



# St Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
**Excellence with Compassion**

Dear parents,

Welcome to this week's newsletter!

On Friday we welcomed Year 6 back from their residential trip to Sayers Croft. And what a wonderful time they had! We look forward to hearing more about it this week!



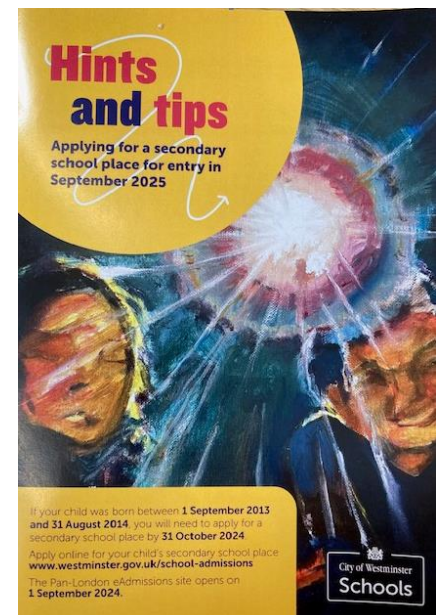
### Family assembly – our value for this term:

**Friendship.** On Thursday we had our first family assembly of the year. It was lovely to hear about the discussions the children had in each class on the theme of friendship. And it was great to see their creations, illustrating how we can be good friends to one another. It was also lovely to see so many parents joining us. Now our new Reception children have settled in, they too will be coming to Family Assembly this Thursday, so we look forward to welcoming them, and any parents who would like to

join us. I would like to take this opportunity to respectfully ask that parents support us in ensuring children come in to assembly and leave assembly in a calm and orderly way, remaining with their class mates and not straying over to parents. Parents can help us with maintaining our high behaviour expectations and by encouraging their children to stay with their class line. Many thanks in advance for helping us to keep our collective worship calm and in line with our expectations for the rest of the week.

### Year 6 secondary school application

Year 6 parents, please look out for the leaflet coming home with your child today. A copy of this has also been emailed to you. Deadline for secondary applications are 31<sup>st</sup> October 2024. We strongly advise



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visiting any secondary schools you may be interested in for your child. The leaflet has the open day dates for Westminster schools. Similar information for neighbouring boroughs can be found on the other boroughs' websites.

### Attendance rules and Penalty Notices

Attendance rules changed as of the beginning of this new academic year. Schools are **now legally obliged** to refer a family to the local authority if there are up to 5 days (equivalent to 10 sessions) unauthorised absence over a 10 week period.

Local Authorities are also now under strict instruction to issue penalty notices, where as previously a warning letter may have been issued. Penalty notice fines have increased to £80 for the first instance, £160 for the second and if there is a third instance the parents are prosecuted. **This is not just for holidays, but for any extended absence for which evidence is not provided** (including illness).

This is why we are now having to ask for proof of illness if an absence is longer than 2 days. If a child is ill enough not to come to school for longer than 2 days, then we advise that medical advice is sought.

This can also then help in enabling school to authorise the absence, particularly if the illness falls right at the start of term, or right at the end of term, at the beginning or end of the school holidays.

The guidance below is designed to help parents and carers in deciding whether to keep their child off school if they are unwell. If you are unsure, please do phone school.

<p><u>Coughs and colds</u> It's fine to send your child to school with a minor cough or common cold. But if they have a fever, keep them off school until the fever goes. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues and to wash their hands regularly.</p>	<p><u>High temperature</u> If your child has a high temperature, keep them off school until it goes away.</p>
<p><u>Chickenpox</u> If your child has chickenpox, keep them off school until all the spots have crusted over. This is usually about 5 days after the spots first appeared.</p>	<p><u>Impetigo</u> If your child has impetigo, they'll need treatment from a GP, often with antibiotics. Keep them off school until all the sores have crusted over and healed, or for 48 hours after they start antibiotic treatment. Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly and not to share things like towels and cups with other children at school.</p>
<p><u>Cold sores</u> There's no need to keep your child off school if they have a cold sore. Encourage them not to touch the blister or kiss anyone while they have the cold sore, or to share things like cups and towels.</p>	<p><u>Ringworm</u> If your child has ringworm, see your pharmacist unless it's on their scalp, in which case you should see a GP. It's fine for your child to go to school once they have started treatment.</p>
<p><u>Conjunctivitis</u> You don't need to keep your child away from school if they have conjunctivitis. Do get advice from your pharmacist. Encourage your child not to rub their eyes and to wash their hands regularly.</p>	<p><u>Scarlet fever</u> If your child has scarlet fever, they'll need treatment with antibiotics from a GP. Otherwise they'll be infectious for 2 to 3 weeks. Your child can go back to school 24 hours after starting antibiotics.</p>
<p><u>COVID-19</u> If your child has mild symptoms, such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, and feels well enough, they can go to school. Your child should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people if they have symptoms of COVID-19 and they either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• have a high temperature</li> <li>• do not feel well enough to go to school or do their normal activities</li> </ul> <p>What to do if your child has tested positive Your child is no longer required to do a COVID-19 rapid lateral flow test if they have symptoms. But if your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for 3 days after the day</p>	<p><u>Slapped cheek syndrome (fifth disease)</u> You don't need to keep your child off school if they have slapped cheek syndrome because, once the rash appears, they're no longer infectious. But let the school or teacher know if you think your child has slapped cheek syndrome.</p>

they took the test.	
<b>Ear infection</b> If your child has an ear infection and a high temperature or severe earache, keep them off school until they're feeling better or their high temperature goes away.	<b>Sore throat</b> You can still send your child to school if they have a sore throat. But if they also have a high temperature, they should stay at home until it goes away. A sore throat and a high temperature can be symptoms of tonsillitis.
<b>Hand, foot and mouth disease</b> If your child has hand, foot and mouth disease but seems well enough to go to school, there's no need to keep them off. Encourage your child to throw away any used tissues straight away and to wash their hands regularly.	<b>Threadworms</b> You don't need to keep your child off school if they have threadworms. Speak to your pharmacist, who can recommend a treatment.
<b>Head lice and nits</b> There's no need to keep your child off school if they have head lice. You can treat head lice and nits without seeing a GP.	<b>Vomiting and diarrhoea</b> Children with diarrhoea or vomiting should stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

## Measles

Measles is still circulating in our boroughs. As children return to school, cases are likely to rise again. We have been asked to remind families that if they are not up to date with their MMR vaccines, they should call their GP to book as soon as possible.

Two doses of the MMR vaccine are needed to give long-term protection, and it's never too late to get vaccinated. Details of out-of-hours GP clinics are included in the schools' bulletin as well as links to further information for families.



### Follow us on Instagram!

We now have an Instagram page, where we are uploading all photos. For pictures of Year 6's visit to Sayers Croft, please do check out our new Instagram page.



## Important dates coming up for the term

October	November	December
Wed 9 <sup>th</sup> – Yr 5 trip Tues 15 <sup>th</sup> – individual children's photos Wed 16 <sup>th</sup> – parents evening Thurs 17 <sup>th</sup> Parents evening Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> – last day of term – school finishes at 3.30pm	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> – school starts Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> – Y3 cycle confident (all week) Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> – Y6 trip Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> & Tues 12 <sup>th</sup> – Y6 Awareness Academy workshops with police Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> – KS2 Energy Garden sessions Wed 20 <sup>th</sup> – 3.40pm RSE talk for Yr 5 and Yr 6 parents in Yr 6	Fri 6 <sup>th</sup> – last day of clubs (after school care continues to Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> ) Fri 20 <sup>th</sup> – last day of term – school ends at 2.30pm

## Awards:

**Star of the week: Oliver**

**Class of the week: 2**

**House of the week: St. Elizabeth**

Mentions	Jacob and Mila	Tatiana and Teddy	Safina and Danielle	Cecilia	Farmaan and Maryam
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## Attendance

Last week attendance was 95.64%. Well done Year 6 for the best attendance of the week with 98.57%

With very best wishes

Rebecca Anson  
Headteacher