



14 February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you and your families well. As we embark on another week at St Gabriels RC High School, I am delighted to share an inspiring message from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 5, verses 1-11, that was the Gospel message from Mass on Sunday.

In this passage, we read about Jesus calling his first disciples, Simon, James, and John, to follow him. As they were fishing, Jesus asked them to cast their nets into the deep water, and to their amazement, they caught an enormous haul of fish. Overwhelmed by this miraculous catch, Simon fell at Jesus' feet, acknowledging his own unworthiness. Yet, Jesus reassured him, saying, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people."

This powerful story serves as a reminder that even when we feel unqualified or unworthy, God can use us for extraordinary purposes. Like the first disciples, our Students are called to follow Jesus and become "fishers of people," spreading the Good News and making a positive difference in the world. Many of our young people are extraordinary and do the kind acts every day as mentioned in previous weeks be "pilgrims of hope".

I encourage you to reflect on this passage with your child, discussing how they might respond to Jesus' invitation to discipleship. How can they use their unique gifts and talents to serve others and bring more light into our community?

As we all are called to service a key value of our school it is in the critical moments of challenge and difficult in any community that these gifts enable us to see positive steps forward. We have come through the most challenging months of the year, with short days, cold and wet days and as we move towards Lent we see temperatures rising and day-light extended which has a positive impact on our day to day.

Equally, I request that as we move towards spring that we continue to address the standards in uniform as this has a direct impact on standards of behaviour. I refer to previous letters over the standards we expect.

Behaviour:

We will be implementing a slight change to our current detention system. From Monday, 24th February 2025 all S4 and S5 detentions issued will take place on the next school day. This is to help parents/carers make arrangements for after school collections as well as to help our students remember to attend. The small number of students who fail to attend an after-school detention will receive a breaktime detention in addition to having to attend the detention they missed. Parents/carers will still receive an email notification from Arbor for all S4 and S5 detentions.

School will still have same day detentions for students who deliberately truant lessons. These will last for either one or two hours, parents will have been contacted and spoken to before these are issued.

Personal Development:

This week has seen some of our peer mentors visit the town hall to successfully complete their training as Anti Hate Crime Ambassadors. We look forward to seeing their impact on promoting British and Gospel Values in school as well as raising awareness of protected characteristics and challenging discrimination.

Year 10 Work Experience - Well done to those students who have successfully found their work experience placements. For those still looking we have managed to extend the deadline until Friday 7th March so keep looking.

Careers - Parents and carers we need your help! Do you or family have a business that could offer a student a week's work placement from 19th to the 24th May? Or Would you be willing to talk to students about your career or business during national careers week on 3rd to the 8th of March (virtually or in person)? If so please contact Mr Killion - pkillion@stgabrielshigh.stoccat.org.uk

Wishing you a blessed week ahead.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Braithwaite
Headteacher