



St. Gabriel's C. E. Primary School

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January 2018

Newsletter No. 5

Dear Parents,

Primary School Applications – September 2018 – The deadline date for applications is 15th January. Parents are encouraged to apply online at www.blackburn.gov.uk/pages/school-admissions.aspx.

Christingle – We raised an amazing £733.32 for the Children's Society. Thank you for your generosity to this very worthwhile cause.

Children's Christmas Raffle – Thank you to everyone who supported the School Council who organised this event. **We raised an amazing £314.54** with this Christmas Raffle.



Well done to all the Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children for a fabulous 'It's A Party' nativity. Thanks to the Friends for serving coffee and mince pies too!



Another well done to our Choir and Orchestra who have performed so impressively over this festive season. Huge thanks to Mrs. Holmes for her continued dedication and enthusiasm in leading our Choir, together with Mr. Scott-Thomas.

A big thank you to all those parents, families and friends who joined us for our Junior Carol Service This was a wonderful event with theme of 'The Whole World Celebrates the New Born King'.

Another huge thank you to the Friends for, once again, organizing the magical 'Pocket Money Stall' event. Thanks for all the storage and bargain hunting throughout the year to make this event possible and thanks to all those who came to wrap the gifts on the day! Another magical afternoon!

Well done to all the children (and staff!) who performed in our annual Talent Show – 'X' Factor, Strictly... no comparison!



Termly information Letters to Parents – Please refer to these documents for details of topic work to be covered, PE days, homework arrangements etc. for this term. These are also available on the school website.



Blue Tit Webcam – Once again Y5 are 'spying' on all the activity in our Blue Tit nesting box. We have had a Blue Tit roosting all over the winter. We will keep you informed as events unfold.

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

Quiz Night – Thursday 1st February, 6.00 – 7.30 p.m. in St. Gabriel's School Hall for parents, children and all the family! Tickets £2.50 (children 11 years and under £1.50), supper included (meat and potato or cheese and onion pie). Maximum of 6 per team. Doors open at 5.40 p.m. Please see the Flyer sent home Friday.



Play Leader Training – Year 5 have taken part in 'Play Leader Training' for two afternoons during November, learning essential skills to encourage sporting and play skills with younger children.

Netball Team – On the 14th December, Laiba Khan, Aaliah Musa, Azra Shaik, Safiyya Hanslod, Chloe Reeve, Olivia Banks and Jaya Asal went to a Netball match which took place at the BRIC (Blackburn Rovers Indoor Centre). The first match was a tough one, but we managed to come back in the second half and won 9 to 7. The second match was also quite hard but as expected we won 10 to 2! Thank you to Mrs. Tomlinson for taking us. We all had a great time. Aaliah Musa



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

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



Postage Stamps – Please don't forget to 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 which runs all year.

Dinner Money is payable weekly and is collected in class, on a Monday morning. Payments can be made by cash or cheque (to St Gabriel's School). Please put money in a sealed envelope, labelled with your child's name and class.



Orchestra resumes Wednesday 10th January 2018. Please note that there is no Orchestra after school on Wednesday 17th January.

Choir resumes Thursday 18th January 2018.

Regular Extra Curricular Activities in School

Monday	Lunchtime Football – Y5 and Y6 Boys and Girls Ukulele Groups 3.30 – 4.15 p.m. – Aloha and Mahola alternate weeks - from 15 th January then ongoing
Tuesday	Netball Practice – Y6/Y5 girls – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – from 15 th January then ongoing Y6 Maths Club – 8.00 – 8.55 a.m. – ongoing Gym Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Wednesday	Y6 Maths Club – 8.00 – 8.55 a.m. – ongoing Orchestra Practice 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Thursday	Choir Practice for Juniors – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing Y5 Maths Club – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing
Friday	Absolute Sports (Various) – 3.30 – 4.30 p.m. – ongoing

Dates for Diaries/Activities in School

Mon 8 th Jan	School reopens
Tues 16 th	Sports Hall Athletics, St. Wilfrid's High School – after school
Fri 19 th	Absolute Tri-golf begins – 1 of 4 sessions
Thurs 1 Feb	Governors' Curriculum Committee Meeting – 2.30 p.m. Governors' Finance Committee Meeting – 4.00 p.m. Quiz Night organised by The Friends – 6 – 7.30 p.m.
Wed 7 th	Elite Gym Club Competition at St. Bede's
Thurs 8 th	Netball Tournament at Blackburn Rovers Indoor Centre (BRIC)

Thurs 1 March	Secondary Places offered
Fri 2 nd	Full Governing Body Committee Meeting – 5.00 p.m.
Mon 5 th	Absolute Handball begins – 1 of 4 sessions
Tues 6 th	Quail Eggs Delivered – Quails collected Friday 16 th March
	Y4 trip to Halle for Youth, Bridgewater Hall, Manchester – letter sent separately
	Friends Association Meeting – 7.00 p.m.
Thurs 8 th	Sing Together Concert, King George’s Hall, Blackburn – letter to follow for Choir
Tues 13 th	Parents’ Evening
Thurs 15 th	Netball Tournament at BRIC
	Parents’ Evening
Wed 21 st	Bikeability for Y5 – day 1 of 2 – letter to follow
Thurs 22 nd	Bikeability for Y5 – day 2 of 2
Mon 26 th	Y5 trip to Hothersall Lodge – more details to follow
Tues 27 th	Governors’ Finance Committee Meeting – 4.30 p.m.
Thurs 29 th	School closes at 3.30 p.m. for the Easter holidays

Yours sincerely,
B. Haigh
Headteacher