



St. Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

"Stand firm... be courageous" 1 Corinthians 16:13

November 2019

***See 'Snowy Weather' Procedures on Page 2**

Reception Class Applications—September 2020—Parents with siblings wishing to apply—please note that the deadline for the applications is **Wednesday 15th January**. Parents are encouraged to apply online at [www.blackburn.gov.uk /pages /school-admissions.aspx](http://www.blackburn.gov.uk/pages/school-admissions.aspx)



Life Education Van will be visiting school on Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th December. All classes will have a session in the van learning about all aspects of healthy lifestyles. Life education is a charity providing unique health education programmes which teach children about the wonder of their bodies and how to take care of themselves.

Friends' AGM—Thursday 14th November at 7.00 p.m.—Thank you to all those who have continually supported the Friends' Committee. Bingo, Pie and Peas night was a huge success and everyone really enjoyed themselves. The Friends' Committee would be grateful for any help and support from parents in helping to fundraise for the children in school.



Children in Need on Friday 15th November—Non-uniform day with a suggested donation of £1.00. All donations of money will go to Children in Need.

Robin Wood—The Year 6 children had a fantastic time at Robin Wood on Wednesday 9th October—Friday 11th October. The children were split into 3 groups upon arrival ready to start their activities. The activities they did included: Zip wire, Quest, Archery, Raft Building, Caving, Trapeze, Piranha Pool, Climbing and Canoeing. The children thought the activities were amazing and had a lot of fun completing them with their friends. They had a wonderful time overall and would strongly recommend it to the Year 5 children next year. Thank you to all the staff that accompanied them on the school trip and to the parents who allowed their children to experience this wonderful opportunity.



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TerraCycle—This year, school is taking part in the 'TerraCycle Scheme' aimed at reducing stationery waste. We have made a box in school to collect any pens, pencils, highlighters etc. that no longer work so they can be recycled into something new. Please send in any unwanted stationery so they can be put in our TerraCycle box ready for recycling.

Snowy Weather* :

It is always our 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, a delayed opening is sometimes arranged to avoid full school closure. In the event of snow and the likelihood of disruption, **we aim to text all parents at approximately 8.15 a.m.** and advise them that school is either:



Closed (in the case of severe snow)



Delaying opening until given time e.g. 10:30 a.m. (in the case of light snow, but severe traffic issues).



If there is no text assume that school is open.

The message will also be given on the schools **Twitter Feed** (@stgabrielssch) - which can be viewed on the **home page of the school website**: www.stgabrielssch.co.uk.

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

Regular Activities—

Monday— Ohana (Y5)- alternate Mondays- **3.30- 4.15 p.m.—ongoing**
Maholo (Y6)—alternate Mondays
Netball **3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**

Tuesday— Gymnastics **3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**

Wednesday— Before School Maths Club **8.00 a.m.—ongoing**
Orchestra **3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**

Thursday— Afterschool Maths Club-**3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**
Choir **3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**

Friday— Afterschool Sports (Various) - **3.30-4.30 p.m.—ongoing**



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Christmas Celebrations



Posada Nativity Figures will be sent out on **Friday 29th November**. 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 and prayers. Please take 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 'The Innkeepers Breakfast' on: 12th and 13th December at 2:15 p.m. Mince Pies and coffee will be served by the Friends. **A separate infant letter will be sent out with more details.**



All Junior Children, Choir and Orchestra will be leading our Candlelit Carol Service which will be held in the CHURCH HALL on Tuesday 17th December at 7:00 p.m. Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children are not requested to attend. This is an extra special occasion, which will be taking place in the CHURCH HALL. 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 extremely disappointing when children do not attend key school events.



Pocket Money Stall, Wednesday 18th December— afternoon. This is a magical event. Please support the Friends and come and 'wrap' if you are able to! Please contact the school office if you are available to help. Additional details to follow.



Party Day—Thursday 19th will be our special **Christmas lunch** with the Junior talent show taking place on Friday 20th (always a favourite with the staff) and a special visitor for the infants! **This is a non- uniform day- party clothes instead.**



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Dates for Diaries...

Thurs 14th Nov	Netball League Tournament at BRIC @ 4 p.m. Full Governing Body Meeting @ 5 p.m. Friends' meeting @ 7 p.m.
Fri 15th	Children in Need—Non-uniform day
Tues 19th	Y6 Girls' Football @ St. Bede's 4-6 p.m.
Wed 20th	Final Date for Christmas Card Orders
Thurs 21st	Open Morning @ 9.30 a.m.
Tues 26th	Y3 Dental Talk Governors Finance Meeting
Thurs 28th	Lancashire Fire and Rescue Talk Y2 & Y6
Fri 29th	Posada Figures to go out
Tues 3rd Dec	Lunchtime Carols*
Wed 4th	No Violin—now on Fri 6th Dec Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service @ 7.30 p.m.* @ Blackburn Cathedral
Fri 6th	Re-scheduled Violin Lesson
Mon 9th	Life Education Van
Tues 10th	Life Education Van
Thurs 12th	Infant Nativity P.M. Netball League at BRIC @ 4 p.m.
Fri 13th	Infant Nativity P.M.
Mon 16th	Carol Service @ Blackburn Cathedral at 4.30 p.m.*
Tues 17th	Junior Carol Service at 7 p.m. @ the Church Hall*
Wed 18th	Pocket Money Stall—P.M.
Thurs 19th	Christmas Lunch
Fri 20th	Talent Show School Closes for Half Term @ 3.30 p.m.

*details to follow