

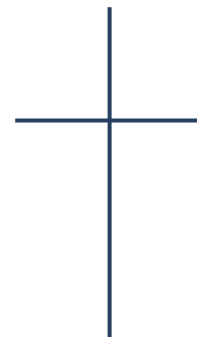


50 years of St Gabriel's
1975-2025

St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School and Pre-School

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5th September 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome to Year Six. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and feel refreshed and raring to go! This year's teaching team:

Ms Dickenson - Class Teacher

Mrs Hall - TA (Monday - Thursday)

Mrs Chu - TA (Friday morning)

Mrs Stokes - TA (Friday afternoon)

Curriculum information

Religion

Our first Religion unit will be 'Creation & Covenant' during the first half term and during the second half term our unit will be 'Prophecy & Promise'. More detail about the lesson objectives may be found on the Year 6 page of the school website.

Maths

This term we will be continuing with our Power Maths scheme of work and will be learning about: Place value, four operations; fractions and imperial and metric units of measure. Making sure that we are confident with our times tables will be a priority. We will continue to use Times Tables Rock Stars and take part in a weekly times tables test.

Another feature of our learning in maths will be a weekly arithmetic test, similar to the one that your child will sit during SATs week. We have found that introducing these tests straight away enables children to gain



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confidence over the year in their arithmetic and makes the actual SATs arithmetic test nothing to fear.

English:

This term our English work will dip into several different texts, but our main class texts will be linked to our history topic of World War Two. We will study the book 'Letters from the Lighthouse' by Emma Carroll. We will also be reading and listening to many books just for the pleasure of reading. These texts will include 'Seven Ghosts' by Chris Priestly and 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. In our reading comprehensions will also be reading the initial chapters of many novels from a range of genres.

Whole class guided reading will occur two days per week. We will follow the 'Reading Vipers' method. Please see the Year 6 website for more information on this if required.

Spelling tests will occur every Thursday. For most children, this will be around 20 spellings. We will start by reviewing the Year 3/4/5 & 6 Statutory Words and then we will progress through the Year 6 spelling patterns. The full list of statutory words is available in the files section on the Year 6 page of the school website. A good app to help children with their spellings is 'Spelling Shed'. Those children who find spelling difficult will choose around 10 spellings to practice from the list of 20 given.

Grammar is an important aspect of our learning in English. As such, we will look at grammar as a discrete subject but also in the context of a range of texts, often linked in with our reading comprehensions and our class novel. If you are unsure of any grammar terms, please see the information sheet in the files section of the Year 6 class page on the website.

Reading

All children will be expected to bring a book to school to read every day or borrow one from our class collection. We will have regular opportunities to read quietly in class to build up our reading stamina. The SATs reading comprehension test requires children to read three separate texts and

answer questions on all three. Children who are not used to reading for any length of time will struggle unless they practise. Please encourage your child to read at home for 15 to 20 minutes a day. They are not too old to read out loud to you. They are also not too old to be read to at bedtime. You have a really important role in modelling how to read aloud in an entertaining way. We would also like you to sign your child's reading record on a weekly basis. In addition, research has found that putting the subtitles on the television or when watching videos, helps children to read and learn new vocabulary. Many thanks.

History, Geography, Art & Design Technology

Our history topic as mentioned already is World War Two. Much of our English and history work will be based on this. We are also delighted to be able to offer a trip to the **Imperial War Museum North** on Monday 29th September. Please see a separate letter for further details (available soon).

Our Geography topic is called, 'Extreme Earth' and will begin in the second half of this term. History and geography units will alternate throughout the course of the year, roughly one per half term.

Other Subjects

Science: We will be studying 'Light' and 'Electricity'.

French: Every Friday afternoon with Madame Davis

Music: Music will continue on Wednesday afternoons. Every child in Year 6 will be learning to play the ukulele, which will be very exciting.

Computing: We will continue to follow our Purple Mash computing scheme of work. Our first units will be about online safety and coding.

Design & Technology: We will continue to follow the KAPOW scheme of work. Our first topic will link closely to our electricity work in science.

P.E.: Year 6 will have PE twice a week throughout the year. On Mondays, please ask your child to ***come into school wearing their kit*** and to bring their uniform to change into. This kit can then be left in lockers for the Friday PE session with ASM. There will be no swimming lessons this year. However, any children who have not attained their 25m badge will go swimming with younger year groups in the summer term.



R.H.E. (Relationship & Health Education): We will continue to follow our scheme of work called 'Life to the Full' which is a specially produced scheme for Catholic primary schools. More information on this can be found in the 'Catholic Life' section of the school website.

Class Dojo & Emails

We will be using the Class Dojo again this year as a helpful tool to communicate class information quickly and show photographs of classroom activities. The messaging facility has been removed and we would now ask parents to email the school directly with any queries or problems.

MacMillan Big Coffee Morning

On the morning of Friday 26th September (9:15-10:15am), we will host our annual MacMillan coffee morning. We will be asking for cake donations nearer the time. Year 6 will be serving the cakes and refreshments. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Remembrance Day Assembly

Year 6 will lead a Remembrance Day Assembly this year. We hope to hold this on Tuesday 11th November at 10:40am and would like to invite Year 6 family members to come and watch.

Homework:

On Fridays, homework will be set for the week. Your child will make a note of the homework in their homework planners. The planners will also contain their spellings for the week. If unsure, the homework will be listed at the top of the Year 6 page of the school website. Homework will then be marked in class the following Friday, although it may be brought back in as soon as it is complete and placed in the homework box. Any child who has not completed their homework will then be expected to show the missing completed homework the following week. A typical week's homework **may** look like this:

Maths: One page in a maths workbook

Times Tables: Times Tables Rockstars site

English: Two or three pages in a reading comprehension workbook.

Spellings: 20 words made up of common spelling patterns and a selection of words from the Year 5/6 Statutory word lists. **Tests on Thursdays**

Reading: Children should regularly read their own reading book for pleasure

Stanley Head

The residential trip this academic year is to Stanley Head. The residential is a five-day and four-night experience. This is a fantastic outdoor education facility, thoroughly enjoyed by all previous classes and staff! We have booked the week beginning 19th January 2026. Please get in touch if your child is nervous about this trip as I would hate for anyone to miss out on such a fabulous experience. More information to follow.

SATs Week

Next year, the KS2 SATs will take place in the week beginning Monday 11th May 2026. The tests will run from the Monday to the Thursday. There will be 3 maths tests, 1 reading comprehension, 1 spelling test and 1 grammar test. During the weeks after the test week, we will concentrate on our writing assessment, as this is done in school and not through a formal test. Please do not book any holidays during term times this year.

Boosters

To reach the expected standard in maths your child may require extra support. During the Autumn Term, I will assess your child in these areas and consider whether they would benefit from this additional help. If so, your child may be invited to attend an after-school booster group on Tuesdays. The after-school booster groups will start after Christmas.

Yearbook & Hoodies

Later in the year, we will be ordering Leavers' Hoodies for the class. These are a great souvenir which will replace the school jumper in the final term of the year.



We will also create a school yearbook for the class during the final term of the year. These have been extremely popular for the last five years since we introduced them.

Mobile Phones

Year 6 are allowed to bring their mobile phones to school ONLY if they are required on their walk home. If your child does bring their phone, they must follow these simple rules:

1. All phones must be turned off before entering the school grounds and must not be turned on again until your child has left the school grounds.
2. All phones must be handed in to me at the start of the day where they will be kept safe in a cupboard. The phones will be returned at the end of the day. This avoids the temptation to 'check' phones during the day. It also keeps these expensive items safe.

Uniform

Information about school uniform can be found on the school website. Please also remember that all children with hair which reaches their shoulders should tie this up off the neck. Children coming to school with their hair up at the front but down at the back will be asked to tie it up completely. Small earrings are permitted but must be removed by your child just before a PE session. Please remember that these earrings should be studs and not hoops.

Snacks

As usual, toast is available at playtimes. The only other permitted snacks are non-processed items such as fruit and vegetables. Please also remember that water bottles should contain plain water and not juice or flavoured waters, as these can contribute towards tooth decay.

Attendance & Appointments

If your child is ill, please email Mrs Stevenson in Reception at the following address: admin@stgabriels.cheshire.sch.uk

Also, if your child has an appointment in school time, please also email Mrs Stevenson who will then pass this information on to the Year 6 team. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Ms M Dickenson



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