



St Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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Newsletter Wednesday 6th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you all had a lovely Summer Holiday! It is fantastic to see all of our children back in school and looking refreshed after the summer break.

I would like to take this opportunity to say a very warm welcome to all of the new members of our school community, to new children and parents throughout the school and to our Class 1 Teacher Laura Rollo, our Class 3 Teacher Elise Page and to our Class 5 Teacher Isaac Azah.

School has been open over the holidays and we have had a very busy summer with various work carried out across the school building. We have had new heating pipes fitted in the kitchen, old boilers removed in the basement and we have had the kitchen painted! We are also in the middle of the completion of a new fire alarm system being installed. Our technicians didn't quite manage to finish by the time the children returned and so you may notice a few unfinished sections of wiring around the building. This is perfectly safe as it is not connected yet. Until the new fire alarm system is up and running and has been tested, our existing fire alarm system will continue to run in its place.

On Monday and Tuesday the staff had training days. We looked at our new Religious Education Scheme of Work, discussed our Teaching and Learning Policy and looked at marking. We also discussed our Lockdown Procedures, School Behaviour Policy, Collective Worship and our School Improvement Priorities for the coming year.

During INSET days we have Pupil Progress Meetings. These are opportunities for the class teachers and the Senior Leadership Team to discuss each class, how individual children are progressing and to determine any concerns or extra need within a class.

Meet the Teacher

In the coming week all parents will have an opportunity to visit their child's classroom, meet their child's class teacher and find out about what your child will be learning in the coming term. Dates and times are as follows:



3.35pm Friday 8th September: Reception Class Meet the Teacher
3.35pm Monday 11th September: Class 1 Meet the Teacher
3.35pm Tuesday 12th September: Class 5 Meet the Teacher
3.35pm Wednesday 13th September: Class 2 and Class 6 Meet the Teacher
3.35pm Thursday 14th September: Class 3 and Class 4 Meet the Teacher

If you find that you are unable to make the meeting, your child's teacher is always in the playground at the end of the day and for 5 minutes before the bell goes in the morning should you need to talk to them. The teachers will also be sending out their own class letters, with further information.

I would like to encourage you to first talk to your child's teacher should you have any concerns. I am also available in the playground at the start and end of each day. If the issue relates to another child, please do talk to the class teacher or a member of the Senior Leadership team and not the child themselves as this can often worsen a situation.

Attendance

Attendance is a regular feature in our newsletters because it is so important. The Government sets a target of 96% attendance for every school. However, although we have been close, we have not been able to reach that target **yet!** Our first school rule is that *we come to school to learn*. Please do support your child in their learning and support the school in achieving that 96% target, by ensuring that your child is in school and on time. Whilst illness cannot be avoided, holidays in term time can. Please do make a note of the holiday dates below and avoid booking holidays or doctors/dentist appointments during school time. I would like to thank you in advance for your support in this. A full list of holiday dates is on our website and is available from the office.

Dates for Your Diary.....

Please do refer to these regularly as dates may change and new events will be added.

Term/holiday Dates for the Autumn term

TERM 1

Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September
 Teachers' training days

Wednesday 6th September: 9.00am Children return

Friday 20th October at 3.30pm: School finishes for half term break

TERM 2 **Monday 30st October** School closed, teachers training day

Tuesday 31st October at 9.00am – children return to school

Wednesday 20th December: Last day of term – school finishes at 2.30pm

TERM 3 **Tuesday 2nd January** - Teachers' training day school closed to children

Wednesday 3rd January 2018 – children return to school

Trips

Monday 11th September: Class 6 to Kensington Gardens

Tuesday 12th September: Class 6 visiting Pizza Express

Wednesday 13th September: Yr 3 library

Wednesday 20th September: Class 6 going to Sayer Croft for 3 days, Yr 1 to library

Wednesday 20th September: first swimming for Yr 3 and then every Wednesday

Monday 25th September: Class 1 trip to Transport Museum

Wednesday 27th September: Class 5 to National Gallery, Yr 2 to the library

Tuesday 3rd October: Class 5 to Pizza Express

Wednesday 4th October: Reception to Library

Wednesday 18th October: Yr 4 to library

Wednesday 4th November: Yr 5 to library

Tuesday 7th November: Class 4 to Pizza Express

Wednesday 8th November: Yr 6 to library

Friday 17th November: Class 6 to Household Cavalry Museum

Thursday 7th December: Class 6 to Westminster Archives

Wednesday 13th December: Last Swimming for Yr 3

Events for Parents

Every Wednesday: Mass – a different Junior class each week is in Mass held by Father Owen. You are all warmly invited.

Every Thursday: Family Assembly

Meet the Teacher: see above times and dates

Monday 9th and Wednesday 11th October: Parents Evening

Tuesday 12th December: evening performance of Vivaldi's Gloria in St Gabriel's Church

Monday 11th December: Nativity Service (afternoon – time to be confirmed)

Tuesday 19th December: 3.30pm Open afternoon for parents to visit the classroom and see children's books and Evening Carol Service at St Gabriel's Church

Other Events:

Thursday 28th & Friday 29th September: Reception and Yr 1 taking part in Keep Smiling project in school – learning about oral health

Thursday 5th October: Harvest Family Assembly

Thursday 12th October: 3.45pm Governors Premises Meeting & 5pm Curriculum and standards Governors Meeting

Friday 13th October: 2.30 Governors Staffing Committee meeting and 3.45pm Finance Governors Meeting

Friday 20th October: Yr 6 taking part in Play in a Day as part of the 'Not Forgotten' Project

Thursday 9th November: 5pm Full Governing Body Meeting

Prefer your newsletter on line? Go to our website:

www.stgabrielsprimary.co.uk

Prayer for the week:

Thank you Father for this new school year, for our friends, for our teachers and for all of the adults that work with us. Thank you for the love you show for us and for the love you have for our school.

Help us to show that love for one another, to show kindness, understanding and that we care about each other, we care about our school and we care about our learning.

Amen



I hope you have a great week!

Rebecca Anson
Headteacher



I have read and noted the contents of this newsletter. Date: 6th September 2017

Signed: _____

Child's name: _____ Class: _____