

21st November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. I wanted to share with you our recent reflections on "The Word" and the powerful parable of the Sheep and the Goats from Matthew 25:31-46.

This week, we explored a profound scriptural passage that challenges our students to live out their faith through active compassion. The parable describes the Final Judgement, where Christ separates people into two groups - the righteous (sheep) and those who neglect mercy (goats). For our students, this is more than a biblical story; it's a call to action rooted in Catholic Social Teaching.

The key message is transformative: every act of kindness - feeding the hungry, welcoming strangers, caring for the sick - is essentially an act of love towards Christ himself. We are encouraging our students to see beyond good intentions and actively embody Christ's love through tangible service. This means recognising the dignity in every person, even those who might seem difficult to love. As we reflect on the parable's lessons of mercy, compassion, and active love, we invite you to join us in this spiritual journey of supporting and nurturing our students

I would like to thank the 400 plus parents and carers who completed our recent survey, this has provided us with some valuable insights. Analysis of the survey has shown that the majority of parents agree that their child is happy (79%), feels safe (83%), and that the school has high expectations (77%). Most parents feel their child does well (78%) and that there is a good range of subjects (90%).

The survey was discussed at length at the senior leadership meeting, and I can assure you the feedback was fully taken on-board and has allowed us to highlight areas to address. Behaviour and Bullying; 71% agree pupils are well behaved, whilst this is a positive result it is an area we are constantly working on. Our behaviour team has increased with the appointment of two new behaviour mentors, and we will have a full team in place from December 1st. Communication: 31% disagree that the school makes them aware of what their child will learn during the year. We are working on placing learning journeys on the website to make it easier to access the curriculum maps and follow the learning points throughout the year. Also, you will receive reports about progress thus far this half term which gives vital information about how your child is doing. Your ongoing feedback will be welcomed when we repeat the survey in the summer term.

Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance

We have received requests from parents for additional support with Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (known as EBSNA) and so we have been in contact with Woodbridge SEND service who are going to run a workshop on this for us. This will be combined with a coffee afternoon on Monday 8th December, giving you the opportunity to speak with other parents in a similar situation. The session will start with tea and coffee from 2.15pm, with the workshop running 2.30pm until 3.30pm. There will then be time for questions and discussions at the end. If you would like to attend, please can you complete the link below to register your attendance.

[Emotionally Based School Non Attendance \(known as EBSNA\) workshop – Fill out form](#)

Year 10 Rewards Trip

We are looking forward to our Year 10 Christmas rewards trips. This year our Year 10's will be going to Planet Ice Blackburn for ice skating. The trip will be for pupils who have achieved 95% attendance and more positive than negative points this half term. If your child is eligible the payment will be available to you on Arbor from

today with the deadline being Friday 28th November. If you have any questions, please email vkay@stgabrielshigh.stoccat.org.uk

Class of 2025

We are really excited to be welcoming our Class of 2025 and their families to our Celebration Evening on Thursday 27th November. Arrival is from 4.45pm and celebrations start at 5pm. We will be celebrating their amazing achievements and giving out their GCSE Examination Certificates. Certificates can be collected from school after the Celebration Evening. They should be signed for by the student themselves. If they are to be collected by another person, that person must have written permission from the student and bring photographic identification with them when they collect the certificates.

Year 11

Year 11 parents, carers and students will be receiving their reports via the Arbor App on Wednesday 3rd December. Year 11 Parents Evening is on Thursday 4th December at 3.45pm to 6.35pm in the school hall. Year 11 students are welcome to attend this event along with their parents and carers.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr S Braithwaite
Headteacher