

# Saint Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

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Dear Parents

## Mrs Hawker

Mrs Hawker has started both chemotherapy and radiotherapy to deal with the tumour in her head. She is conscious, communicates clearly and is coping well. She has been transferred to another hospital to assist her recovery.

Mrs Hawker sends her love and best wishes to all.

Please keep her, her husband Dave and her children in your prayers.

## Sacrament of Confirmation – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022 (tomorrow) 7.00pm at Sacred Heart

We look forward to the Mass on Friday evening, during which our Year 6 children will celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please arrive in good time for the Mass which will start on time at 7.00pm. Bishop Stephen Wright, the most senior member of the Catholic Church leadership for our part of the Archdiocese, will be present.

Please ensure that the atmosphere in Church is spiritual and prayerful to allow the periods of reflection and thinking. To do this we must have a quiet, peaceful atmosphere. Please speak to ALL family and friends who may be attending and make sure they are aware of the arrangements and requests.

The parish are expecting a full church for the Mass so please be patient and polite with everyone. Thank you.

## Staffing arrangements 2022/2023

Teacher arrangements will be as follows, current 2021/2022 teachers are in brackets:

Reception	<b>Mrs Keeling RK</b>	<b>Mrs Coakley RC</b>	
Year 1	<b>Mrs Hughes 1NH</b> (Current RK)	<b>Miss Gamon 1KG</b> (Current RC)	
Year 2	<b>Miss Townsley 2NT</b> (Current 1NH)	<b>Mrs Law 2BL</b> (Current 1KG)	Mrs Law initially covering absence of Mrs Hawker due to her ongoing illness.
Year 3	<b>Mrs Holmes 3LH</b> (Current 2NT)	<b>Miss Caswell 3CC</b> (Current 2JH)	
Year 4	<b>Mrs Morgan 4LM</b> (Current 3LH)	<b>Mrs Buckroyd 4HB</b> (Current 3CC)	
Year 5	<b>Mrs Taggart 5ST</b> (Current 4HA)	<b>Mrs Minton 5SM</b> (Current 4HB)	
Year 6	<b>Miss Cunningham 6AC</b> (Current 5SH)	<b>Mr Fowler 6BF</b> (Current 5AC)	

IF ANY PARENT IS WORRIED OR CONCERNED ABOUT PUTTING FOOD ON THE TABLE AT THIS TIME THEN PLEASE DO APPROACH ME OR THE SCHOOL OFFICE IN CONFIDENCE, WE WILL ALWAYS TRY TO HELP IN WHATEVER WAY WE CAN.

Please be aware of the wide range of food available from the Heart of Tamworth shop on the grounds of Sacred Heart Church. One generous bag of shopping for £4.00.

### **Catholic Virtues**

This half term the children and staff at St. Gabriel's will be growing to be **ATTENTIVE** to their experiences and to their vocation; and **DISCERNING** about the choices they make and the effect of these choices.



### **Year 4 cricket tournament**

Well done to children in year 4, who took part in a local cricket competition last Thursday at Tamworth Cricket Club. Six schools took part in the tournament and our team played very well and should be proud of their efforts. Many thanks to Mr Birtwistle and Mr Fowler for training the children. The team was: Celeste, Jessica, Drew, Alex, Theresa, Tia, Grace, Vinnie and David.

### **Year 5 tennis tournament**

On Tuesday, children from year 5 took part in a tennis tournament at Spittal Tennis club. Six schools took part and children played in mixed pairs. It was a great event, and our players did very well; winning a few of our games and narrowly losing some others. Many thanks to Mr Birtwistle for training the team and Mr Fowler for supervising the children at the event. The team was: Lucas, Tymoteusz, Maja, Eleanor, Oliver, Samuel B, Lily and Ruby.

### **WOW Active**

We have the results from our fourth and final round of fitness tests, carried out by WOW Active. All children did really well and here are a list of the high achievers and most improved.

### **Most Improved**

Year group

Reception	Erik R, Eddie S
Year 1	Noah E, Emilia B
Year 2	Ethan M, Jenson D
Year 3	Mia E, Oscar W
Year 4	Isabella T, Scarlett S
Year 5	Theo H, Lily S
Year 6	Mason P, Ruby-Lou H

### **Highest Scorers**

Year group

Reception	Lottie B, Eddie S
Year 1	Vittoria M, Evan N
Year 2	Jenson D, Edward N
Year 3	Joshua P, Sebastian K
Year 4	Celeste J, Haitham M
Year 5	Lenny H, Oskar S
Year 6	Sam S, Lucas T

### **Hot Weather**

Now that the weather is warmer please remember to send your child in with a suitable hat to wear at playtimes. Please ensure that on hot/sunny days you apply sun cream BEFORE YOUR CHILD COMES TO SCHOOL. Do not send children to school with bottles of sun cream. We are not allowed to apply sun cream for children.

Children need to have had their hay fever medication before they come in to school and should bring a water bottle with them. Unless there is a medical reason, children should not be bringing sunglasses into school. Please ensure all belongings are named and labelled.

### **Supervision by parents**

It has been brought to our attention that some children are playing, unsupervised on and around the school grounds of a morning. Please be aware that this is potentially a safeguarding issue in regards to accidents and also an opportunity for children to get into trouble. Please consider the danger and ensure you are there and are supervising your children at all times on the way to school and on the school grounds BEFORE 8.50am. Thank you.

### **Lost Property**

Please could we ask that you to make sure you put your child's name on their uniform. We have over 400 children all wearing similar jumpers/cardigans, it can be very difficult to locate a misplaced item without a name.

Our lost property trunk is full to the brim! The majority of the clothing is unnamed and therefore impossible to return. Please do come along and have a look through the lost property and reclaim any missing items. We would encourage you to do this at the end of the school day when you may also have the opportunity, if needed, to check the cloakroom area.

A few parents have kindly offered to take any unclaimed lost property, they will be running a uniform stall at the parish Summer Fayre. If you have any unwanted uniform at home they are happy to receive donations of this. You can drop any uniform donations down to school. Thank you.

## **Family & Community Information Hub**

Please could I draw your attention to the new family and community information section on our website?

This section contains a wealth of current information on community activities from mother and toddler groups to free courses as well as job and training opportunities. It also provides information for parents of children with additional educational needs along with opportunities available to them for example short breaks. There will also be information on healthcare. Please take some time to have a look at the information found [here](#) and keep checking in - there will be new information added most weeks, as and when we get it, we will post it.

## **Twitter access**

We would love more followers! There are some lovely moments of every day life captured through this means.

We have a number of parents who have requested to follow us on Twitter. Please ensure that you also email the following address with your twitter details so that we can cross reference twitter account requests and email addresses. This ensures our account stays safe.

Thank you in anticipation of your support and understanding.

[twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:twitter@st-gabriels.staffs.sch.uk)

## **Parish Summer Scheme**

The Parish Summer Scheme Forms are available at Sacred Heart and St John's, places are going fast. The scheme was oversubscribed last year and some were disappointed not to get a place. Should you wish for your child to attend this year's Summer Scheme please return your forms promptly.

The Summer Scheme is for children currently in Year 2 - Year 7. There is an additional Teen Scheme for any older siblings in Year 8- Year 10. The Summer Scheme starts on the 25<sup>th</sup> July for two weeks.

## **Our Parish**

It's a good time to think about going back to Church if you have been away due to Covid.

There are many opportunities to be involved in the Catholic parish in Tamworth.

Have a look at [www.tamworthrc.church](http://www.tamworthrc.church) Think seriously about going along to one of the Masses at the times shown. A celebration of Holy Mass takes about 50 minutes. Many people find it spiritually lifting to sit in the peace of the Sacred Heart Church and listen and feel God around them. You will not know that unless you try it. Try it and tell me of your experience. Thank you.

## **Parish Summer Fayre**

The parish Summer Fayre is on July 10th 2022 from 10.00am-2.00pm at Sacred Heart.

Everybody is welcome so please pop down if you are able to. There are lots of great prizes in the raffle, food and games. All proceeds are going towards the building of a new church in India.

## Reader of the Week

This week's Readers of the Week are:

RHK	Zach
RJC	Issac
1KG	Penny
1NH	Liberty
2JH	Elena
2NT	Milania
3CC	Natan
3LH	Piotr
4HA	Lucy
4HB	Chloe
5AC	Corey
5SG	Ruby
6BF	Ted
6ST	Jamie



**Well Done Readers of the Week!**

A colorful banner with a blue background and abstract shapes in pink, orange, and yellow. At the top center is a small yellow shield logo with a cross and the word 'SCHOLA'. Below the logo, the text 'RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2022-2023' is written in bold black capital letters. Underneath, a larger block of text in bold black capital letters reads: 'A NUMBER OF RECEPTION CLASS PLACES REMAIN AVAILABLE AT ST GABRIEL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2022. IF YOU OR A FAMILY /FRIEND HAVE A SCHOOL AGED CHILD PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO SECURE A REMAINING PLACE, IN RECEPTION CLASS (4-5 YEARS), AT THE SCHOOL.'

**RECEPTION SEPTEMBER 2022-2023**

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**IF YOU OR A FAMILY /FRIEND HAVE A SCHOOL AGED CHILD PLEASE CONTACT THE SCHOOL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO SECURE A REMAINING PLACE, IN RECEPTION CLASS (4-5 YEARS), AT THE SCHOOL.**

*Do you know of any families who have moved into Tamworth? We currently have a small number of spaces in some other year groups. If a family you know is interested please ask them to contact the school office in the first instance. Thank you*

## Ukraine - Humanitarian crisis situation

The March For Ukraine Campaign has been set up in Tamworth to collect essential supplies for refugees. It involves numerous organisations that includes Heart of Tamworth and The Parish of St. John the Baptist. They are helping as members of the organising group, collecting supplies, being a delivery centre and some transport. They are strictly only collecting new or nearly new items from the following list: Nappies, wipes, children's colouring books and pencils/crayons. Large blankets and sleeping bags. First aid items. Protein bars, baby food pouches (without milk or meat), sterilising tablets and dried food (pasta, rice, tea, biscuits etc). New nests, socks and pants. Toiletries. Donations can be dropped off at Sacred Heart Church.



## Living with Covid

The Government recently announced their Covid 19 response "Living with Covid-19" strategy for England. It means that most of the measures in place to prevent the spread of the virus are no longer required.

**National guidance now urges us all to take personal responsibility so that our actions minimise the risks of transmission.**

In school we will continue to:

- Offer frequent and proper handwashing for staff and pupils
- Encourage good respiratory hygiene - this includes continuing to follow "catch it, bin it, kill it"
- Have additional cleaning of major touch points
- Have additional ventilation

## SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT ADVICE

### UPDATED FROM 1ST APRIL 2022 ONWARDS

- Staff or pupils who are unwell, particularly with a fever or high temperature, **SHOULD STAY OFF SCHOOL** until they are feeling well and temperature has returned to normal.
- It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for Covid unless directed to by a health professional.
- Pupils who do test positive, after following direction to take a test by the NHS or GP, **SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL FOR 3 DAYS** (This is the day of the test plus 3 clear days). After the 3 days they should continue to stay off/away until they are feeling well and temperature is back to normal.
- Adults who test positive **SHOULD NOT ATTEND SCHOOL FOR 5 DAYS** ((This is the day of the test plus 5 clear days). After the 5 days they should continue to stay off/away until they are feeling well and temperature is back to normal.

## IMPORTANT

**IF YOU TAKE A CHILD FOR A PCR TEST, FOLLOWING DIRECTION FROM NHS OR YOUR GP, THEY MUST NOT ATTEND SCHOOL IN ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHILE AWAITING A RESULT, FOR THE SAFETY OF OTHER PUPILS AND STAFF. THANK YOU.**

Get the basic principles of virus controls done well as part of your behaviour.

The spread of ALL variants will be reduced by:

- Limiting your mixing
- Keeping your distance
- Good hand, nose and mouth hygiene
- Good ventilation

**IF YOU ARE INVITED INTO SCHOOL FOR A MEETING PLEASE**

- Wear a mask if you can
- Sanitise hands on arrival
- Respect social distancing

### Dates for your Diary

Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Bishop Stephen Wright visiting Year 6 2.00pm Sacrament of Confirmation celebrated by Bishop Stephen Wright @ Sacred Heart Church 7.00pm
Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 pupils visit to St Francis of Assisi St. Francis of Assisi New Parents Meeting 6.00pm-7.30pm
Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Thanksgiving Mass for Sacrament of Confirmation 9.15am Year 5 to St. Francis of Assisi, Aldridge - Curriculum taster day Various activities Reports sent home with pupils
Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> July	Open sessions for parents to meet next teacher in next classroom 4.00pm-5.30pm
Weds 13 <sup>th</sup> July	Meeting for Year 2 or Year 5 parents re: Arts Award for next year led by Mrs Brown
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> July	School Mass for end of school year - Led by Year 6
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly - Parents welcome 9.15am Year 6 Leavers Party
Weds 20 <sup>th</sup> July	Final day of school NOTE - GOVERNING BODY DECISION TO CLOSE SCHOOL AT 1.30PM 3.30pm Commonwealth Torch @ Sacred Heart - celebration event Re: Commonwealth Games

Peter said "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God".

Jesus answered "You are Peter, the rock on which I will build my Church".

Feast Day of Saints Peter and Paul 29<sup>th</sup> June.

God Bless

Yours sincerely

*John P Hayes*

John P Hayes

Headteacher