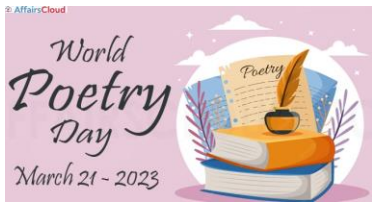




Nurturing Hearts and Minds



Missio Appeal

Thank you for all of your donations for our Missio Appeal. This will make a huge difference and your donations are very much appreciated. Father Tony works tirelessly to support this important cause and is truly grateful for your kindness.



The Messenger

Friday 24th March 2023

I can hardly believe that we are approaching the end of our spring term, and on Sunday, British summer time begins. Just a reminder that clocks go forward one hour at lam on Sunday.

World Poetry Day

For the first time ever, St Gabriel's children came together to celebrate World Poetry Day on 21st March with a joyous poetry performance from each class.

Reception class led the way with their super performance of a selection of poems from the wonderful Poetry Basket scheme. The following poems were performed by the other classes:

Year 1 – Five Little Fish (anon)

Year 2 – On the Ning Nang Nong by Spike Milligan

Year 3 – Slowly by James Reeves

Year 4 – The River by Valerie Bloom

Year 5 – Silver by Walter de la Mare

Year 6 – The Warm and the Cold by Ted Hughes

It was great fun listening to the performances and sharing poems.

The discipline involved in memorising lines, reciting as a group and rehearsing for the performance leaves children with a tremendous sense of achievement when they have succeeded.

Following the assembly, children have been inspired to read more poetry and have a go at writing their own poems.

Virtual Author Visit

KSI children were lucky enough to receive a virtual author visit this week from Ian Eagleton. Ian is an award-winning children's author and ex-primary school teacher.

The children were spellbound listening to a real author reading aloud to them. He read two books: *Nen* and *The Lonely Fisherman and The Woodcutter and the Snow Prince*.

They had the opportunity to ask questions about Ian's journey to becoming an author and to write the beginning of a poem with him. He even taught them some sign language as he used to teach deaf children.



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SINGFEST 2023



Children found it hugely funny to hear Ian read a story about a hamster from his childhood diary. Ian wrote it when he was just 10 years old, demonstrating that the writing bug can start early in life! Huge thanks to Mrs Rice-Birchall for organising this valuable virtual visit.

Singfest 2023

This week was another reminder of the fantastic children we have in our school, our Shining Rays represented St. Gabriel's beautifully. The children sang and performed a medley of songs organised by Love Music Trust alongside other primary and secondary schools at Congleton Town Hall. It was a magical afternoon and one which the children (and staff!) will remember for a long time. Huge thank you to Mrs Keating and Mrs Maguire who prepared our children so brilliantly.

Food Bank Collection

We are still collecting each week for our local food bank. Donations in recent months have become less frequent, yet there has never been a greater need. Please do continue to donate small items of non-perishable foods if you feel able; this helps support the most vulnerable in our community. If you have any questions about the Alsager Food Bank or you would like to help, please speak to Sarah Jayne Humphries who kindly dedicates a lot of her time in helping this fantastic cause.

Stoke City Football Club

I hope all of you who were able to attend the mighty Britannia Stadium to watch Stoke City last weekend enjoyed their visit. Whilst there were unfortunately no goals, the children had a great time. It was wonderful to see our name up in lights! Thank you to Taylor in Year 2 for the great photos!

Art Gallery

Next Thursday (30th March) we will be opening our 'Art Gallery' @ 3:00pm. All children have created a masterpiece in school which will be on sale. Eli Shenton (Y6) and his Mum have organised some fantastic raffle prizes for you, such as:



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ids*

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**Art
Gallery**

HEALTH & SAFETY



Please use the pedestrian gates and the paths around school. Be extra vigilant when the bin lorry is on the premises and use the side path to Pre-School. Thankyou.

Important Notice



If anyone would like 1/2 bag of ballast hardcore and 2 slabs please see Mr C.

- L'Ulivo vouchers
- Original art pieces from 'Two Doors Studio'
- Small hand crafted sculpture from The Cottage Gallery
- Casters voucher
- X-hail gift voucher for 'Extended chill' session
- Gladstone pottery museum voucher
- Family Trial pass at Kidsgrove and Newcastle Taekwondo
- Beauty Boutique voucher
- Tatton park Dogfest passes
- 2x free PT sessions at 4FITT
- 'Home' cafe voucher
- Eup Duck Voucher
- Cafe glaze voucher
- 2 x Stoke City tickets

As well as these fabulous prizes, for each piece of artwork that is sold one tree will be planted.

Sport News

Well done to our Year 5 & Year 6 swimming gala team who represented our school on Tuesday. We were so proud of all of our swimmers, who showed great resilience, teamwork and enthusiasm.

Good luck!

Congratulations to Tyga Lily (Year 4) who has been selected to represent Sandbach gymnastics squad tomorrow at the regional qualifier 2 event - Tyga we are so proud of you!

Prayer Bags

The following children have taken prayer bags home today.

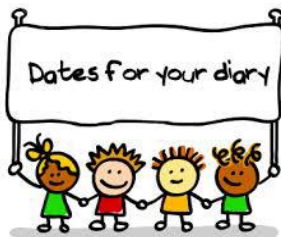
- Reception – Darcie Beech
- Year 1 – Sebastian Hare
- Year 2 – Abigail Simpson
- Year 3 – Alexis Chu
- Year 4 – Henry Chadwick
- Year 5 – Alfie Markham
- Year 6 – Isla Horsham



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27/3 Y2 visit

Church

28/3 Easter Mass

29/3 Easter

Assembly

30/3 Return

Bag2Schl

30/3 Art Gallery

31/3 School closes

School Contact Details

St Gabriel's Catholic Primary

School

Well Lane

Alsager

Stoke-on-Trent

ST7 2PG

Main Contact: Mrs Stevenson and

Mrs McCann

Tel: 01270 875770

Email: admin@stgabriels.cheshire.sc

h.uk

SEN Contact: Mrs Claire Stevenson

Mrs Metters

It is with great sadness and a heavy heart that I need to inform you that Mrs Metters will be leaving St Gabriel's at the end of this term. There are no words to describe how much we will miss Mrs Metters who has devoted her life to our school family for the past thirty-four years. I know that she will carry St Gabriel's in her heart and the many children, parents and staff that have been blessed to have known her will always remember her with so much love and so many cherished memories. Please keep Mrs Metters and her family in your thoughts and prayers.

A message from Mrs Metters, who will be leaving with sadness this Easter at a time when her family needs her most:

Dear Parents,

After 34 years teaching at the best school in the world, I find myself suddenly approaching my final days at St Gabriel's. I will miss the joy and energy of young hearts, full of love and promise and sparkle, and I will be forever thankful for my treasured years here. To borrow the words of a little bear:

'How lucky am I to have something so special, that makes saying goodbye so hard.'



Winnie the Pooh, and Mrs Metters

Have a wonderful, restful weekend.

God Bless,

Mrs C. Stevenson

Acting Headteacher