

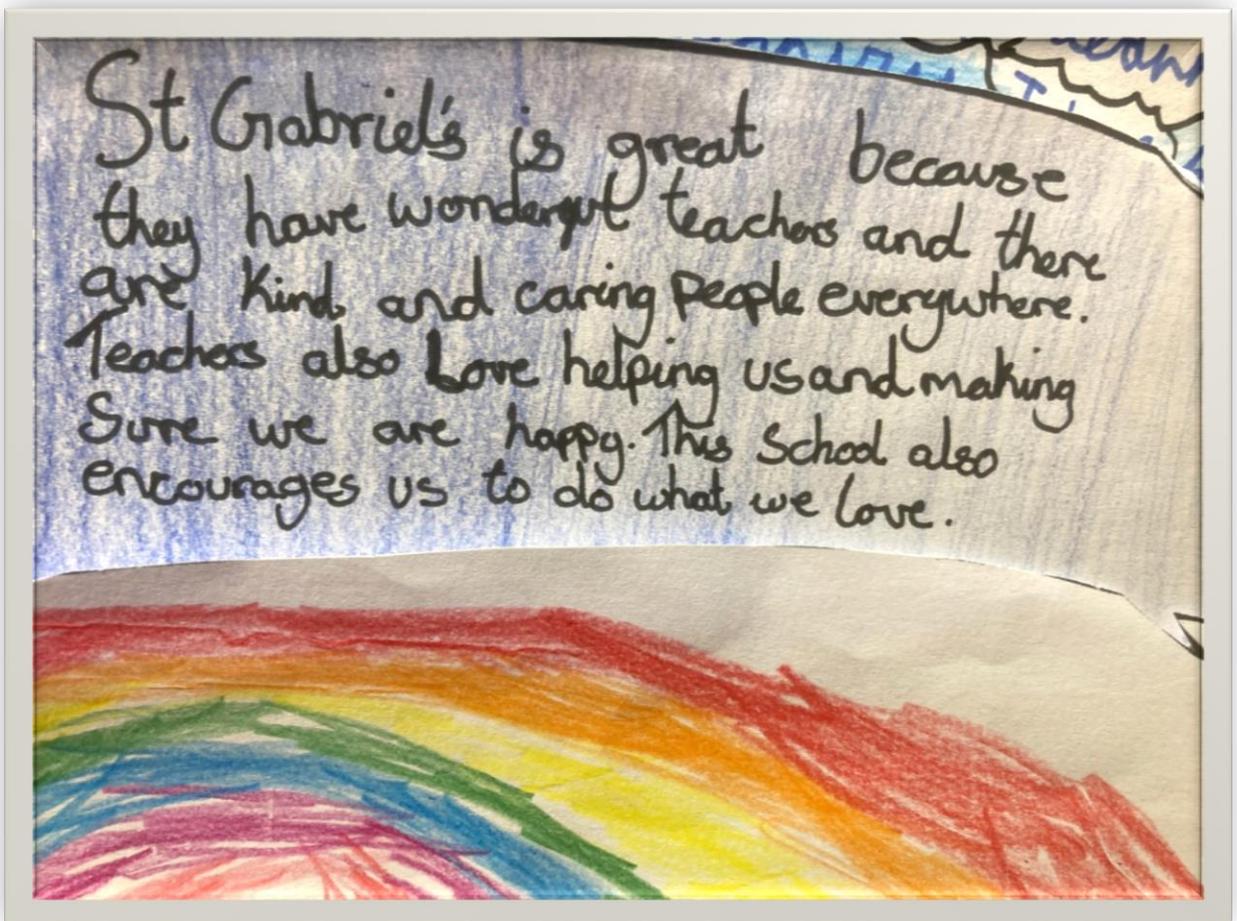


25th October 2021

Dear parents and carers,

What a great first half term we have had! It has been a real joy to have welcomed 65 children to our school family for the first time and begun to get to know so many of the families we partner with. I have especially loved the return of our celebration assemblies each week, to share in the learning and successes of our school community as part of our return to whole school assemblies and collective worship each day. It has also been a delight to see children from different year groups get to know each other and grow together through shared break and lunchtimes as well as the beginnings of a return to extra-curricular clubs. Of course we are well aware COVID has not disappeared and our community of pupils, staff and families have been affected by positive cases resulting in some illness, restrictions, isolations and remote working. Thank you for your amazing support through this, regular testing and support at home has helped minimise disruption and ensured we are able to provide, on an ongoing basis, a school experience as close to normal as possible.

We've enjoyed a lovely atmosphere in school each day as the classes have been settled and busy with their Autumn term learning. On 29th September we celebrated St Gabriel's day in recognition of God's messenger angel that our school is named after. As part of the day, children created a feather from which we created a display of angel wings display in our entrance area. The children wrote on them what they liked about St Gabriel's school and I hope you'll agree the finished result is beautiful both in look and content!



Home Learning

We have been so impressed by the wonderful home learning taking place this term. Thank you so much for all your support with this and well done to all the children for their enthusiasm and effort towards their work at home. For Reception, ideas to support learning at home are included in the daily update on Fridays and for Year 1-6, home learning activities are uploaded to Seesaw. Just a reminder that full information about our approach to home learning is detailed in the letter sent home on 30th September. If you have any difficulty accessing the platforms, please do let us know. Home reading is a top priority and it has been great to utilise reading records this term, thank you for your support in this vital element of your child's education.

Road Safety

As part of our commitment to road safety, we are completing a Safe and Active Travel Award Programme. This involves a number of activities to promote road safety. To help the Warwickshire Road Safety Education Team better understand why children are travelling the way they do to and from school each day, they would be really grateful if you could fill in [this short survey](#), which should take no more than five minutes to complete. Additionally, we have had a number of fluorescent bags donated to the school for those walking, cycling or scooting. If you would like one for your child to use on the journey to school, please collect from the school office. It is incredibly important that if you use a car to get to school you are extremely careful and considerate with your parking. Cars should drive very slowly in the car park and be vigilant for any pedestrians. Parking outside the school must be considerate and well away from any junctions or crossings. There are a quantity of parking spaces adjacent to the co-operative shop in Houlton, a short walk away from school.

Sports competitions

Berners-Lee and Gutenberg Classes represented the school magnificently at a recent town-wide Tag-Rugby festival, showing great respect, teamwork and enjoyment throughout. Well done!



Year 1 Trip to Rugby Town

Bell class were able to visit Rugby School and Rugby library as part of their history topic learning all about our town. The children behaved beautifully and were awarded a Headteacher certificate for our value of Respect.



Junior Parkrun

If you are looking for a fun, outdoor way of keeping active, try Junior Parkrun, details are on the back of this letter.

We hope you have a wonderful half term and we look forward to welcoming all the children back on Tuesday 2nd November.

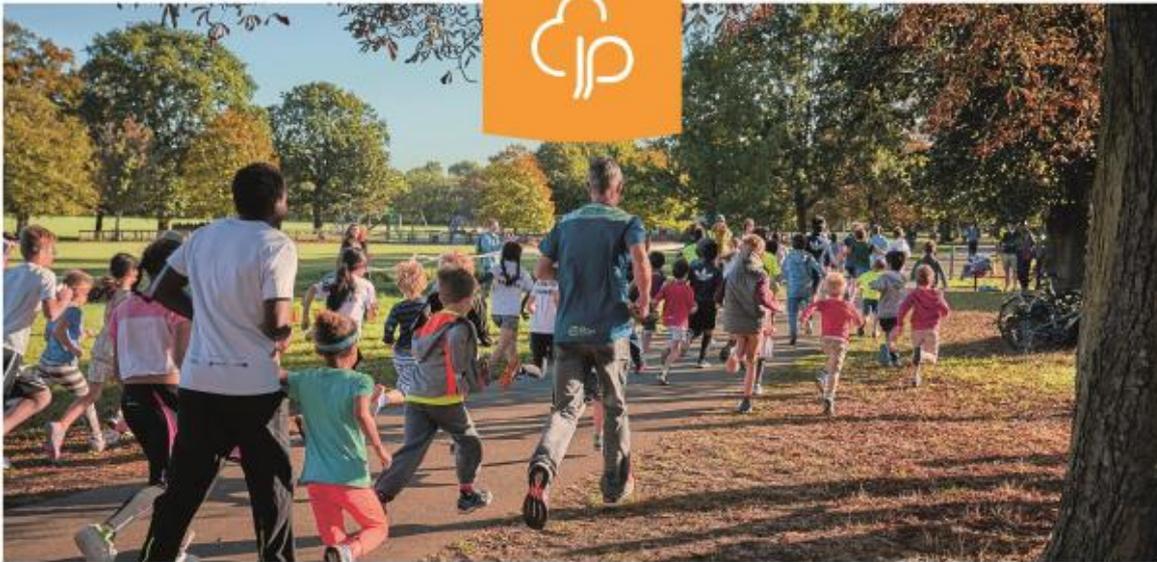
Yours sincerely,

Mr. A. Taylor
Headteacher



St Gabriel's CofE Academy, Houlton Way, Houlton, Rugby, CV23 1AN

✉ office@stgabrielscofeacademy.org ☎ 01788 222405



JOIN THE JUNIOR PARKRUN FAMILY

WALK, JOG, RUN, VOLUNTEER

or simply come and watch - it's up to you!

FAMILY-FRIENDLY 2K EVENTS

Every Sunday morning

EVERYONE WELCOME

Walk, jog, run, hop, skip or jump - it's up to you!

HAVE FUN BEING ACTIVE

Share high fives and big smiles!

LEARN NEW SKILLS

Kids can volunteer in lots of roles

FOR 4-14 YEAR OLDS

Adults can join in with the kids too!

FREE & EASY TO TAKE PART

No special kit needed - wear whatever you like

MAKE FRIENDS

Meet lots of new people

FEEL HAPPY AND PROUD

Try your best and celebrate your achievements

"We all do it together as a family. The volunteers are really nice, it's fun and you can walk if you want to!"



Register at parkrun.com

and head down to your local junior parkrun event!

GEC Recreation Ground, Hillmorton Road, Rugby, CV22 5ED