



The Messenger

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

NATIONAL LOCKDOWN 3.0

PLEASE STAY HOME. PROTECT THE NHS. SAVE LIVES

If you are a key worker and can still work at home, please keep your children at home.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are approaching the end of Week 3 since we returned after Christmas which seems such a long time ago now. Lockdown 3.0 brings its new challenges to all of us, notably another way of working, and how the children are learning. To those of you supporting your children at home, thank you. It is difficult, it can be stressful and time consuming amongst many other thoughts, feelings and emotions experienced. Just remember- whatever you are able to do to support your children at home, will be making a difference to them.

Our staff have adapted the way they work quickly, creatively, and also with great commitment as always, resulting in the response we are seeing to the learning and the live lessons being really encouraging. Routines appear to have been well established now and barring technology fails, things appear to be working better this week for all. We have invested in new technology to aid the delivery of the remote approach to children at home and in school. We know that there will still be technology issues and we are continually receiving advice and support to improve practice all round, so keep bearing with us. I seem to have adapted my own role somewhat too, to be an 'onsite techie' troubleshooting all things and everything – never thought I'd ever be able to say that!

I've included some expectations for all when using the remote provision. I hope this helps everyone. Stay safe and enjoy the weekend.

E J Byrne

A Writing Masterclass...

In English, our remote learning started off with a real sense of excitement this term. Pupils from Y1-6 have been so fortunate to have participated in author Luke Temple's writing masterclasses over the last fortnight. We are grateful to Luke for offering his masterclasses for free. It's been wonderful to see how the children have been inspired and motivated to write and read by connecting with a real author.

With amazing support from parents and carers at home, the children have delved deeply into the writing process and learned more about what it takes to be an author.

Luke tells us that he didn't particularly enjoy writing at school but that hasn't stopped him successfully publishing many popular children's books. Hopefully that will encourage some of our more reluctant writers to pick up their pencils and have a go.

Children from all year groups have been sending teachers their fantastic work and some of it will be passed on to Luke who is keen to see what the children have been up to.

Finally, we must say a huge thank you to parents and carers for the support you have given your children with this masterclass. We hope it has been a positive experience for you too.

Mrs Rice-Birchall

A Prayer for Hope

*Angel of God, my guardian dear,
To whom God's love commits me here;
Ever this day, be at my side,
To light and guard,
To rule and guide. Amen*





Pupil Expectations

- make sure you have an adult present who can support you, but at least oversee/overhear what is happening on screen.
- We expect you to wear your normal clothes, no pyjamas please!
- Please turn off your camera. When teaching is happening, the host teacher will share their screen with you or you will see their image on screen directing you
- You will need to enter the meeting with your mic on mute so that no feedback distorts the sound from lots of different rooms.
- Depending on the lesson and the task, your teacher may direct you to turn on/off your mic and camera.
- To ask a question, use the chat function to type your question
- Don't be afraid to ask questions – they're **always** valid! (Use the raised hand icon to if you have something you wish to ask)
- We expect excellent behaviour at all times. There will be no silliness whilst online with everyone else. This includes using unkind emoji's in the chat function. Any poor behaviour will result in parents being contacted after the lesson. I'm sure it will be a very positive experience.

Expectations of parental support

- Oversee your child's engagement in online and remote learning.
- We expect parents to contact school if a problem occurs and ask for help if you are unsure about anything
- Help your child to succeed and ask for help if there is anything you are not sure about
- Make sure work is returned to school

Returning work expectations

- We will always try to give feedback wherever possible for each piece of work submitted to us. We do value everything the children (and you) are doing to support the learning. 😊
- some work can be marked at home whilst online or mark sheets are accessible via the home learning page
- each class has its own email address for correspondence e.g. reception@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk, year1@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk etc. This can be used to send work in.
- Other platforms can also be used such as Class Dojo, Purple Mash where photographs can be sent through.