



# St. Gabriel's C. E. Primary School

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Headteacher:  
Mrs Belinda Haigh

Chair of Governors:  
Mr Norman Reeve

27<sup>th</sup> January 2015

## Newsletter No 8

Dear Parents,

**School Lunch Menu** – We are launching a **new and improved school lunch menu**. This complies with the latest nutrition and food standards and includes lots of new and exciting additions, alongside our traditional favourites.

The new menu will **begin on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> March with week 1**. A copy of the new menu will be sent home with your child early next week.

### **Enterprise Week – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> March**

Each class has been tasked with raising funds for our latest improvement project – the development of a **New Outdoor Learning Area** to be landscaped in the area outside of Reception and Year 1. This is an exciting new project and more information will follow soon.

Meantime, our Enterprise Week will help raise much needed funds. It will also serve to teach children the importance of **industry and economic awareness**, as each class will have the responsibility to seek funds from the Dragon's Den and, consequently, run their own **successful business** by making and selling products which all parents (I'm sure) will see as 'must have' items!!

The children will be visiting a 'Dragon's Den' on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March to try and secure funding for their class projects. They will then make the goods during the Enterprise week. There will then be a **sale** for all the products on the afternoon of **Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April**. Some classes may offer their goods to pre-order. Thank you to the 'Friends of St. Gabriel's' for being the 'Dragons'.

### **World Book Day**

Next **Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> March** is World Book Day. Children are invited to **come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book**. There is no charge for this; £1 book tokens will be given to your child on the day and they will bring home a Book Club brochure which they can order from using their book token.

### **Lent Appeal – Ebola Crisis – Non-Uniform Day!**

The School Council have decided that their Lenten project this year will be to support those in West Africa affected by the Ebola virus. We hope to raise enough money to buy 4 quarantine kits.

To raise the money we will hold a **non-uniform day on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** – suggested donations £1 each – Thank you.



### **Comic Relief – Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March**

Children should come to School in their normal school uniform.

However, they are encouraged to 'paint your face funny for money' and we are asking for a £1 donation to take part in this.

(Creative hair styles are acceptable alternatives to face paint if required.)



**Dance Club** has been taking place every Monday after school with children from Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 taking part.

The children are practicing hard for their ultimate performance at the **'Festival of Dance' at King George's Hall on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2015**. Tickets for this event are on sale from King George's Hall Box Office, but hurry as they are expected to sell out!

### **Bikeability**

Well done to all those children in Year 5 who successfully completed their cycle training this week.

### **'Absolute' Sports Clubs**

Absolute Handball ran an after-school club during end January/early February with over 30 children choosing to take part in this. The children thoroughly enjoyed this relatively new sport and learnt some new skills. **Absolute Golf** is being held for the next 5 weeks on a Friday, starting tonight. If anyone wishes to join in and hasn't returned their slip, please contact the Office.

### **Elite Gym Squad**

Earlier this month, Maseeha Gadataya, Louis Martin, Jack Otobo, Libby Forrest-Yates and Heather Phelan competed in a Blackburn Gymnastics event at St Bede's High School. We were narrowly beaten to first place by Meadowhead School. **HUGE congratulations to the Year 4 Elite Gym Squad**. The next 12-strong team of Year 3 children are now training hard, looking forward to competing for the first place trophy at the next competition, when they are in Year 4!

In addition, the entire squad including: Jack Otobo, Thomas Bury, Francesco Fardella, Calum Martin, Louis Martin, Libby Forrest-Yates, Maseeha Gadataya, Heather Phelan, Isobel Ramsden, Iman Zafar, Amy Procter and Rhys Barwell, visited St Bede's, along with Mrs Crossman, to demonstrate gymnastics at a training course for teachers across the borough. Well done. We were very proud of you!

### **St Wilfrid's Gym & Dance Show**

On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> February, a group of Y6 children visited St Wilfrid's Academy, along with Mrs Crossman and Mrs Pursglove, to watch a Gym and Dance performance by their students. A fantastic time was had by all. A huge thanks to Mr Mark Reeve of St Wilfrid's for organizing transport for this event.

### **Nest Boxes**

Orders are now being taken for blue tit and robin nest boxes. Please refer to the letter sent home this week. This is the Year 5 Enterprise project.

### **Indoor Athletics**

On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January, the Year 6 athletics team visited Pleckgate High School for the Indoor Athletic Tournament. This was a keenly contested event. St Gabriel's finished in second place. Very well done to the team: CJ Meadows, Thomas Kilshaw, Ruben Smith, Muhammad Khan, Elliot Martin, Jordon Eddleston, Ella Stevenson, Autumn Souch, Amber Robinson, Jodie Robinson, Cortlen Rowe and Katy Lord.

For the first time ever our Year 2's took part in the Blackburn KS1 athletics event held at QEG's. Adam Mulla, Karimah Mohamed, Mohammed Dema, Rebecca Gray, Lucy Gray, Jude King, Abdurehman Amhad, Jaya Asal, Jack Probert, Matthew Gardner, Olivia Banks and Chloe Reeve all behaved impeccably and we are all very proud of you.

A big thankyou to Miss Brewster and Miss Jameson for taking them to this event; it was a great experience and their first taste of competitive sport; I'm sure they're already looking forward to the next one.

### **Website Update**

We recently had a photographer in school visiting all of the classrooms, the outdoor activities, and sports sessions, taking pictures for use on our new website. Work is on schedule to have the new website up and running on our return after the Easter holidays. We will share more information on this with you in the coming weeks.

### **Easter Special Lunch**

On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> April the catering staff are providing an Easter Special Lunch. Details to follow.

### **Sealife Centre, Blackpool**

Mrs Mackley took her Year 1 Class to the Sealife Centre at Blackpool. The children had a fantastic day and learnt lots of interesting facts about the animals there. They enjoyed hands-on experiences with the sea creatures and were able to use all these good ideas back at school when designing their own Great Barrier Reef wall-hangings.

### **Postage Stamps**

We would gratefully accept your used postage stamps. These are given to the East Lancashire Hospice where they are exchanged for cash to boost their much needed funds.

### **Sainsburys Active Kids**

If you shop at Sainsbury's, School would be really grateful for any of the Active Kids vouchers you may receive. Please feel free to send them in with your child, or drop them into the collection box sited outside the School Office.



### **Dates for Diaries**

Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March -	<i>'Festival of Dance'</i> at King George's Hall
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March -	World Book Day
	Full Governing Body & Admissions Meeting 5.30pm
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> March -	New school lunch menu begins – week 1
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March -	'Sing Together' at King George's Hall
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March -	Comic Relief – 'Paint Your Face Funny for Money'
Weds 18 <sup>th</sup> & Thurs 19 <sup>th</sup> March -	Family & Individual Photographs
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March -	Non-Uniform Day (Lent Appeal)
	Bag2School collection
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March -	Enterprise Week
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March -	Governors Finance meeting 4pm
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March -	Big Screen Cinema event – after school (more details to follow)
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March -	Y5 trip to Hothersall Lodge
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April -	Easter Special Lunch
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April -	"Roll an Egg"
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April -	School closed Good Friday
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens for the Summer Term

Yours sincerely,  
**B. Haigh**  
Headteacher