



# St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

## Newsletter

### Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2025

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

#### Dates for Diary



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January**  
CAFOD Jubilee Launch Day

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February**  
School Mass at Sacred Heart (9am)

**Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February**  
Break Up for Half Term

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**  
INSET Day

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

**Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> and  
Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> March**  
Spring Term Parent's Evening

Our Virtues this Half Term are **grateful** and **generous**. **Grateful** for their own gifts, for the gifts of other people, and for the blessings of each day, and **generous** with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! I hope that you were all able to have a relaxing and merry Christmas.

The children have made a fantastic start to the new year and term! It has been lovely hearing all about their Christmas celebrations and seeing them returning to school so enthusiastic and ready to learn!

**We are now in the 2025 Year of Jubilee: Pilgrims of Hope.**

A Jubilee Year is a special year of forgiveness and reconciliation, in which people are invited to come back into right relationship with God, with one another, and with all of creation.

The theme for Jubilee 2025 is Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis has invited us to renew our hope and discover a vision that can "restore access to the fruits of the earth to everyone".

Our Jubilee celebrations in school will be starting with the CAFOD Jubilee Launch Day on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January. You can more about the Year of Jubilee at <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/jubilee-2025>

I'm sure we will all be keeping our fingers crossed for Tamworth FC this weekend as they prepare for their FA Cup third round match against Tottenham Hotspur! Come on the Lambs!

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!**

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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#### Attendance Superstars!

**Congratulations to 1AP & 4HB who are our Attendance Super Stars this Week!**



#### Weekly Attendance

RC	RK	1AP	1KG	2LG	2NH	3LH/VN
92%	92%	98%	96%	89%	91%	97%
3SO/AM	4HB	4JH	5LM	5SM	6AC	6BF
94%	98%	96%	91%	88%	92%	97%

#### House Points

Well done to St Bernadette house who earned 663 house points!





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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>Michael</b> <b>L</b>	<b>RK</b> <b>Leo</b>	<b>1AP</b> <b>Miles</b>	<b>1KG</b> <b>Remzi</b>	<b>2LG</b> <b>Owen</b>	<b>2NH</b> <b>Marie</b>	<b>3LH/VN</b> <b>Frankie</b>
<b>3SO/AM</b> <b>Olaf</b>	<b>4HB</b> <b>Andrew</b>	<b>4JH</b> <b>Evie</b>	<b>5LM</b> <b>Albie</b>	<b>5SM</b> <b>Lucas</b>	<b>6BF</b> <b>Jasmine</b>	<b>6AC</b> <b>Wiktor</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>Anastasia</b>	<b>RK</b> <b>Ronnie</b>	<b>1AP</b> <b>Jayden</b>	<b>1KG</b> <b>Jaxon</b>	<b>2LG</b> <b>Emilia</b>	<b>2NH</b> <b>Darcie-Blue</b>	<b>3LH/VN</b> <b>Mia</b>
<b>3SO/AM</b> <b>Harlow</b>	<b>4HB</b> <b>Fleur</b>	<b>4JH</b> <b>Freya Ba</b>	<b>5LM</b> <b>Yannis</b>	<b>5SM</b> <b>Louie</b>	<b>6BF</b> <b>Leo</b>	<b>6AC</b> <b>Frank</b>

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#### 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](#)

#### Parish News

**Blessing of the newly Baptised:** Next Sunday 12th January is the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. At all the Masses that weekend we will offer blessings for those who have been baptised in the last year. Invites have been sent out, but if you haven't received yours, you would be welcome to come forward for a blessing or bring your child if they have been Baptised in 2024.

**Sacred Heart Toddlers:** We love God and want to serve our community. Rebecca is starting a *FREE* toddler group on Thursday mornings in January, providing a safe, fun and loving environment as a support for parents and grandparents at this important stage in family life. If anyone has some good quality toddler toys that they wish to donate, please email [rebecca@tamworthrc.church](mailto:rebecca@tamworthrc.church).

#### Parking

Thank you to the very large majority of parents, carers and other family members who park responsibly each and every day. Doing so helps to ensure that our children arrive and leave school safely and makes the start and end of the day a positive experience for everyone.

Please can all parents keep the following reminders in mind:

- Please do not 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. 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.

Like you, the children's safety is our main priority and this includes their journey to and from school. Thank you, again, to the vast majority of parents who park in ways which help promote this.

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#### NHS Pharmacy First Service



<https://www.england.nhs.uk/primary-care/pharmacy/pharmacy-services/pharmacy-first/>

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment?

Accessing the service may mean that can help children feel better and back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

<u>Common condition</u>	<u>Patient eligibility</u>
Earache	1 to 17 years
Impetigo	1 year and over
Infected insect bites and stings	1 year and over
Sore throats	5 years and over
Sinusitis	12 years and over
Uncomplicated urinary tract	Women 16 to 64 years
Shingles	18 years and over

#### Coats

We are experiencing some very cold weather at the moment! Please make sure that children come to school with a warm, name-labelled coat. Thank you for your support with this.

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

Well Done to all our readers who contributed to a total of 41, 655 minutes of reading during our Autumn Term 2 Track My Read challenge.

**A huge congratulations to our winning class, 5LM who clocked up a super impressive 14,565 minutes and will be rewarded with their own non-uniform day (on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January) and a new class book of their choice.**

Reading for pleasure - whether reading on their own or sharing a story - is one of the best ways a child can spend their time.

Research shows that:

- Reading each day can help children improve in all their school subjects
- Reading for just 6 minutes a day can reduce stress by 68%
- Children who read for pleasure are more likely to do well at GCSEs

Choosing to read provides all sorts of benefits - it's comforting, relaxing, reduces anxiety, builds empathy and understanding and aids learning... but above all it's fun!

We have a new whole school Track My Read challenge for the Spring Term!

We've set our pupils a whole school reading challenge - to read 60, 000 minutes during Spring Term, and we'd love all of the children to participate.

The class who tracks the most minutes, will be rewarded with their own non-uniform day and a class book of their choice.

Log in information for the Spring Term challenge will be sent home with your child. 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.

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#### **Sunday Gospel Reflection**

#### **The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – Luke 3:15-16, 21-22**

*'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'*

This Sunday, we are celebrating the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord – when Jesus was baptised at the River Jordan by John the Baptist.

After Jesus was baptised, the Holy Spirit descended on him and a voice from Heaven said: 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.'

You are also a beloved child of God, and God is well pleased with you. Each one of us is loved by God – no matter what. God speaks these beautiful words 'You are my beloved' to each and every one of us – we are his children and He loves us.

As we start a new year, let's ask God to send us His Holy Spirit so that we can journey through this year knowing that we are loved by God our Father and He is pleased with us.



Jesus, our light,  
In this Jubilee year,  
you remind us of our call to love our neighbours  
and to set free those who suffer.  
Help us to treat everyone with dignity;  
to be fair, forgiving and kind.  
Guide us on our journey as pilgrims of hope.





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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>Athletics</b> Year 4	Monday 3:30pm to 4:30pm
<b>Gymnastics</b> Reception	Tuesday 3:30 to 4:30pm
<b>Multi-skills</b> Year 5	Thursday 8:00 to 8:50am
<b>Choir</b> Key Stage 2	Thursday 3.20 to 4.15pm
<b>Choir</b> Year 5 and 6	Friday 12.15-1pm

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

Term Dates		
<b>Autumn Term 2024:</b>	<b>Spring Term 2025:</b>	<b>Summer Term 2025:</b>
<b>Term time:</b>	<b>Term time:</b>	<b>Term time:</b>
<b>Tues 3 Sept - Fri 25 Oct</b>	<b>Mon 6 Jan – Fri 14 Feb</b>	<b>Mon 28 Apr – Fri 23 May</b>
<b>Half Term:</b>	<b>Half Term:</b>	<b>Half Term:</b>
Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov	Mon 17 Feb – Fri 21 Feb	Mon 26 May – Fri 30 May
<b>Term time:</b>	<b>Term time:</b>	<b>Term time:</b>
<b>Mon 4<sup>th</sup> Nov – Fri 20 Dec</b>	<b>Mon 24 Feb – Fri 11 Apr</b>	<b>Mon 2 June – Mon 21 July</b>
<b>Holiday:</b>	<b>Holiday:</b>	<b>Holiday:</b>
Mon 23 Dec – Fri 3 Jan	Mon 14 Apr – Fri 25 Apr	Tues 22 <sup>nd</sup> July – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> Aug
<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>		

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