



St. Gabriel's C. E. Primary School

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Headteacher:
Mrs Belinda Haigh

Chair of Governors:
Mr Norman Reeve

8th May 2015

Newsletter No 10

Dear Parents,

Fond Farewell! – Both Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Tomlinson will be leaving us at the end of the summer term.

Mrs. Turner will be retiring after 18 years at St. Gabriel's. Her contributions to enhancing music throughout school have been tremendous. Her dedication to both the choir and orchestra has been steadfast and the whole school community has benefitted greatly from her passion and expertise – children, staff and parents alike. Whilst Mrs. Turner will be sadly missed, the legacy of her passion for music will remain at the heart of St. Gabriel's.

Mrs. Tomlinson has been a Teaching Assistant in our school for 14 years. I am delighted to say, however, that she intends to maintain the after school netball club next year. Mrs. Tomlinson has always been a keen advocate of sport and has routinely taught PE across the juniors. Her sporting enthusiasm and expertise in French will be sadly missed.

Details of staffing arrangements for the next academic year will be provided after half term.

New Outdoor Area – We are all absolutely thrilled with our new outdoor area – complete with running stream, fire pit and story area. We are still awaiting delivery of our 'Storyteller Chair' and benches which are due to arrive in the last week of this term. It will take a little time for the planting and turf to become established, so we intend it to be in full use later in the summer term. **A HUGE thanks to the Friends for their massive contribution of funds to this project and for all of our parents over the years who have supported our fundraising events.**

New Website – Our new website, complete with Twitter and Facebook accounts, will be launched shortly. You may have already realized that our old website is no longer operational. We are working hard to ensure that the new site will be up and running as soon as possible. In the meantime, if there is any information you require which you would previously have obtained from the website, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



Summer Term Class Information Sheets were sent home to parents last week. I hope you find this information helpful in supporting your child/ren in school.

Y5 Nest Box News – written by Shiphrah Lord

In Year Five, the blue tits and the great tits are battling it out to see who will get the nest box! Throughout the Easter holiday, the great tits worked hard to construct a very luxurious nest. However, on the twenty ninth of April, the blue tits came into the box and laid two of their own eggs in the great tit's nest! On Friday the first of May, the blue tit laid two more! Then, last weekend, the great tit laid three of its own eggs in the very same nest! Even better, the great tit is now incubating both sets of eggs! Whose eggs do you think will hatch first - the blue tit's, or the great tit's? by Shiphrah, Y5

Centre Point at St. Gabriel's Church for Youths in Year 6+ on Fridays, 7.30-9.00 p.m. – cost £2.
For more information contact Niclas Benett – 07858936413 or email niclasbenett@paisproject.com



Birthday Treats – Many parents wish to celebrate their child's birthday by generously sending in birthday cakes or sweets to share around. Unfortunately, this kindly gesture causes complications in classes. Increasing numbers of children have allergies which exclude them from being able to accept cake and chocolates, other children are not permitted sweets with gelatine. There are also difficulties in cutting up and distributing 30 pieces of cake! As a compromise, we recommend that parents wishing to celebrate birthdays do not supply cakes or sweets, but mini gifts such as pencils or rubbers. One parent recently supplied pots of blowing bubbles! Thank you for your generosity. Nothing is ever simple.

Dates for Diaries

Mon 11 May	Y5/Y6 Netball Practice – 3.30-4.30 p.m. (ongoing)
Tues 12	Elite Gym Squad – 3.30-4.30 p.m. (ongoing)
Fri 15	Y3/Y4 Swimming (ongoing)
Tues 19	Music Concert in School – 7.00 p.m. (tickets @ £2 now on sale)
Wed 20	Animals In-Tuition (mini-beasts) visit to Reception Class/Year After School Away Football Match
Thurs 21	Sports Day – afternoon – parents invited to attend Governors' Finance Committee Meeting – 4.00 p.m.
Fri 22	Sports Day (reserve date) – morning – parents invited to attend School closes at 3.30 p.m. for Half Term (2 weeks)
Mon 8 June	School re-opens
Tues 9	Y2 Trip to Cuerden Valley Park New Parents Day for children starting school in September 2015
Wed 10	Reception Class Trip to Farmer Ted's
Thurs 11	Class and Group Photographs
Mon 15	Governors' Curriculum Meeting – 2.30 p.m. Athletics at Witton Park after school Y5 Bikeability (Mon 15 – Thurs 18)
Wed 17	Y3 Trip to Blackpool Zoo New Parents Day for children starting school in September 2015
Thurs 18	Y6 Cricket – 10.00-3.00 p.m. Y4 Trip to Brockholes Nature Reserve
Thurs 25	Fun Run with St. Wilfrid's – details to follow
Tues 30	Y4 at St. Wilfrid's for Music Concert – details to follow Friends' Meeting in school – 7.00 p.m.
Wed 1 July	St. Wilfrid's Induction Day for Y6 children starting in September 2015 (Wed 1 – Fri 3)
Tues 7	Y1 Trip to Formby Beach
Fri 10	Y3/Y4 Swimming (last session)
Mon 13	Y5/Y6 Netball Practice (last session)
Tues 14	Elite Gym Squad (last session)
Wed 15	Y6 Show – details to follow
Thurs 16	Y6 Show – details to follow
Tues 21	End of Year Service in Church – 7.00 p.m.
Thurs 23	School Awards Service in School – 9.15 a.m. – Y6 parents invited to attend
Fri 24	School closes for the summer holidays – 3.30 p.m.

Sainsburys Active Kids – Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers have now stopped. Please send your outstanding vouchers into school with your child, or drop them into the collection box sited outside the School Office as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,
B. Haigh
Headteacher