



A Message from the Gazette Team...

As a part of the Gab's Gazette team, we are here to deliver the exciting news of this past term in the run-up to Christmas and the end of 2023!

Pierina Pagliuca 11W, Angus Au 11A, Georgie Cooke 7W, Aisha Anjum 7W

Message from the Head Teacher

Dear members of our St Gabriel's family,

We have enjoyed a hugely successful first term of this academic year thanks to the dedication of our staff, the positive attitudes to learning of our students and the support of our families. Our 'Family Forum' has grown to over 50 families working in partnership with the school's leadership team and, through our recent online survey, parents/carers have described our school as "warm and supportive", said their children are "the happiest they have ever been" and Year 7 families have shared how well their children have settled in. This means a great deal to my staff and I as we prepare for this upcoming spring term; thank you to all who took the time to respond. We are looking forward to welcoming families into school for our next 'Family Forum' on 26th January.

This upcoming term is a highly important one for our Year 11 students, who will sit their final series of mock examinations imminently and are now only 16 school weeks away from their public GCSE examinations. We pray that their hard work and potential be realised, and for God to support and guide them through this challenging time. This term is also one of reflection and decision-making for Year 9 students, who will shortly begin the options process, refining their curriculum ready for Key Stage 4 with future aspirations and ambitions in mind.

Many thanks as always for your continued support in making our school community such a special one to be a part of. Yours faithfully,

Mrs T Rosa, Head Teacher

Messages from Head of Years

Thank you, Year 7, for a great start to your journey here at St. Gabriel's. I have thoroughly enjoyed being your Head of Year and getting to know you and all your talents and interests and seeing your successes. I'm so glad you are making the most of being here at St Gabriel's and I only look forward to the rest of our journey together. This term I look forward to continuing our good work and blossoming further and building a great year team together. I hope you've all had a happy and Holy Christmas.

Mr Wood

Thank you, Year 8, for a tremendous start to the new year. You have all shown such strength and resilience to succeed in your classes and around school and I am so proud of all of your achievements this term. This term I look forward to seeing you go from strength to strength and continue to value being part of the year group family. I hope you have all had a wonderful break and you and your families have had a happy and Holy Christmas.

Miss Kay

Thank you Year 9, for all of your achievements and the resilience you have shown last term. After Christmas, we look forward to working towards and choosing our options for Year 10, which will shape your future! I hope you have all had a happy and Holy Christmas.

Mr Hindley

Well Year 10, thank you for your fantastic start to your GCSE years. I have seen so much strength, service and success from so many of you so far this year, I continue to be amazed at how many fantastic young people we have in Year 10 and to the positive effect you can have on the people around you, both in school and in the community. I want to say a huge THANK YOU to the vast majority of pupils who have made me so proud last term, you are a credit to yourselves, your families and to this school. I hope you have all had a happy and Holy Christmas.

Mr Vincent

Thank you, Year 11, for your maturity, hard work and dedication this term. You have shown resilience and determination throughout your mock period and you all should be very proud of yourselves. This term I look forward to watching you excel in your next round of mocks and enjoy the various trips taking place outside of school, as well as preparing for your final term with your St Gabriel's family. I hope you have had a holy and restful Christmas break and had some quality time with family and friends. Take Care,

Miss Smith

Class of 2023

Celebration evening

On the 30th November, a celebration evening for the class of 2023. This gave them a chance to collect their GCSE certificates (which are essential for employment) and receive prestigious awards commemorating them for their hard work through showing the core values of strength, service and success.

The art of students was displayed in the corridor for all to see. To celebrate the theme of diversity, the choir performed several songs, including 'When I grow up' from Matilda The Musical, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Furthermore, the school drama club learnt a poem for celebrating diversity, performing with sign language to put the theme into practice. It was certainly a night to remember!

Georgie Cooke

Remembrance Day

On Friday 10th November, a solemn yet honourable remembrance service was held in order to commemorate all individuals who have experienced and are still experiencing loss from conflict. Form representatives were gathered in the hall to witness marching of students involved in cadettes, readings and prayers recited by the GIFT Team, and a two minutes silence, accompanied by the playing of 'The Last Post' by Mr Turner. This implored students to reflect about the ultimate sacrifices made by soldiers, and pray for all current conflict to cease.

Pierina Pagliuca



Advent Carol Service 2023

The Golden Anniversary of the St Gabriel's RC High school Advent Carol Service took place on 18th December 2023. It was a truly magical evening and a delight for past, present and possibly future pupils to sing songs of praise for the season of advent. Staff members of the past and present were there also, reflecting the sole significance and legacy of St Gabriel's as one community. The night began with a candlelit procession, with the school choir entering through the aisle. Prayers and readings were recited by members of our St Gabriel's family, along with a host of songs sung by the congregation, including 'Oh Come All Ye Faithful' and 'Hark the Herald Angels Sing' just to name a few. It was a wonderful way to end the longest term of the year, reflecting upon the true meaning of Christmas. Thank you to Mr Turner for this lovely evening. Thank you to Mrs Kay, Charlotte Keate, Shanae Carang, Ethan Lomax, Emily Butt who designed the artwork.



History Department

Year 10 GCSE History students participated in a virtual reality WW1 experience focussing on the lives of soldiers on the Western Front and the medical provision available to them as part of their study of Medicine Through Time. They got to experience what life was like in the trenches in 360 degree video and learn about the challenges of dealing with the wounded.

Mr Tems



Comino Poet in Residence Project

Well done to Chloe who has been recognised for her contribution to the Comino Poetry in Residence Project last year. Chloe completed a fantastic poem on the Auralis Borealis.



MFL Department

It has been an incredibly busy and exciting first term in MFL and EAL. We have welcomed new members to the EAL group and now have a regular spot on the first Monday break of each month.

The Interpreters and MFL Scholars have been buddying and supporting our new arrivals, and the MFL Scholars have still found time to learn



Dutch and Russian! Each year group has benefitted from cinema within the classroom and have seen a Spanish or French film this half term.

As well as our in school activities we have been out and about in Manchester. Mrs Doherty led a GCSE Trip to Home Cinema and then El Rincón de Rafa where our pupils were immersed in Spanish culture. The Year 8s had a fantastic time at Campo Blanco with Mrs Heap in Whitefield tasting authentic tapas and they even got to go in the kitchen and practise their Spanish with the Chef from Ecuador.

We are delighted to report that Languagenut has been a huge success with our pupils appearing on the national and international leader boards – keep it up Team Gabriel's! In addition, this term we celebrate the highest number of pupils choosing A level Spanish at Holy Cross College and also our New International Arrivals in Year 11 moving onto further education. We wish them success with their future endeavours.

Finally, in 2024 we will be undertaking our trips abroad with KS4 going to Valencia and KS3 going to Paris – we can't wait.

Celebrating Reading

Library

During the previous term, the library has undergone some changes. Thank you to all the librarians that have helped to create our wonderful displays, promote reading through competitions and book selections. We hope you are enjoying the new space.



Blue Peter Badge Competition

Congratulations to Noah on winning one of only 300 available Blue Peter badges through submitting reviews of his favourite books to their national competition.



Reading Miles Competition

Well done to everyone who took part in the Reading Miles Competition. Pupils collected 500 reading miles for every 10 minutes spent reading, adding up to a whopping 33,000 miles (11 hours) in total!



Miss O'Rourke

Message from the Student Senior Leadership Team

We are your Senior Student Leadership Team (SSLT) here at St Gabriel's. We have been elected by the student body and teachers. Evie Later is your head student with your three deputy head students, Pierina Pagliuca, Frankie Thomas and Adam Yasar. So far, we have been involved in many things such as, welcoming back the class of 2023 alumni students and parents for their celebration evening. We have also presented year group assemblies and Christmas liturgies for students and staff. We took part in the year 10 GCSE preparation evening where we shared our three most important tips when revising. In September, we welcomed prospect pupils and parents from partner primary schools to view our school to consider joining us in 2024. Also, we held a meeting with the Student Development Team and have advanced with introducing First Aid practise within school and extra lunchtime activities, which will be brought in after Christmas. If you have any queries or ideas that you would like us to action on, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We hope you had a happy and a holy Christmas and you were able to have a break and recharge for this next term.

Your Student Senior Leadership Team

STUDENT SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Evie Later



Pierina Pagliuca



Frankie Thomas



Adam Yasar

Food Technology

KS3 have been working on familiarising themselves with the kitchen so they can produce healthy, balanced and tasty food. They have developed their cooking and baking skills to produce a wide range of dishes.



Hospitality and Catering

We have been focussing on skills building that'll benefit us for the future. We have made fresh egg pasta, looked at the economic benefits of portioning a whole chicken for use over five meals rather than buying pre-prepared pieces. Our knife skills have also come a long way.

Mrs Bennett



Art and Photography

Throughout the various events this term, many pupils have been able to showcase their fantastic artistic skills.

Some examples of the artwork on display for the Year 11 Celebration Evening.

Thank you for the artwork for the Year 7 Welcome Mass Altar Front created by Year 7 pupils in Art and RE lessons on the theme of St Gabriel.



On Friday, 15th December, year 11 hosted a charity football match of forms against forms in the sports hall. The money raised has been donated to CAFOD to give water to families in poverty. Drinks and refreshments were also sold in order to contribute. Around £100 was raised for this act of giving, what successful event!

Angus Au

GIFT team

This term the GIFT team have been extremely busy. They have:

- Assisted form groups with creating prayer boards.
- Delivered assemblies for Black History Month and the Christmas Hamper Appeal.
- Visited the Bury faith forum.
- 12 GIFT team students went to Guardian Angels Church for interfaith day, learning about different faiths like Hinduism and Sikhism. This involved different stations, learning about religious beliefs, teachings and practices within the faiths.

Thank you to all of the GIFT team members for all your contributions throughout the term.

