THE NET

'One Family, Inspired to Learn'





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 26th May

End of term

Monday 24th April
First day of Summer term
Monday 24th April
Start of the Yr10 mock exams
Monday 1st May
Early May Bank Holiday
Monday 8th May
Coronation Bank Holiday
Friday 12th May
Yr11 Exam Success Mass

STAFFING

Farewell to:
Mr Comerford – ICT Network
Technician
Mrs Scott — Mathematics yr7 & 8
Lead
Mrs Kerfoot—Science Subject
Leader
Mrs Woodier— Teaching Assistant

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

As we conclude the Spring term, we welcome the first half of our Summer term and with it, brighter evenings and sunnier days (hopefully). This is also a time to acknowledge Holy week, Easter celebrations and the sacrifice and resurrection of our Lord Jesus.

This half term has been busy, but highly productive, due to the number of occasions that we have been able to interact with our community. It was a pleasure to welcome our Yr7 and 8 parents into school for our Engage Evenings, with both occasions seeing over 90% attendance. The term saw a hugely positive response to a parent survey which was highly motivational for our staff at a time when they felt most tired.

There have been fantastic experiences for our pupils this half term including trips to Flame in London, college visits, charity and community outreach work such as our SVP group working with 'Mini Vinnies' at St. Joseph's and of course the exceptional achievements

of our sports teams. I must give a special mention to the girl's Yr8 netball team and our boy's football teams who have succeeded in all of their matches.

World Book Day was a great event that goes beyond the day itself, celebrating our love of reading and books, something which is well engrained in our school culture.

I am pleased to report that work on our new reception development has commenced and this, alongside some classroom spaces, will be ready in July ahead of the new academic year. I am also happy to confirm some large investments in teaching and learning resources.

So onwards now to the Easter holidays and a well earned rest. I ask our community to pray for our Yr11's who will be sitting their examinations in the new half term and have been working hard in preparation. I wish

everyone a happy, restful and above all, a holy holiday period.



Mr McGlinchey Head Teacher

ACTION JACKSON

This term our KS4 pupils have taken part in workshops by Action Jackson, looking at mental health and well-being, and revision and study techniques. It has been a fantastic and thought-provoking opportunity for all those involved. Mr MacKenzie





LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week		
Gregarious	Fluorescent	
Colleague	Caustic	
Argument	Phenomenon	

Accelerated Reader

Our current podium leaders are 7G2 with the most quizzes passed and 7G1 for the most words read, over 20million.

Our Accelerated readers should be really proud of themselves with over 14,200 quizzes passed and more than 144 million words read. A fantastic achievement for our Y7 and Y8's. Well done!

Dr McCooey-Heap

Poetry by Heart

Poetry by Heart is a national poetry speaking competition for schools and colleges. Taking part in Poetry by Heart is all about developing confidence with poetry in an enjoyable, accessible and engaging way.

"Hi, my name is Lucy and I was a finalist in Poetry By Heart last year. I got involved in the competition because I have an interest in poetry,

specifically more modern poems. I would say I have gained a lot of confidence from the experience, which is something I lacked before taking part. I enjoy being involved because sessions are really fun and focusing whilst social memorisation of poems and exploring their meanings. I think that other pupils should consider taking part in Poetry By Heart as it is really fun and helps with your confidence and memory! Thanks to Dr McCooey Heap for running such an amazing club!" Lucy Yr8

"I originally got involved in the competition because I enjoy poetry and wanted to try something new. This year, I have really enjoyed learning the poem 'Rosa' because it is about a real event that changed history! I think I have gained confidence and learnt more about poetry especially how to read it aloud and to emphasise words. Others should definitely consider taking part in Poetry by Heart because it is a very nice group who encourage each other, and you never know what might happen - last year, we were lucky enough to go to the Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London." Holly Yr8

LRC NEWS

World Book Day

Thursday 2nd March saw pupils and activities inclustaff celebrating World Book Day. The LRC began the celebrations with a 'How many Co'Coraline' themed display, and bunting which displayed favourite books of all favourite book'. The grand

Our 'Book in a Jar' competition was hugely popular with over 70 entries, and more than 200 pupils and staff visited the LRC to cast their votes for their favourite entry, a very difficult task as the standard was so high. The winning entries were Jessica Yr11, Megan Yr10 and Quinn Yr10.





At break time we held a bake sale to raise money for Book Aid International, a charity that has sent millions of books worldwide, often to places where books are otherwise impossible to find.

At lunchtime the fun

continued with many book related activities including 'Who is the author?', Name the 'Shredded book', 'How many Coraline's can you find? and 'Match the Teacher to their favourite book'

The grand finale to the day was our hotly anticipated World Book Day quiz. Ten teams, each



consisting of four pupils and one teacher, competed against each other. It was a very close—run contest, the winning team 'The Cherry on the Cake', led by Mr Scott, won by just one point! Well done and thank you to everyone who entered.

Easter

With some chocolate prizes on offer our Easter activities proved very popular, the Easter egg hunt always a favourite!
Mrs Huckerby



FICTION ADDICTION

Our recommended read this term has been endorsed by one of our Yr10 pupils.



'Win Lose Kill Die' by Cythia Murphy.

'Win Lose Kill Die', by Cythia Murphy, is a spine-chilling modern thriller that many avid readers within the LRC

community would recommend. Its complex characters and interwoven narrative the are combination to keep you reading on in suspense. This climatic highschool slasher is set at Morton Academy, where an unknown killer is targeting the esteemed school's best and brightest. Recommended for lovers of Karen Foxfield, Karen McManus and Holly Jackson, 'Win Lost Kill Die' has justifiably been nominated for the Cheshire book awards, and is seen in the category for older readers.

SURVIVOR PROJECT WORK

Amazing work from Mrs Salter's English class who have been producing presentations on 'survivors' this term.

Mrs Salter











Interview with Tom McCooey, a lecturer in journalism at LJMU.

Quinn Yr10 and photographed by Mark Yr10.

What is your favourite book and why?

"Can I be cheeky and choose two? One is a children's book called 'Where the Wild Things Are', which I really enjoy reading to my son at the minute. My second choice is a book called 'House of Leaves' by Mark Z Danielewski it is not really a book, it is an experience, it's a book you can read and get lost in."

Why did you choose journalism?

"When I was younger, I was a big fan of Rugby League, and it was a way for me to experience the game in a little more detail. I used to make my own magazines on the computer and print them all out. It was a way for me to become more involved and it all grew from there really!"

What is the best part of your job?

"I think it is knowing that you can make a positive difference with it. I think there are a lot of opinions on journalism and its place in society. But as long as our work is ethical, we can really make a difference to people's lives. Everyone has a right to know about what goes on in the world and journalism has the ability to hold people in power to account."

What is your favourite topic to report on as a journalist?

"I really like to get stuck into a sport or a music feature, which is not so much hard news, but are really fun to write. You are picking up on atmosphere and body language and writing to make the reader feel like they are there."

What advice would you give to someone wanting to go into journalism?

"I would say do it! I know it seems like odd advice, but the more you write and experience, the better you become. Write stories, ask questions, put content out there and get involved. The earlier you start the better."

YEAR 8 SUKKAHS









Miss Crawley

SQUAD GOALS

KS3 pupils have had the privilege of a performance by Altru Theatre Company called 'Squad Goals' this term. The production tackles important issues about metal health and concluded with a Q&A

on the performance and advice on how we can all support each other.



Media Tean

MEET THE TEACHER

MR MCMORINE



Interviewed by Leo, Yr10 and photographed by Alfie, Yr10.

Who inspired you to teach?
"Mr Wilson and Mr McFadden, they were my Art

teachers at high school.'

What subjects did you take at school?

"I took Art, Technical Drawing and History."

What made you want to choose teaching as a career?

"I wanted to share with students my passion for my subject area. It's a lovely and joyous feeling to know that you have taught someone something new. I would like to think that I have inspired a student in the same way that my teachers inspired me."

What is your favourite book? "It's actually a design book called 1001 chairs!"

What is the best part of teaching?

"Working with young people, like yourselves! Students that are always positive and smiling!"

DT/ ENGINEERING

Our Design & Technology / Engineering students have been hard at work this term on their projects.

All of your work has been amazing! Mr McMorine







ART DEPARTMENT

Yr7 Yellena James project work.







Carmel College

The art department would like to say a huge thank you to Melissa Wright from Carmel College.

Melissa visited our Yr10 GCSE art classes and gave us an insight into the extensive choice of courses on offer at Carmel College. It was a pleasure to learn about the progress of some of our past pupils, we could see they were thriving in their creative careers!

Our Yr10 pupils were also introduced to an embossing technique to include in their coursework projects too. Thank you to Melissa for a very informative lesson.









MEET THE TEACHER **MR GLOVER**



Interviewed by Leo Yr10 and photographed by Alfie, Yr10.

Who inspired you to teach?

"My parents, they were both teachers, but also my maths teacher when I was at school."

What subjects did you take at school?

"Art, History, and Information Systems (like IT)"

What made you want to choose teaching as a career?

"It's not been my only career! When I left university, I had an office job which I really didn't parents enjoy. My actually encouraged me to go into teaching as they thought I would be good at it and it's the best decision I made."

What is your favourite book?

"A series of books called 'The Dark Tower' by Stephen King"

What is the best part teaching?

"The pupils! All of you! All of you are what makes it interesting!"

SCIENCE WEEK

The theme for British Science Week 2023 'Connections'. One connection we

were excited to explore was how pupils stay connected with one another. They had great fun using string telephones and explored how they were first used and applied their physics



knowledge of how vibrations travel along a string. Pupils soon realised how lucky they are today to stay connected with one another with easily mobile so phones. They concluded that telephone connections have come a long way since the first telephone

connection was made back in 1878!



SVP EASTER BINGO

Our SVP team have been working hard this term to organise a community Easter Bingo at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Penketh. SVP is a society

named after St. Vincent De Paul who dedicated his life to helping those in need. We turn concern into action



by looking at the local community and assessing areas of need then thinking about what we can do to enhance the lives of people in our

local area of Warrington, SVP decided to plan this event to bring members of the local community together to have fun and relax. Our team

planned the bingo and created games and activities. The adult SVP conference in Warrington donated money to help us to provide prizes and St. Joseph's provided refreshments for the event. The evening was a huge success, everyone enjoyed themselves and we raised £340 to go towards future SVP projects.

Mrs Cooper







MEET THE TEACHER MISS PILKINGTON



Interviewed by Yr10 Mason, and photographed by Michalina, Yr10.

Other English, is there another subject that you would like to teach?

"If I had to pick anther subject to teach, it would be History. I studied History at college along with English, I find it really interesting.'

If you could have any other job, what would you be?

"I think I'd like to work in book publishing, maybe as an editor. Imagine getting paid to read all day!

Which text do you prefer to teach, Macbeth or A Christmas Carol?

"Macbeth, I love Shakespeare, I enjoy all of Shakespeare's plays."

What did you study at college and university?

"Well, I studied English Literature, Film Studies, Graphic Design, Photography, History and Theology. I then I went on to Manchester University to do English Literature and TESOL."

PI KU POETRY

Our winning PI KU Poems

Rain comes Down Splosh Onto my head. By George

And

Life is fun Wild It can't be caged. By Jacob

Thank you to all that entered. Mrs Holman

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

For International Women's Day 2023 a few of our Media Team have been thinking about inspirational women that campaign for kindness, gender quality and inclusivity.

Princess Diana

For International Women's Day this year, I would like to shine a light upon one of my favourite female role models. Princess Diana was such an influential person, making a brilliant

legacy for not only herself, but in changing way the people viewed the royal family.



Diana used

her power and popularity for good. She raised awareness for AIDS disease and helping charities such as the Red Cross. Princess Diana "Anywhere I see once said, suffering, that is where I want to be, doing what I can." Written by Holly Yr10.

Michelle Obama

Michelle Obama is a very influential American lawyer and writer who become very well-known after becoming the very first African

American to be First Lady of the United States in 2009. Over the years she has become a role model for all women across the globe, an advocate of health and education. Her famous quote



is , "Friendships between women, as many women will tell you, are built on a thousand small kindnesses... swapped back and forth over and over again."

Written by Emma Yr10.



Emma Watson For international Women's Day, I have chosen highlight Emma

Watson, a well-known actress and model, who has used her fame to spread her views on fair trade, education for all and for the equality of women. She assisted in the launch of a campaign called 'Heforshe' which advocates for gender equality.

In 2014 Emma was chosen to become a UN Goodwill Ambassador for her work and pledged her support to CAMFED an organisation that hopes to end child marriage in Zambia.

Written by Brannagh Yr10.



FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION





All of St. Gregory's FP&N groups have made some delicious looking food this half term. Here are just a amazing few examples.

Mrs Cross









FLAME 2023 – YOUNG CATHOLICS



On Saturday 4 March the RE Department, our Chaplain and 33 pupils woke up at 5am. We made it to the school site to hop on our coach and set off at 6am for London, Wembley Stadium to be precise. It has been four years since the last national Flame Congress. This event usually happens every two years but in 2021 it was postponed, like so many other events, due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

We arrived in London at around 10.30am and headed straight to the stadium where we met 8,000 other young Catholics from all over England and Wales. The plan for the day was jam-packed and we could not wait for events to begin. This is the first time that St .Gregory's pupils have taken part in this huge Catholic event and we were delighted to be involved.

The morning kicked off with a welcome from our hosts and then

Guvna B got the whole room jumping with his rapping, then Faith Child and the One Hope Collective kept the musical vibes going throughout the day. We then



listened to a live, on-stage interview with David Billot, the

environmental lawyer from Cincinnati

who represented 'The People" and won against DuPont the chemical giant who contaminated their land and water supply. Adenike, from the Voice UK then thrilled us with her amazing voice, what a God given talent she shared with us all that day.

We then heard from native Amazonian activist Jenny Garzon Saavedra about how she has fought for the rights of her people and her environment. Jenny was a true inspiration and her love of human rights shone for us all to see.

We also had the great privilege of listening to Archbishop Tim Costelloe from Australia and Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle from

the Phillipines. Archbishop Tim called on the young people to "rebuild the Church and stop it falling into ruin" and he was supported by Cardinal Tagle who encouraged us all to "be like Mary ... rise and go ... be like Jesus ... rise up and go with Jesus".

To bring the day to a close we participated in the most beautiful religious act – the stadium fell into



silence and all focussed and prayed in

Eucharistic adoration.
This solemn act saw

8,000 people pay respect and show love for the living Christ present in the form of the Eucharist. One of our St. Gregory's pupils described this part of our day as "miraculous".

It was an amazing day, with fun, laughter, prayer and faith. Flame Congress, thank you, we will see you in 2025!

Mrs Sherrington & Mrs Cooper

MEET THE CHAPLAIN

Interviewed my Jack, Yr11 and photographed by Beth, Yr10.



Why did you become a Chaplain?

"I became the Chaplain because I really like helping

people and working with young people.

What did you study at university?

"My degree is in Music and Education. Music is a really big interest of mine and I chose education because I wanted to work with children."

Which of your co-workers is your favourite and why?

"That's a hard question! I enjoy working with all of the support staff in particular around school but I love all of the people I work with!"

What is your favourite book?
"I love all of the Harry Potter books! I have read them a lot! As a child I loved anything by Jacqueline Wilson as well."

CHAPLAINCY NEWS



Mrs Whitlow took 14 of our Yr10 students to Carmel College this term, in order to build

relationships with the College. The students went on a tour of the campus, had a Q&A with some current Yr12 students and completed some Chaplaincy activities with the college Chaplain.

On Monday 20th March, St. Greogry's hosted a day full of activities for International



Day of Happiness. Students were able to complete

able to complete tasks in the Augustine Centre during break and lunch and Happiness stickers were

given out by staff for students to make them smile. Mrs S Whitlow

A Child's Prayer

Who better than you,
To encourage me to spread my wings
And challenge me to try so many
things,

To understand the reasons why, To make me believe that I can soar and fly.

Who better than you,
To come and find me when I'm lost,
And never stop to count the cost,
When every time I fall apart,
You're there to mend my broken heart.
Who better than you,
To teach me right from wrong.

To teach me right from wrong,
To help me grow, to become strong.
To feel compassion when I break,
To soothe my fears as I doubt and
shake. Who better than you,
To tell me not to be afraid,

To keep me calm and make me brave, Who better than you?

SAFEGUARDING

Support for young people struggling

for our pupils who may be struggling; however, during we're not available you may support. feel that you need help. Below is information on County Lines where to find help. Further information is on

Safeguarding page of our website.

Happy? OK? Sad?



OK? Happy? Sad? is mental health site for people law who live

work in Warrington, it includes details of services and resources for children and young people. On the Happy? OK? Sad? site there are links to additional local and national, resources, which you can download free, these include:

Details of free downloadable mental health resources aimed at young people Details of free downloadable suicide prevention resources.

ChatHealth Warrington is a secure text messaging service for young people. The service provides information, advice and support on a range of health and wellbeing issues.

- The ChatHealth text number will operate Monday-Friday from 9am until 5pm.
- · Messages will be responded to within 24 hours during this period. Outside these hours, service users will receive a whereabouts 'bounce back' text message indicating that they will receive a response when or mobile phones which they seem the line re-opens.
- 11 19 Young People's Service -07507 330101

Visit the website with further information www.chathealth.nhs.uk

Kooth offers free online support and counselling to young people aged 11-18 in Warrington.

Home - Kooth

All pupils at St. Gregory's have a Kooth · Unexplained injuries log in.

PAPYRUS is for young people who are having thoughts of suicide and anyone who is worried about a young person who may be at risk of suicide. PAPYRUS' website has a page with resources which can be downloaded. The downloads include changes in mental health flyers and posters promoting the service, as well as leaflets on "Coping with Exams" and "Being Yourself During Change". https://www.papyrus-uk.org/

Mermaids provides support advice and guidance for gender-diverse young blogs and information that you or your from Action For Children

child may find useful. Their telephone ADDvanced Solutions At St. Gregory's we offer a lot of support number is 0808 801 0400. If you or your ADDvanced Solutions is a Community child would like more help regarding Network that encourages, equips and this, please contact us at school and we empowers children, young people and the Easter holidays when will ensure that they receive the correct their

'County lines' is a form of criminal exploitation where urban gangs persuade, coerce or force children and resources which parents and young young people to store drugs and money people may find useful. They also offer and/or transport them to suburban drop-in sessions, areas, market towns and coastal towns network groups and many other forms a (Home Office, 2018). It can happen in of support. In addition to this, you can any part of the UK and is against the sign up to their newsletter. form of child and а or abuse.' (NSPCC)

County lines gangs are not restricted to major cities, they have moved into rural areas including Warrington.

Perpetrators use children and young people to hold or deliver drugs and/or weapons including knives. They initially reward the child or young person with there can be many positives in the gifts/money and giving them a sense of belonging but this can quickly change to the child/young person being in debt to them leading to threats and violence. Signs that a young person may be webinars, courses and much more to involved in criminal exploitation include:

- · Frequently going missing from school, home or care
- · Travelling to locations, or being found in areas they have no obvious connections with, including seaside or market towns
- Unwillingness to explain their
- · Acquiring money, clothes, accessories unable to account for
- calls at all hours of the day
- Having multiple mobile handsets or sim cards
- Withdrawing or having sudden changes in personality, behaviour or the language they use
- · Having relationships with controlling or older individuals and groups
- Carrying weapons
- performance
- networks
- Associating with or being interested in gang culture
- Self-harming or having significant (Ministry of Justice, 2019).

For further information and advice on County Lines please follow the links below:

Protecting children from county lines | **NSPCC** Learning

people and their families. Their website What is county lines and how can I https://mermaidsuk.org.uk/ has videos, protect my child? - Support for Parents

families living neurodevelopmental conditions, learning difficulties and associated mental health needs. Their website https://www.addvancedsolutions.co.uk/ home.html has lots of information and



Online Safety We are aware that our young people spend a lot of their time online whilst and

online world there are also many dangers that as parents you need to be aware of. National online safety is a platform which provide advice, support parents in keeping their child safe online. It has been pleasing to see that many of our parents have signed up and completed coursed using National Online Safety. If you've not yet done so, please follow the link and sign in as a parent. https://nationalonlinesafety.com/ enrol/st-gregory-s-high-school

Uniform/mobile phones/smart watches and ear buds

Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting us in ensuring pupils are Receiving excessive texts or phone wearing the correct uniform to school. As a polite reminder pupils should wear phone a formal shoe, trainers are not permitted; hoodies are not allowed; only a school jumper can be underneath the school blazer. A coat may be worn to and from school and outside at break and lunch if a pupil is cold.

Pupils are allowed to wear one small pair of ear-rings in the lower lobe of their Significant decline in school results or ears, no other piercings are allowed. A small cross and chain may be worn but Being isolated from peers or social other jewellery including rings and

> bracelets are allowed.

> Mobile phones should be switched off and not be taken out during the school day. If a pupil breaches this then the device will confiscated overnight in line with our mobile phone and behaviour policy. Likewise, ear

buds should also be put away and not taken out during the school day. Notifications should be switched off on

SAFEGUARDING CONTINUED

smart watches so that pupils are not receiving texts etc on their smart watches. Thank you for your support with regards to this.

SIMS parent app

SIMS parent app is a way of further improving home school communication. On the app you can see your child's attendance, behaviour, achievements, timetable as well as amend your details. Pupil reports and grade grids are also sent using the app.

If you have not yet downloaded the

parent app please follow the guide on the school website www.stgregoryshigh.com/parents/sims -parent-ap

Cheshire Police

Yr10 pupils have watched a hardhitting performance by Perception Theatre this term, kindly organised by Cheshire Police. The performance was centred around drugs, violence and youth violence.

Mrs McKenna

E-BOOK PLATFORM

Would you like your child to have access to books 24/7?

Try our e-platform! How do I access it?

Click here or login to RM Unify and click on the eplatform tile from the launch pad.

How do I read them?

On a computer, laptop, or through the free App for tablets or smartphones.

To download the App

Search "eplatform" in the App store and download.

Search for St. Gregory's Catholic High School library.

Click the 3 little lines in the top left corner and select sign in. Enter the username and password sername: Student email Password: password (once signed in change the password)

Once downloaded the book can be read on all devices without the need for internet connection.

Any problems?

Please contact Mrs Huckerby



GCSE POD

At the time of writing, nearly 3,080 pods have been viewed by pupils since the start of this academic year. Jenith J remains the top podder having watched the most pods over the last term, Daniel B (Yr8) and Shimroon Y(Yr11) are closely behind.

There have been nearly 6,909 questions answered on Check and Challenge, Maya K currently leads the way with Joel B and Alfie W fighting for the leaders spot. Well done to every pupil who has used GCSEPod this year.

A reminder that you can sign up by visiting the GCSEPod.com website by using your school username e.g. Y20Nhill and the word 'password' as your password.

Remember to keep checking ClassCharts for details of GCSEPod competitions. There are prizes for watching the most pods and answering the highest number of questions on Check and Challenge.

Mr Hill

BACK OF THE NET

It has been an outstanding year so far in PE! We have had many success stories in both girls' and boys' sports! We have seen an increase in participation at extracurricular clubs and also had more sports teams out in the community so far this year competing in a range of sports!

Mr Dean

















SAFEGUARDING

Out of Hours: 01925 443322

DSL Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140 Social Work Teams: 01925 446257 Safeguarding Governor Mr Roger Harrison.

Cheshire Constabulary:101

ChildLine: 0800 1111