



St. Gabriel's C.E. Primary School

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

March 2021



Dear Parents,

It has been great to have all the children back in school. Unfortunately, we had to close the Y6 bubble after only three days... but we are hoping that we can go through the summer term with as little disruption as possible.

What about catching up missed learning?

Teachers have been released to spend 1:1 time with every child who didn't attend school during lockdown. We have assessed all children in key areas of learning in order to build a picture of gaps in essential knowledge. This information will be used to plan teaching and learning for the summer term.

Thanks for supporting home learning!

We want to thank you again for supporting your children with home learning – **we can clearly see the impact of your time and efforts.** Most children have kept up with critical maths understanding – through White Rose and phonic understanding (infants) through the Read Write Inc videos and activities set by class teachers. We are also delighted by how many children across school have kept reading! The personal messages, feedback and photos shared through Purple Mash have been fantastic.

Keeping going...

We are aiming to keep as much going as possible, albeit in smaller numbers of children from the same class bubble – this includes choir, orchestra, gymnastics, football, netball. Dinners are still being eaten in classrooms (in the juniors) and no classes are mixing on the yard or in school. We are all hoping that these arrangements will change past June 21st!

self-belief

courage

resilience

ambition

Harmony

Easter Story – whole school re-telling

We haven't been able to bring school together, as we normally would, to celebrate the importance of Easter... so we have done it digitally! Every class has been involved in putting this film together – whether through readings, activities or artwork. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Wright for putting this together for us.

Easter Competition

Please encourage your children to take part – details were sent home earlier this week.

Read-A-Thon Reading Challenge

The Friends will be organising this exciting event in the summer term. Reading is key to unlocking everything else in school, but it's also a pleasure! A good book is something to enjoy, share and escape into...

Rapid Lateral Flow tests for households – not for primary aged children

There is now the option for households of school aged children to request lateral flow tests for their families to use within their own home.

Please follow the link <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

These tests are for **asymptomatic testing only** and if anyone is displaying symptoms they should go to a test centre for a PCR test. **They are not intended for use by primary aged children.** Please see the latest DfE statement below:

*On advice from Public Health England (PHE), **pupils in primary schools and children in nursery settings are not included in the rapid asymptomatic testing programme.***

PHE has advised that there are currently limited public health benefits to testing primary-aged pupils with lateral flow devices (LFD). In addition, primary-aged pupils, particularly younger children, may find the LFD testing process unpleasant and are unable to self-swab.

***We are advising that primary-aged pupils should only be tested if they are symptomatic,** in which case their families should follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and [book a PCR test](#) for the child.*

On behalf of the staff and governors, we wish you all a Happy Easter!



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Dates for Diaries...

Mon 12th April	School re-opens
Tues 13th	Y3 Elite Gym starts 3.30—4.30 (every Tuesday)
Wed 14th	Y6 Morning math's club 8—8.45 a.m. (every Wednesday)
Mon 3rd May	May Bank Holiday
Thurs 6th	FGB Meeting @ 4 p.m.
Thurs 20th	Governors' Finance Meeting @ 4 p.m.
Friday 21st	Class Photographs
Friday 28th	School closes @ 3.30 p.m. for Half Term
Mon 7th June	Inset Day—school closed.
Tues 8th	School re-opens

