



# The Messenger



St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School Well Lane, Alsager, ST7 2PG  
01270 875770 email: [admin@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk)

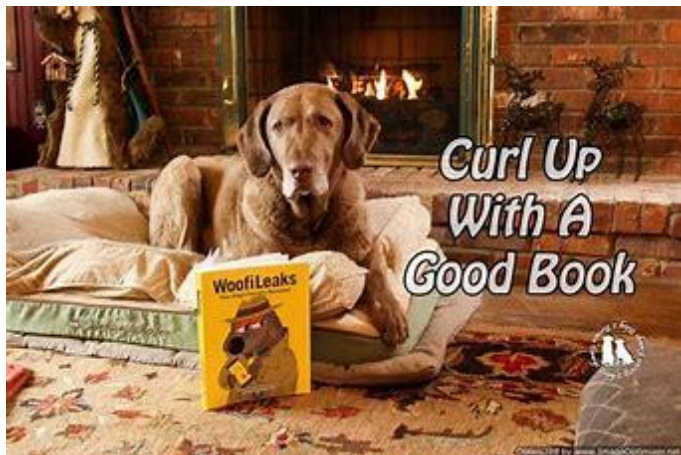
*'Nurturing Hearts and Minds'*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Included with the newsletter is an appendix showing the results of the recent parent survey carried out in December. Thank you to all those that responded. The results are very positive, but also highlight concerns where we can try to do better. I have included a summary after the results so you can see how we will try to improve the scores on these questions next time. Make sure you scroll to the end of the document. 😊

The 'dress to express' day last week was a great success and a great day for all. One highlight was Mrs McCann and Mrs Stevenson delighting us all with their love of holidays from the 'sun-soaked beach' to the cold winter ski air and dressing accordingly! The children were amazing as always and we raised a total of **£187.57** For the Place2be mental health charity. Thank you all!

Have a wonderful half term break!



*'Curl up with a book...'*

**We will celebrate World Book Day on Friday 4 March. Rather than dress up in favourite book characters, we will wear our favourite clothes to curl up with a book! So, these could be our onesies, our pj's and even dressing gowns. I'm sure the staff will be joining in as usual!**

**School Book Fair!** Open Monday 28 Feb for parents to visit 3-4pm. Children will visit during the school day with their orders.

## Forthcoming Dates for diary

<b>2022</b>	
Friday 18 February	School closes for half-term
<b>Half Term week</b>	ASM Holiday Clubs @ St Gabriel's
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	School opens
Monday 28 February	School Book Fair in Hall 3:00-3:45 for parents to view
Wednesday 2 March	Ash Wednesday, Lent begins.
Wednesday 9 March	Full Governing Body Meeting
Wednesday 16 March	Sacrament of Reconciliation (children in Y3 who are making their Holy Communion)
Friday 1 April	School closes for Easter
<b>Easter Sunday 17 April</b>	
Tuesday 19 April	School opens
Monday 2 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Monday 9 May	SATS Week (Y6)
Saturday 14 May	Holy Communion Mass
Wednesday 25 May	Queen's Platinum Jubilee Lunch
Friday 27 May	School closes
Monday 6 June	School opens

**EXCELLENT PERFORMANCE** from our Year 4 'Dodgeball' team who represented St Gabriel's last night at Alsager School. Finishing a highly commendable second, they all performed excellently and with great spirit in each 5 minute all action throwing catching and dodging game! Well done Year 4!!!

### Keeping Our Community Safe

If driving, please be careful and keep to the speed limits when approaching the school from Cedar Avenue at drop off and pick up times. Outside of school there is a 20mph limit. Parents and residents are all too aware that we must keep everyone in our community safe, avoiding any possible accidents. Please be extra vigilant.

**ALSO: Please keep to one way system of approaching school from Cedar Avenue and up Well Lane... please do not try to drive 'down' Well Lane against the traffic at busy periods.**

**PUPIL ABSENCE:** If you are reporting your child's absence, please ring the school and use the absence line. This way we can ensure the reason for absence is recorded quickly and avoid a follow up phone call.

## Communication by text or email issues

It has become apparent if you are on Virgin or Sky's network- replies are being prevented to the school office. If you download the 'School Gateway' App- these networks will allow you to reply.

### *'Funny Friday'*

Q. What do you call a man lying on your doorstep?

A. Matt! (*Connor Williams Y1*)

Q. How do you stop a horse catching infection?

A. Mascarpone. (*Isla Luxford Y5*)

Q. Do you want to know why I'm scared of trampolines?

A. They make me jump! (*Oscar Schirmer Y3*)

To share your joke just write it down with your name and class, hand it in to your class teacher or Mr. Byrne. If you can make him laugh... there's a good chance you may get your name on the next newsletter!



## Parent Survey December 2021

How we view the responses... based on 81 responses.

<b>95% +</b>	<b>90-94</b>	<b>80-89</b>	<b>70-79</b>	<b>Below 70</b>
excellent	very good	Good but...	Needs attention	

	Question	Strongly agree %	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know	Positive response
<b>1</b>	My child is happy and enjoys this school.	79.5	13.2	6		1.2	92.7
<p><i>This is always a priority for us for every child to feel happy to enjoy coming to school. 6% of responses suggest the experience may not be as positive as it should be. Do come and talk to us if you need to.</i></p>							
<b>2</b>	I feel welcome when I come into/contact the school	82	16			1.2	98
<p><i>We always aim to ensure that we value all within the school community in ensuring good working relationships. The Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher's presence on the school gate each morning is something we place great importance on and is an opportunity for us to see and chat with parents and children when required.</i></p>							
<b>3</b>	I would find it easy to approach the school	79.5	15.6	2.4	1.2	1.2	95.1
<p><i>Similarly, it is important you feel we are approachable should the need arise.</i></p>							
<b>4</b>	My child feels safe at this school.	83.1	14.4	1.2		1.2	97.5
<p><i>This is vitally important to us and is always our first priority.</i></p>							
<b>5</b>	My child is well looked after at this school.	73.4	25.3		1.2		98.7
<p><i>1.2% of responses is just one, but still highly important.</i></p>							
<b>6</b>	My child makes good progress at this school.	61.4	31.3	2.4		2.4	92.7

The vast majority of responses tell us you are pleased with your child's progress. Where some may feel progress is a concern, please do talk with us if you haven't already done so.

7	My child is taught well at St Gabriel's.	62.6	33.7	1.2		2.4	96.3
	<b>Question</b>	<b>Strongly agree %</b>	<b>Tend to agree</b>	<b>Tend to disagree</b>	<b>Strongly disagree</b>	<b>Don't know</b>	<b>Positive response</b>
8	My child receives an adequate amount of homework	61.4	33.7	3.6	1.2		95.1
9	I know how to help my child with their homework	65	30	2.4	1.2	1.2	95
10	I am satisfied with the reading books/materials my child brings home	50	47.5	0	1.2	1.2	97.5
11	There are sufficient extra-curricular activities available	10.9	35.3	23.1	21.9	8.5	46.2
<p><i>This has been one of the biggest challenges in managing effective provision since we began to bring some clubs back and provide some new ones since October. This needs attention to try and provide something for all year groups. We do need to see out this first half term and managing the infection rate as best as we can. We will however be looking to improve the provision after half term.</i></p>							
12	The school achieves high standards of behaviour	52.4	41.4	3.6	1.2	1.2	93.8
<p><i>We pride ourselves on the standards of behaviour of pupils at St Gabriel's. It is often noted by visitors to the school about the children's attitudes to learning and conduct around school. There will unfortunately be incidents from time to time which can impact on this, however these are few and far between and we emphasise the many positive examples our children demonstrate and experience daily.</i></p>							
13	The school deals effectively with bullying	26.8	28	6	2.4	36.5*	91.3*
<p><i>We are committed to ensuring bullying has no place at St Gabriel's. Where incidents have occurred, we immediately involve parents and pupils to resolve matters.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>We have included the 'don't knows' as a positive, hopefully because those have never had a concern.</i></li> </ul>							
14	I feel the school is well led and managed	62	34	2.4	1.2		96
15	I would recommend St Gabriel's to other parents	73	22	1.2		3.6	95

16	I am satisfied with the provision St Gabriel's offers.	56	33	2.4		8.4	89
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*Although 89% is high, 11% of responses seem hesitant in the overall offer from the school. This may be due to the lower scoring questions here, such as the after-school provision and some perceptions in the standards of behaviour. We will always endeavour to provide a rich experience for the children.*

## Summary

Areas that have been voiced with concern mainly include after school provision and communication. There is no doubt that the pandemic has affected everyone's approach to living today and we have been no different. We have had to make some tough choices over the months in how we have managed our situation and context.

In response to this, we have sought more after school provision after half term to enable each class an opportunity to access a club each week. Where this isn't happening straight away for a particular class, we are still trying to make this happen as soon as possible.

Communication is vitally important to us to ensure it works and you know what is happening in school. Our main platform is always the school website. We will send you emails with the school newsletter on, whilst we also publish these on the website also.

Class Dojo appears to be an effective tool to aid communication, and all classes are now up and running.

Thank you for completing the survey and persevering with some glitches. Overall, the response is really positive, and your comments are really important to us to bring about a better experience for our children and you. We will continue to strive for excellent outcomes for all of your children.