





St. Gabriel's C.E. Primary School


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


December 2019


Christmas Celebrations


 **Posada Nativity Figures** are being brought home by one child each night. This is a lovely Mexican tradition whereby your child receives 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 continue to 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—**There are no tickets available for Friday 13th Dec.**

 **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. Please only return the reply slip if your child **WILL NOT** be attending the service.

 **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 in the afternoon (always a favourite with the staff) and a special visitor for the infants! **This is a non-uniform day— party clothes instead.**

 **Talent Show—**The talent show will continue on **Friday 20th** where the Juniors will perform the rest of their very special talents for the infants and staff!

self-belief

courage

resilience

ambition

Harmony

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

DEADLINE



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.

Children in Need on Friday 15th November—We were able to send £197 to Children in Need.



Thank you to Year 6 who led our Remembrance Service in school on Monday 11th November. Thanks also to Sarah for playing 'The Last Post'.

Netball Tournament—Well done to all the girls who competed in the Netball Tournament on Thursday 14th November. They played 2 games altogether winning 7-2 against Wensley Fold and losing 3-1 against St. Mary and St. Joseph's. They all played really well with great team spirit and good sportsmanship. The girls demonstrated excellent shooting skills with the second match being a very close game! Mrs. Tomlinson would like to say a big well done to Saamia, Chloe, Zainab, Sarah, Lucie, Anam and Ava.



Girls' Football Tournament—Our first match was against St. Thomas'. It started a little slowly, but with some good passing, Lucie managed to squeeze it past the goalkeeper. The game finished 2-0. Our second game was against Lower Darwen. They had some good players, but we had a great defence and no one was getting past Sarah. Both teams pushed really hard but no goal was conceded. Our final match was against St. Aidan's and was the decider. We needed to win or draw to go through. It was a tense match. We worked together and defended really well. This game ended 0-0 which meant St. Gabriel's were through to the final. Despite the huge amount of effort from the girls, unfortunately they didn't win the final, but they worked extremely hard for their place there. Well done girls!

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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.



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.**



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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



Dates for Diaries...

Fri 6th Dec	Re-scheduled Violin Lesson
Mon 9th	Life Education Van
Tues 10th	Life Education Van
Thurs 12th	Infant Nativity @ 2.15 p.m. Netball League at BRIC @ 4 p.m.
Fri 13th	Infant Nativity @ 2.15 p.m.
Mon 16th	Choir 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— Non-uniform day No Choir
Fri 20th	Talent Show School Closes for Half Term @ 3.30 p.m.
Mon 6th Jan	School re-opens