



St. Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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

September 2020

Welcome Back!

It is great to have all children back in school, albeit in rather challenging circumstances. Thank you for your continued support and patience as we move forward.

Hearing full classes of children laughing and playing outside has been bliss! Staff have worked hard to adapt teaching content to ensure we regain the lost time over lockdown. Our 'Regain' curriculum has reading at its heart and will aim to ensure all children continue to make good progress.

Firstly, an essential reminder:

What to do if your child/ren or anyone in your household shows symptoms of Covid

DON'T SEND YOUR CHILDREN INTO SCHOOL – if in doubt, phone school first!

The symptoms are (NHS definitions):

A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (37.8C or higher)

A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours

A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Anyone with symptoms must:

Get a test straight away

Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave home to get a test. Anyone you live with (or in your support bubble) must also stay at home until you get your test

You must inform school of the test result. Immediate reporting of a positive result is essential. If you get a result over a weekend please email: office@stgabriels.blackburn.sch.uk and mark it as URGENT Test Result

If the test is **negative** – your child can return to school.

If it is **positive** – the person who is positive must isolate for 10 days, all other household members must isolate for 14 days.

If a school bubble needs to close, we will contact all parents immediately.

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ESSENTIAL SCHOOL INFORMATION UPDATE

School Lunches

Unfortunately, we cannot yet move to serving hot meals. We know this isn't ideal and will aim to resume hot options as soon as possible. We appreciate your patience in this matter. Packed lunches include a sandwich, crisps, fruit, bottled water (juniors) and a choice of yoghurt or a homemade dessert eg chocolate-banana muffin, flapjack, raspberry bun, chocolate crispy cake – all the children's favourites!

PE Lessons – new arrangements from next week

PE will resume from next week but please note:

- **On their PE day, children must come to school in a PE kit:** school polo shirt, school jumper, shorts or tracksuit/jogging bottoms or leggings.
- **All juniors should wear trainers on their PE day.**
- **All Year 1 and Year 2 children should come in their school shoes.** They do NOT need pumps, as they will be doing gymnastics in bare feet. Please don't send them in trainers – there are too many pairs of laces to tie! Putting on school shoes (majority having Velcro fasteners) is much easier. Thank you.
- **Reception children do not need PE kits this half term.** They will routinely be accessing the outdoors and only require school shoes and a coat.

PE days are:

Reception	N/A
Year 1	Wednesday
Year 2	Wednesday
Year 3	Wednesday
Year 4	Wednesday
Year 5	Friday
Year 6	Friday

We will send a text to remind you to send your child in their PE kit on their PE day.

Peripatetic Music Lessons

We are hoping to start these week commencing 21st September for children who were receiving lessons last year. We hope to extend the offer, in the coming weeks, to Year 3 children (and any other juniors) wishing to start an instrument. More information to follow.

Choir and Orchestra

These cannot resume at the moment.

Year 4 After School Elite Gym Club

Parents of children selected to join the Elite Gym Club will be contacted shortly. Lessons are due to commence week commencing 21st September.

Reading Books

Whilst we are not sending reading books home at the moment, please be assured that reading has been prioritised across school. All children are being heard read as much as possible from the school's reading scheme. Please continue to listen to your children read at home and please ensure that younger children are read *to* as well. A bedtime story is always special!

Year 6 Parents: Admissions to High School

As yet, we have not received any updated guidance from BwD regarding procedures for applying to high schools. The deadline is usually October 31st. We will forward any information as soon as we receive it.

Thank you,
B Haigh