Well Done readers!

If we all work together, we could get the 30,000 minutes we need to reach our target in 2 weeks time!

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

Sports Report

Indoor Athletics

We're thrilled to share some fantastic news! Well done to the children in our Year 5/6 indoor athletics team, who discovered today that they clinched victory in a local competition. Competing against seven primary schools, our team finished first, a whopping 38 points ahead of second place! This remarkable achievement means they'll proudly represent Tamworth in the County Finals next term.

Well done to all the children for their hard work!

Reverse Advent Calendar Appeal

"It is the final week of the Reverse Advent calendar. We are overwhelmed with the generous donations. We have been sorting the donations for both charities: the Heart of Tamworth (HoT) and Father Hudson Caritas. With one week to go, please can you keep those donations coming, if you can. Thank you again." Gabriella (Chair of the Mini Vinnies)



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Sunday Gospel Reflection

Third Sunday of Advent – Luke 3:10-18 – Gaudete Sunday

We could all probably do with a bit of extra help when it comes to getting ready for Christmas!

The good news is that in this week's Gospel we find that help – John the Baptist.

Just as he did when he was baptising people with water along the River Jordan, John the Baptist helps us get ready for Jesus's arrival.

John points us towards not himself, but Jesus – Jesus who will baptise with the Holy Spirit.

This week, let's accept John the Baptist's help and remember that in the busyness of this time of year, we also want to find the time to prepare our hearts to receive Jesus.

Advent Prayer– Gaudete Sunday

This Sunday is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete Sunday is the third Sunday of Advent and is a day of joy and anticipation for the Christmas celebration. On Gaudete Sunday, the pink candle on the Advent Wreath is lit.

*O God, who see how your people
faithfully await the feast of the Lord's Nativity,
enable us, we pray, to attain the joys of so great a salvation
and to celebrate them always
with solemn worship and glad rejoicing.*



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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
Multi-skills Year 5	Thursday 8:00 to 8:50am
Choir Key Stage 2	Thursday 3.20 to 4.15pm
Choir Year 5 and 6	Friday 12.15-1pm

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Sacramental / Liturgical Dates	
Monday 16 th December	Early Years Christmas Nativity
Tuesday 17th December 2024	Key Stage One Carol; Service (6pm, Sacred Heart)
Friday 20 th December 2024	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Y5)
Friday 10 th January 2025	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Y5)
Friday 24 th January 2025	Mass in School – Whole School – (Led by Mini-Vinnies)
Sunday 2nd February 2025	School Mass at Sacred Heart (9am) (Year of Jubilee)
Friday 7 th February 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y4)
Friday 28 th February 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y3)
Wednesday 5 th March 2025	Ash Wednesday – start of Lent Distribution of Ashes Service in school (Led by Staff)
Friday 14 th March	CAFOD Family Fast Day (Lent)
Tuesday 18th March 2025	Sacrament of Reconciliation (Y3, Sacred Heart, 6pm)
Friday 21 st March 2025	Mass in School (Whole School – Led by EY, Y1,)
Friday 4 th April 2025	Mass in School (Led by Y2, (Y2, 4, 6)
Friday 11 th April 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y6)
Friday 9 th May 2025	Mass in School – Led by Y5
Saturday 17th May 2025	First Holy Communion (10am, 12 noon; Sacred Heart)
Friday 23 rd May 2025	Mass in School Whole School (Led by Y4)
Friday 13 th June 2025	Mass in School Whole School – (Led by Chaplaincy)
Friday 27 th June 2025	Mass in School (Led by EY, Y1, Y2)
Friday 11 th July 2025	Mass in School – Thanksgiving for Sacraments (Led by Y3 + Y6)
Friday 18 th July 2025	Mass in School - <u>Whole School (Led by Y6)</u>

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

Community Information

Christmas isn't always a fun time for young people! Changes to their routine and over-excitement can cause anxiety, low mood and emotional meltdowns. Whilst these are very common, it isn't always easy to know the best ways to support young people with emotional regulation to help them overcome these issues. Mental Health Support Team Tamworth will be offering free advice and guidance to anyone who would like support relating to this. **THURSDAY 12TH DECEMBER 10AM TO 1PM**, The Saxon Suite, Tamworth Assembly Rooms. Pop in, chat with the team and enjoy a free tea or coffee.



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.

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