



St Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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Monday 18th September 2023
Excellence with Compassion

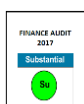
Dear Parents and Carers,

It is lovely to see how quickly our new Reception children and the rest of our classes have settled in to our new school year. And simply delightful to see very single child back in school today. All classes had 100% attendance – amazing! Keep up the good work!

We already have trips and visitors booked in for some of our classes and Yr 6's Not Forgotten Project is well under way. The project involves the children immersing themselves in our rich local history, working with primary historical documents, objects and local sites and the very knowledgeable historian Peter Daniel, to find out about our local history through the story of local man who fought in the First World War. The class has already been on a walk of the local area to find out more. Year 6 also visited Sayers Croft last week. Sayers Croft is a residential field Centre in Surrey, and is a fantastic opportunity for the children to experience lots of different activities including outward bounds, team building activities, archery, rope and wall climbing, shelter building a disco and camp fire. Please do take a look at our 'X' (Twitter) page for more pictures. And thank you to Miss Pinfold, Miss Bell and Mr Vanes for accompanying the class last week.



This week Yr 5 have a Rugby trip competition to look forward to and Yr 4 will be taking part in a sustainability workshop next week.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Packed lunches

All children are now entitled to a free school meal at school. Children are still welcome to bring a packed lunch, however, we would ask that the lunch is healthy and does not include chocolates and sweets.

Uniform and PE

I would like to say a huge thank you for your support in encouraging your child to come to school in the correct school uniform. It is fantastic to see so many of our children looking really smart in their ties and school shoes. If cost is an issue on any item of uniform, please do come and chat to myself or the office. We have recently had donations of some items, including brand new girl's school shoes in different sizes and we may be able to apply for uniform grants for some families.

As you will be aware, we have not had children changing for PE for 3 years and I understand there are some concerns about children losing out on physical activity whilst changing. We are ironing out the most efficient way of children changing as quickly (and particularly in the older years as privately) as possible, and with practice we are very confident it will improve, as it did before Covid. Before the year started, our senior leadership team redesigned our timetables, to pre-covid timings. At lunch time, children are enjoying spending more time with peers from other classes, with all of KS2 playing together at lunch times and eating in their houses with children from other classes. This has meant that we have also been able to return to having a whole hour for lunch and more time for physical activity, in comparison to the 50 minutes we have had for the past few years. This also means that whilst it may take children a few extra minutes to get changed for PE, which we know will get quicker, children are gaining an extra 10 minutes of activity each day.

Family assembly

We had some lovely work on Friendship shared in Family Assembly on Thursday. Classes 1, 2, 3, and 5 shared all they have been talking about to do with Friendship. This coming Thursday we will be hearing from Years 6, 4 and year 2. Next week, it will be the odd numbers (Years 1, 3, and 5).



Attendance:

It was simply lovely to see every single child back in school today. Every class had 100%! Fantastic St Gabriel's – keep up the good work!!

Dates for this half term:

September	October
Wed 20th: YR 5 Tag rugby competition Thurs 21st Yr 6 visit to parliament 5pm Full Governing body Meeting Mon 25th first swimming for Yr 3 Thurs 28 th Yr 5 to British Museum Fri 29th: Yr 4 trip – sustainability workshop	Thurs 5th Nasal Flu Vaccination for all year groups Tues 10th: Parents Evening Wed 11th Parents Evening Fri 13th: Louise Wannier children's author visiting Yr 1 and Yr 3 Wed 18th Individual photos Fri 20th: break up for half term Mon 30th School starts – children in school (last day of term Thursday 21st December)

With very best wishes

Rebecca Anson
Headteacher