



## St. Gabriel's C. E. Primary School

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December 2017

### Newsletter No. 4

Dear Parents,

**Life Education Van** will be visiting school on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. You are very welcome to visit at the parent session on 11<sup>th</sup> December at 8.55 a.m. until 9.10 a.m. This will enable you to find out a little more about what your child will be doing during the day and to ask any questions you may have. All classes will have a session in the van learning about all aspects of healthy lifestyles. Life Education is a charity providing unique health and drug education programmes which teach children about the wonder of their bodies and how to take care of themselves.



**Children's Christmas Raffle** – Please support this Christmas fund raising event which is being run by the School Council. You can purchase raffle tickets: £1 for a strip, £3 for 5 strips or £5 for 10 strips. There are some wonderful prizes! More details sent home tonight.



**Quiz night** was a great success. Thank you to the Friends for organising this event and to all those families and friends who attended on the night.

**Friends' Meeting** – The date of the next meeting is 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.00 p.m.

**Blackburn Fire Station** gave talks to Year 2 and Year 6 on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November about fire safety.

**The Nasal Flu Vaccination** is being offered to all children in Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 and Year 4 this term. Forms with information about the procedure have been sent out to these classes. **The nasal vaccinations will take place on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**



**Netball Team** – On the 16<sup>th</sup> November, Laiba Khan, Aaliah Musa, Safiyya Hanslod, Azra Shaik, Chloe Reeve, Olivia Banks and Aisha Bhad went to a netball match at the BRIC (Blackburn Rovers Indoor Centre) with Mrs. Crossman and Mr. Cross. We played 3 games. The first school we played, unfortunately we lost. The second school we played we won and the third school we played we won. The first match we played the score was 3 to us and 7 to them. The second match, the score was 9 to us and 0 to them. The third match we played the score was 11 to us and 0 to them. We lost 1 match and won 2 matches. Thank you very much Mr. Cross and Mrs. Crossman for taking us. If you hadn't taken us we wouldn't have been there. By Laiba Khan



**Dodgeball Tournament** – On Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2017, Owen Walton, Rayhan Bux, Tayah-Jo Hudson, Charlotte Mercer, Elysia Joyce, Hannah Patel, Safiyya Hanslod, went to a dodgeball tournament. In our first game we played against Meadowhead. Straight away, Owen caught a boy out! Unfortunately, nearly everyone was out, only Charlotte and Rayhan remained. But, due to a fantastic catch from Rayhan, Elysia was back in the game! At the end of the game, Meadowhead had won. In our second game, quite quickly, there were only 3 remaining players, but, we also lost to St. James. In our third game we played against The Olive. A superb catch from Tayah-Jo got Elysia back in the game, in the end it was just Owen and Elysia. Yet again, unfortunately, WE LOST! In our fourth game, all were out except for Owen and Tayah-Jo. But, everyone was aiming for Owen! Only Tayah-Jo was left and again, St. Gabriel's lost to St. Matthew's. In our fifth game, it was a quick game and St. Anne's got all of St. Gabriel's out. In our sixth game only Rayhan and Charlotte were left! Unfortunately, we lost again. In our seventh game, we lost again. Though we lost every game, we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. By Tayah-Jo and Elysia





**Children in Need on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – We were able to send £213 to Children in Need.

**Thank you to Year 6** who led our Remembrance Service in school on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> November. Thanks also to Summer Riddehough for playing 'The Last Post'.

**Holiday List October 2017 – July 2019** – Please note that a holiday list showing holidays to July 2019 is attached to this Newsletter. This list is also available from the school office and on the school website. Please do not refer to any other online holiday lists other than those published by school.

**Snowy Weather:**



I would like to clearly state that it is always my intention to keep school open as far as is reasonably possible. Unfortunately, achieving required staffing levels by 9.00 a.m. is always a concern and is a major reason for school closures throughout the country. As traffic delays are the obvious issues, we feel that a full closure could be avoided by arranging a delayed opening. In the event of snow and the likelihood of disruption, we will aim to **text all parents at approximately 8.15 a.m.** to advise that school is either:

**Closed** (in the case of severe snow) **or**  
**Delaying opening until a given time e.g. 10.30 a.m.** (in the case of light snow, but severe traffic issues)  
**If no text assume school is open**

This message will also be given on the school's **Twitter feed (@stgabrielssch)** – which can be viewed on the **home page of the school website: [www.stgabrielssch.co.uk](http://www.stgabrielssch.co.uk)**

Note: we will **NOT be using the local radio services** to advise of a closure or delayed opening.



**Postage Stamps** – Please could you send your used postage stamps into school? Hopefully you will have many at this time of year! They are taken to East Lancashire Hospice where they are exchanged for cash to boost their much needed funds. Many thanks to everyone already supporting this worthy cause.

**Regular Extra Curricular Activities in School**

Monday	Lunchtime Football – Y5 and Y6 Boys and Girls Ukulele Group 3.30 – 4.15 p.m. – ongoing Netball Practice – Y6/Y5 girls – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Tuesday	Gym Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Wednesday	Y6 Maths Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. Orchestra Practice 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Thursday	Choir Practice for Juniors – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing Y6 Maths Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 15 <sup>th</sup> Sept
Friday	Absolute Sports (Various) – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing

**Dates for Diaries/Activities in School**

Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> Dec	Lunchtime Carols in the Cathedral – Choir to sing at 1.00 p.m.
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	Lancashire Fire & Rescue Christmas Carol Service – 7.00 p.m. in Blackburn Cathedral
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> – Tues 12 <sup>th</sup>	Life Education Bus in School
Wed 13 <sup>th</sup>	Infant Nativity – 2.15 p.m.
Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup>	Infant Nativity – 2.15 p.m.
Fri 15 <sup>th</sup>	Infant Nativity – 2.15 p.m.
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup>	Junior Carol Service in Church – 7 p.m.
Wed 20 <sup>th</sup>	Raffle to be drawn in school Pocket Money Stall – 1.00 p.m.
Thurs 21 <sup>st</sup>	Christmas Lunch Talent Show
Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>School closes at 3.30 p.m. for the Christmas Holidays</b>
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>School reopens</b>



School Meals – The menu will start with week one after the holidays.

## Christmas Celebrations



**Posada Nativity figures** are now being sent home. This is a lovely Mexican tradition whereby your child will receive a figure from the nativity tableau to take home for the evening, along with a special book to write your special thoughts or prayers. Please take special care of the figures you receive as you welcome the true meaning of Christmas into your home.



**Our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be performing 'It's A Party' on:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup>, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> and Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December at 2.15 p.m. Mince pies and coffee will be served by the Friends. **A separate infant class letter has been sent home..**



**The Junior Children, Choir and Orchestra will be leading our Candlelit Carol Service on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December at 7.00 p.m.** Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are not required to attend. Those wishing to bring Infant children may do so, but must sit together in the main congregation. This is an extra special occasion, full of Christmas cheer and excitement. We warmly invite all parents, friends and families to join us. The service will last under an hour. It is an important service, and it is anticipated **that all Junior children will attend.** It is hugely disappointing, to all those involved, when children do not attend key school events.



**Pocket Money Stall, Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – afternoon. This is a magical event. Please support the Friends and come and 'wrap' if you are able! Please contact the office if you are able to help. Envelopes have now been sent home.



**Party Day** – Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> will combine our special Christmas lunch with the Junior talent show (always a favourite with staff) and a special visitor for the infants! **This is a non-uniform day – party clothes instead.**

**The staff and Governors wish you all a very Happy Christmas  
and a Peaceful New Year.**

Yours sincerely,  
**B. Haigh**  
Headteacher

### **Christmas Services at St. Gabriel's Church, Brownhill**

**Sunday 17 December**  
9.00 am – Holy Communion  
10.30 am – Christmas Carol Service

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Eve**  
10.00 am – Joint Morning Service  
4.00 pm – Christingle Service by Candlelight  
11.15 pm Holy Communion

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Day**  
10.00 am – Christmas Family Communion



# St. Gabriel's C.E. Primary School – Holiday List October 2017 – July 2019

## Autumn Term 2017

Half Term	Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November
<u>Closure</u>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November (Staff Training Day)
Re-open	Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November
Christmas	Closure after school on Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> December

## Spring Term 2018

Re-open	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Half Term	Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> February
<u>Closure</u>	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> February (Staff Training Day)
Re-open	Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February
Easter	Closure after school on Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March

## Summer Term 2018

Re-open	(Y6 SATs week: 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> May) Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Holiday	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June
<u>Closure</u>	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June (Staff Training Day)
Re-open	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June
Summer	Closure after school on Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> July

## Autumn Term 2018

<u>Closure</u>	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September (Staff Training Day)
Re-open	Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Half Term	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October – Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October
<u>Closure</u>	Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October (Staff Training Day)
Re-open	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> November
Christmas	Closure after school on Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> December

## Spring Term 2019

Re-open	Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2019
Half Term	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February
Re-open	Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> February
Easter	Closure after school on Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> April
<u>Closure</u>	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April (Staff Training Day)

## Summer Term 2019

Re-open	(Y6 SATs week: Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May) Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April
May Day Holiday	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> May
Re-open	Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June
Summer	Closure after school on Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July