



The Net

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Issue: 124

Dec, 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Friday 20th December - Term Ends

Monday 6th January - Term starts

Monday 20th January - Parental Workshop

Monday 27th January - Parental Workshop

Thursday 30th January - Y10 Engage Evening

STAFFING

Welcome to:

Mrs Xia - Teaching Assistant
Miss Leung - Teaching Assistant

Farewell to:

Mrs Hosty - SLT & RE Teacher

THIS TERMS NEWSLETTER

Literacy News.....	2
LRC News.....	2
Fiction Addiction.....	3
Christmas Artwork.....	3
Drama.....	5
Digital Theatre Plus.....	6
Word Search.....	6
Taekwondo Success.....	6
Well Done.....	6
Art.....	7
Pumpkin competition.....	7
Bread making.....	7
Chaplaincy.....	8
Careers.....	9
FP&N.....	9
Christmas Boxes.....	9
Safeguarding.....	10
Sound Skills.....	12
Back of the Net.....	12



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Advent is the time when we prepare for the birth of Jesus, the true meaning of Christmas. Advent is a time of repentance and a time to move into a new year with hope for what we can do better going forwards. A reflection period is always welcome. Having taken time to reflect on this term, I am incredibly thankful for what the St. Gregory's community has achieved.

Our pupils have been enjoying plenty of cultural capital this term with many trips taking place, most notably the Y7 retreats to Lowe House, Theatre trips to see Blood Brothers and War Horse, exploration visits to Jodrell bank, and urban surveys in Liverpool and art trips to the Tate on Albert Dock. Our sports teams have been competing and bringing an array of medals back to school and our pupil leaders were delighted to meet the deputy prime minister, Angela Rayner.

This term we formally welcomed all of our Y7 pupils and their families during our Welcome Mass. We look forward to seeing them at many events going forward as they journey through the school. Masses to celebrate the class of 2024, remembrance services and our Advent mass have also been wonderful community occasions.

During the week of 25th November to 29th November, St. Gregory's was delighted to present our drama production of 'The 39 steps.' The Drama department worked tirelessly for months with a huge cast to put on a show. The spirit of togetherness that this has fostered for all involved is a credit to the 'one family' approach to the show. The production was seen by 800 people overall, including our partner primary schools. I pay special tribute to Mrs Chappel,

Mrs O'Connor and Mr Hill for making this happen.

Our pupil council have devised some excellent ideas to take the school forward once again during this term. Ideas successfully presented include the development of our prayer garden, which will be a place for our students to have time out, reflect, and pray when they are experiencing difficulties; a wellbeing package for nominated staff and a review of how we can be more environmentally friendly as a community.

I would like to offer a huge thank you to our parents, carers and pupils for your contributions to our charity campaigns this term. The school community has supported many campaigns including Wear it Pink, Macmillan, the Poppy Appeal, St. Joseph's Family Centre, elderly in the community and the council with local community projects. Our children really care and see it as a duty to serve others and make a difference.

As always, I want to acknowledge the outstanding work of my entire team over this busy term and through all of 2024. Every member of staff continues to do so much above and beyond for our pupils, making personal sacrifices to ensure that our school community is successful.

Finally, I would like to wish you and your loved ones a very holy Christmas and positive journey through advent that brings you hope for 2025. I very much look forward to the St. Gregory's family being able to rest in anticipation of a great start to 2025 in January.

**Mr McGlinchey
Headteacher**



LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week	
Facilitate	Ameliorate
Aquatic	Detrimental
Hierarchy	Indispensable
Innate	Posterity

Lexia Success!



Well done to our Y7 and Y8 pupils participating in Lexia PowerUp literacy intervention.

Since September, our forty-one Y7 pupils have earned ninety-three certificates, and

our thirty-eight Y8 pupils have earned seventy-one! This shows fantastic progress with key reading skills.

Remember that Lexia is available to intervention pupils at home! Log in to RMUnify and use the 'PowerUp' tile to access the platform. The more you use it at home, the more achievement points you will get!

Christmas Reading

Snuggle up with a book this Christmas! Remember that the eBook platform is

available all year round and that you can still take books out of the LRC to enjoy over your break. We cannot wait to hear about what you have all been reading when you return to school in January! The literacy team wishes every member of the St. Gregory's community a very 'Merry Christmas' and a happy and healthy New Year.



Miss Mannion

LRC NEWS



In the LRC we have promoted several different genres this term:

wartime fiction and non-fiction to commemorate Remembrance Day, Mindfulness and Empathy books to raise awareness of Mental Health and Anti-Bullying Week, Non-Fiction books to celebrate 'Non-Fiction November' and then Christmas themed books towards the end of the term. Our Cheshire Book award books have been delivered and introduced to our Book Club members and we are fully absorbed in getting to know the titles on offer. These are promoted in the LRC and all of our readers are invited to sample them and let us know their

thoughts to help us when it comes to voting.

Our competition this half term has been to design a 'Story Stocking' and the designs have been amazing. There have been lots of creative ideas about

how to put a story into a stocking! Congratulations to our 5 winners Krystelle Y8 (1st Place), Samuel Y7, Keanne Y8, Thomas Y7 and



Bella Y7. During Advent we have awarded our November book borrowers with a book from our advent calendar

and a chocolate treat and we have had lots of different Christmas activities available such as Christmas crafts, an Elf hunt and a Christmas movie.

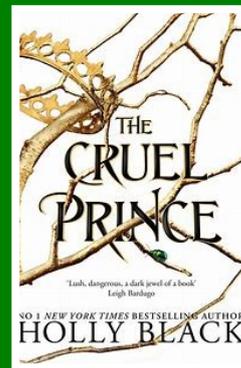
Our E-Platform is being well used with the amount of books loaned having almost trebled compared to the same time last year! It is great to see pupils seeing the benefit of the platform. Our most regular users over the term were awarded with a chocolate prize. Well done to Ryan Y8, Elizabeth Y8 and Martha Y8.

Mrs Andrews



FICTION ADDICTION

'The Cruel Prince'



The Cruel Prince by Holly Black is a captivating fantasy about a mortal girl named Jude who lives in the treacherous World of Faerie. The story features themes of power, betrayal and love; mainly both. The characters are complex, especially the prince, Carden. It's a thrilling read that keeps you wanting more!

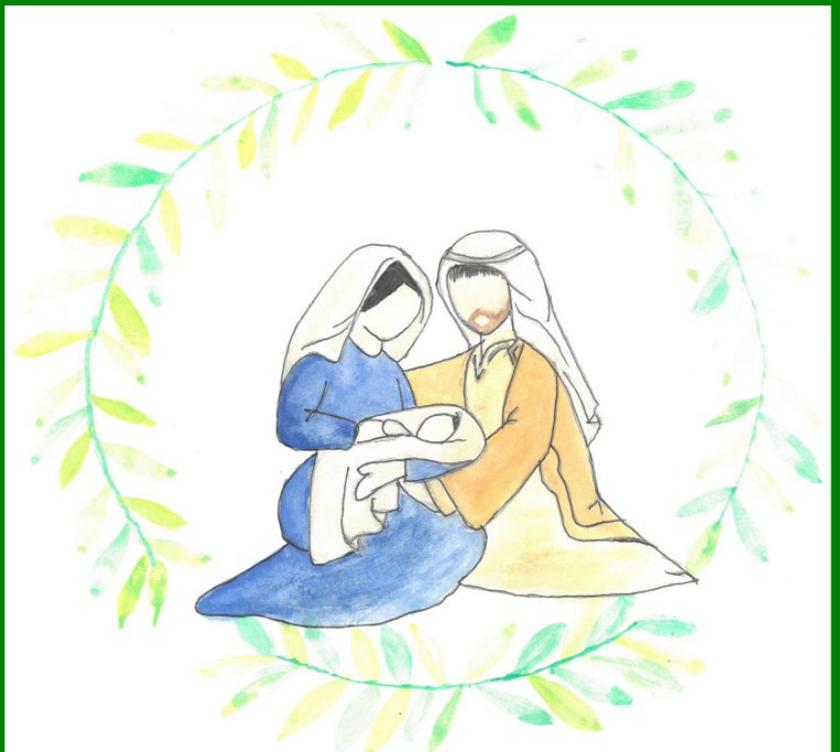
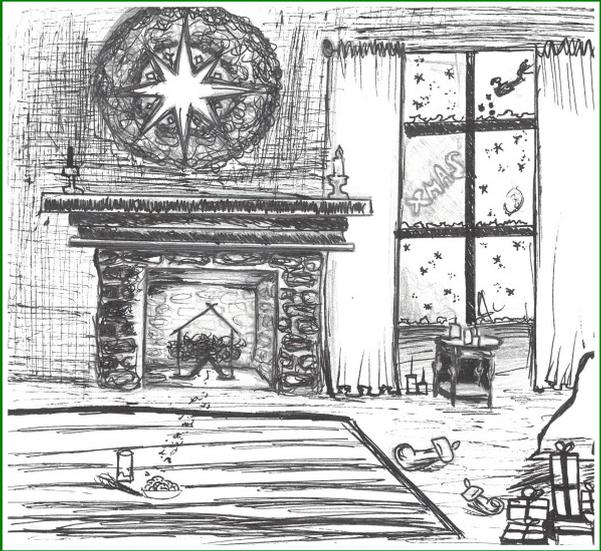
Written by a Y7 pupil.



CHRISTMAS ARTWORK

I asked the pupils of St. Gregory's to design some Christmas themed artwork that could be used to decorate this newsletter, and I have been completely blown away! Here are just a few of the amazing designs! Mrs Hennessey





DRAMA

ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PRESENTS

FROM THE NOVEL BY JOHN BUCHAN AND FROM THE FILM BY ALFRED HITCHCOCK

An hilarious adaptation by
PATRICK BARLOW

'THE 39 STEPS'

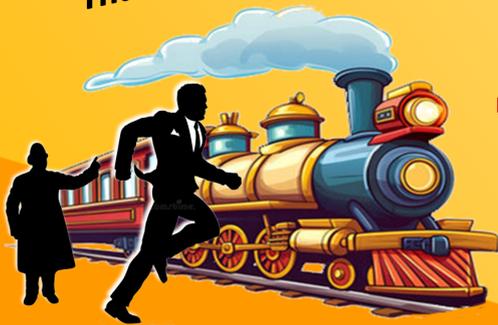


Tuesday 26th November 7pm
Wednesday 27th November 7pm
Thursday 28th November 7pm

TICKETS
£5

Interval
Refreshments
(cash only)

All proceeds
to support our
Lourdes Youth
Pilgrimage



By arrangement with Flery Angel Limited
Licensed by ITV Global Entertainment Limited and an original concept by Simon Corble and Nobby Dimon
This amateur production of 'The 39 Steps' is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd. On behalf of Samuel French Ltd.
www.concordtheatricals.co.uk

INTERVIEW—BEFORE OPENING NIGHT

Please can you tell me your name, and the name of the character you play in the 'The 39 Steps'.

I am Will, and I play the Professor.

I am Orla and I play Annabella.

My name's Emily and I play Pamela.

My name's Jacob and I play Mr. Richard Hannay.

Describe your character using only three words.

Will – Cunning, evil and psychopathic!

Jacob – Gentleman, smart and a bit daft!

Emily – Elegant, sassy, sophisticated

Orla – German, femme fatale, secretive

and how you move forwards with it.

Emily - I do a lot of singing and dancing. I find it easier to remember lyrics, lines are harder. Sometimes I end up making my lines to lyrics just to remember them!

Who has the best costume and why?

Orla – I would like to put myself forward for this! There is a lot going on with my costume. I have lots of accessories!

If you could be any other character in the play, who would it be and why?

It would be fun to switch the male and female leads!

Will – I would like to play Mr. Memory.

Orla – I would like to be the professor!

How have you found rehearsals?

Tiring but fun! It can be a bit chaotic as there is a lot to learn. We have all really enjoyed playing our roles, but it can get repetitive when we rehearse. It's going by quickly!

Do you get nervous before a performance?

Absolutely. Emily - I think everyone does. Jacob - It's how you deal with it

Emily – It would also be fun to be one of the salespeople. They have funny roles.

Jacob – It would be nice to be a police officer as well!

Are you excited for opening night?

Absolutely! We are all excited for opening night and a little scared!

Interviewed by Isabella Y8 and photographed by Keeley Y8.

We are delighted to share with you the very positive review that we received from National Schools Theatre Awards for our production!

[Award Review](#)

Listen to our new podcast as the team interview some of the cast after the production.

VISIT THE
ST.
GREGORY'S
WEBSITE
AND LISTEN
TO OUR
PODCAST



THE DIGITAL THEATRE PLUS

We now have a subscription with Digital Theatre Plus (DT+) and pupils can log in via the link below or via the DT+ tile on RMuUnify.

<https://>

auth.digitaltheatreplus.com/

Username: student@stgregoryshigh.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE USERNAME IS IDENTICAL FOR EVERYONE!

Password: lovedrama2024

This site boasts a magnificent collection of live performances of a wide range of plays; acting tutorials; theatrical terms and techniques; poetry and support material and performances of set-texts on our English curriculum. It also spotlights different roles within the world of theatre in an accessible and engaging style. This resource has great potential to inform and inspire our pupils, and families are also very welcome to explore its wealth of content.

TEAKWONDO SUCCESS

Congratulations to Zuzanna in Y7 on her Taekwondo success this term!



WORD SEARCH

S	A	N	T	A	B	E	J	I	G	H	C	L	M	T
C	F	D	K	P	O	Q	N	R	T	S	O	U	V	R
A	E	Z	X	W	I	N	T	E	R	W	Z	Y	B	E
D	I	C	J	K	H	L	G	M	O	N	Y	F	P	E
E	C	B	A	D	Y	Z	W	X	U	V	Q	S	R	T
J	F	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	J	G	H	I
K	L	O	M	O	N	P	T	Q	S	R	U	V	X	W
Y	A	L	Z	B	D	C	F	E	G	I	H	J	K	L
P	O	D	N	P	R	E	S	E	N	T	S	M	Q	R
T	V	S	U	W	Y	X	Z	B	A	C	O	N	A	T
F	E	S	N	O	I	T	A	R	O	C	E	D	C	N
G	J	H	I	K	M	L	N	O	Q	P	T	R	S	E
W	Y	X	Z	A	D	E	B	C	V	F	U	G	H	V
T	V	U	X	W	Y	Z	A	S	K	L	N	M	I	D
S	A	L	O	C	I	N	T	S	S	U	S	E	J	A

CHRISTMAS
TREE
ST NICOLAS
ADVENT

SANTA
PRESENTS
DECORATIONS
SNOW

WINTER
COLD
COZY
JESUS

WELL DONE TO Y7

10 Y7 pupils who completed their charism challenge were treated to time in the 'Gamevan.'



Well done to all the Y7s that completed the challenge!
Mrs Brown



PUMPKIN COMPETITION

The winners of the SVP pumpkin carving competition have been decided earlier in the term. Well done to Maria in Y8 (1st place), Andrei in Y8 (2nd place) and Bronwen in Y9 (3rd place) .



E-BOOK PLATFORM

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

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

Log in 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 - username: Student email Password: password

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

Any problems?
Please contact the
LRC Manager
Mrs Andrews



A selection of fantastic home-works from Mrs Crudgington-Hall's Year 9 Art class!

CHRISTMAS BREAD MAKING WORKSHOP

A big thank you to Room Forty for teaching a bread workshop to Y10 pupils on this term.



Those that took part enjoyed learning new skills and relished their delicious bread wreaths!

Mrs Cross



CHAPLAINCY

Remembrance Day



Our whole school community fell silent during our Remembrance service in November as we reflected on those that have sacrificed in service for our community.

Staff Retreat



We were extremely proud to welcome a former pupil of St. Gregory's, Hugh Donleavy, as he led the celebration Mass during our staff retreat on Friday 8th November.

Y7 Retreats



Y7 visited Lowe House this term as they went on their form retreat. All of the pupils had a fantastic time!

Saying goodbye to the class of 2024



It was lovely to see everyone who attended the class of 2024's Mass when we celebrated all of their achievements.



We would like to thank Daniel Antonio, one of our former pupils, who gave an inspiring speech about his time at St. Gregory's and his career.

Light Up a Life



Some students visited the Cathedral on Friday along

with Suzie and Miss Dolphin to attend a Light Up A Life Service earlier this month. It was a very emotional afternoon and all students were a credit to the school.

Christmas Carol Concert

Thank you to all involved in



the St Gregory's Carol Concert 2024. The students did a great job at reminding us all of the true meaning of Christmas. A special thank you to Mr Richards and Ms Chappel for the work they did with choir and drama students.

Coffee, Carols and Cake



Pupils from St. Gregory's attended St. Joseph's coffee, cake and carols community event earlier this month. We are very proud of all those that took part and of their beautiful performance!

Mrs Whitlow

CAREERS

JCB Excavator



St. Gregory's pupils have had the opportunity to experience a JCB Excavator through Tenstar Simulation for a week this term.



Thank you to Civil Remediation for providing the simulator, and

well done to all our pupils that got involved and challenged themselves!



Careers

St. Gregory's pupils enjoyed a visit to Sefton Sixth Form College this term for a medical day careers presentation.

Mrs Roberts



Cyber First

Yr8 pupils attended the Cyber First MEGA Event at Jodrell Bank this term. They demonstrated exceptional teamwork and won the timed quiz.



FP&N

Our Y8 pupils have been making these delicious and festive Krispie cakes in FP&N lessons.



CHRISTMAS BOXES



Our amazing pupils have made some creative hampers for St. Joseph's Family Centre. Thank you to all of our students and families for their generous donations!
Mrs Whitlow



WEAR IT PINK

BREAST CANCER NOW

THANK YOU

St Gregory's Catholic High School

for taking part in wear it pink 2024 and raising a wonderful

£1,436.97

SAFEGUARDING

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year!” is what we hear constantly at Christmas. Whether it’s on the radio, the telly or out in public, we are constantly told that Christmas is a time to be happy. But what if you’re not happy?

The reality for many of us, is that when Christmas comes around, there’s constant pressure on those with mental health problems to be happy all the time. But of course, that’s easier said than done.

Here’s some advice on things you can do to ensure you still enjoy the festive period this year, but also look after your mental health.

Take time out for yourself



It’s so important to take time out every day, not just in the festive period. If you feel yourself getting a bit overwhelmed or upset, take five to ten minutes away from everyone on Christmas Day. Just have a bit of time to yourself.

Christmas Day can be quite

an overwhelming day, so allow yourself time to recharge.

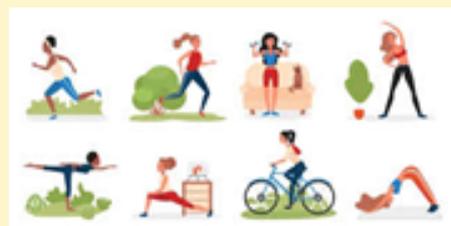
Get back into your sleep routine



A good night’s sleep is so important when it comes to looking after your mental health. It’s said that teenagers need an average of nine-and-a-half hours’ sleep each night. When it comes to the festive period, ensuring you get enough sleep can become difficult due to things like late nights at home and parties.

To make sure you get back into your normal sleeping routine easily, try going to bed at normal times as the festive period draws to a close. This’ll make getting up for school a lot easier and, in turn, will help your mental health a lot.

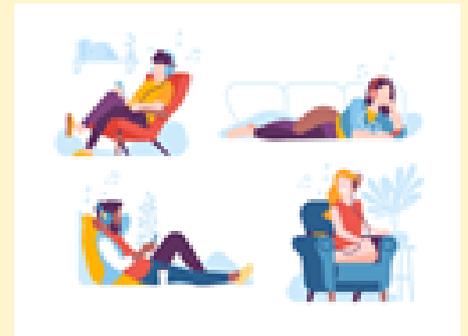
Exercise for your wellbeing



Physical activity releases a chemical called endorphins, which makes you feel good, so if you’re feeling a bit

overwhelmed or low at Christmas, why not go out for a walk? You could go on your own or with someone else, or go for a bike ride or even a run.

Try to relax



Relaxing can be tricky. Try doing things like yoga, breathing exercises or meditation to help you calm down if you’re feeling a bit stressed over the festive period.

Just because it’s Christmas, it doesn’t mean caring for your mental health has to be put on hold. You’re allowed to take breaks, and do things that perhaps don’t involve the whole family. Mental health and physical health are equally important.

If you fell over and grazed your knee on Christmas Day, you’d put a plaster on it. So if your mental health needs a plaster, you’re allowed to do something about it.

Have a lovely Christmas break.

Mrs O’Kane & Miss Lavin

Mental Health Support Services



CLEARFEAR
Anxiety Support App
11-19 year olds

Calm Fear



CALMHARM
Self Harm Support App
13 years+

Calm Harm



Mon-Fri 9am-4.30pm. School Nurse chat
07312263291

Chat Health



24/7 online support chat messenger or call
0800 1111

Childline



TALK NOW
crisis care
Mon-Sun 9am- 12am
Call 0808 196 3550 or 0151 293 3577

Crisis Team



The Kite Trust.
LGBTQ+ Support
01223 369508 or email
info@thekitetrust.org.uk

The Kite Trust



kooth
Visit kooth.com
Free, safe & anonymous online counselling

Kooth



THE MIX
3pm-12am
0808 808 4994
Text THEMIX to 85258

The Mix



PAPYRUS
HOPELINE UK 24/7
0800 068 4141
Text 8824 or email
pat@papyrus-uk.org

Papyrus



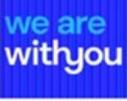
IT'S OKAY TO TALK
SAMARITANS
24/7 support
116 123 or email
jo@samaritans.org

Samaritans



shout
85258
24/7 support
Text 85258

Shout



we are with you
drug & alcohol chat support or call
0151 318 2804

We are with you



WINSTON'S WISH WW
Giving hope to grieving children
Chat online 8am-8pm
Call 08088 020 021
Text WW to 85258

Winston's Wish



Sefton young Carers
0151 288 6060
or email
yc@carers.sefton.gov.uk

Young Carers



YM
24/7 online support or Text
YM to 85258

YoungMinds

Visit our school website, for more mental health and wellbeing advice and information

CAMHS CRISIS CARE



Mon-Sun 9am- 12am
Call 0808 196 3550 or
0151 293 3577

KOOTH



Visit kooth.com
Free, safe & anonymous online counselling for young people.

CHILDLINE



24/7 Online support, chat messenger or call
0800 1111

24/7 & LATE NIGHT MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS SUPPORT

You are not alone, we are here for you

PAPYRUS



HOPELINE UK 24/7
0800 068 4141
Text 8824 or email
pat@papyrus-uk.org

SHOUT



24/7 Crisis Support.
Text SHOUT to 85258.

YOUNGMINDS



24/7 online support or
Text YM to 85258

Visit our school website, for more mental health and wellbeing advice and information

SOUND SKILLS

Violet Y8 has been having music tech lessons with Stephen Oates for 2 years now. He invited Violet to help him out with a gig at The Parr Hall involving a number of schools doing their Christmas productions. Violet helped on the desk, setting-up and stripping down

the equipment. She was working with professionals, free-lance sound and lighting engineers. She fitted in with ease and got some great knowledge and experience from the event. Violet was our outstanding sound technician for the production in November and

it's great to see her passion being enhanced outside of school at The Parr Hall. Ms Chappel



BACK OF THE NET

Y10 Football



Well done to the Y10 football team on their

performance in the Cheshire Cup this term beating Ormiston Bolingbrook Academy.

Pantheon Challenge

Pupils that attended the Panathlon challenge at



Ten Pin Bowling in Warrington this term made everyone proud with their exemplary behaviour. The St. Gregory's team

achieved two gold medals and one silver medal, and as a team, they won first place! A fantastic achievement by all!

Y8 Rugby



Well done to our Y8 boys rugby league team who did excellently to qualify for the North West Counties

competition, well done team!

Girls Football

Well done to our U13's football girls winning their latest tournament at Birchwood High



Y9 Football

Well done on an outstanding performance in the Cheshire Cup by our Y9 football team.

Mr Dean



Contact Details— Please ensure that we have the correct contact details for you. You can update your contact details in the SIMS parent app. If you do not have the SIMS parent app please contact school enquiry for further information schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com



Produced by the St. Gregory's Media Team

SAFEGUARDING

DSL
Miss Lavin

Safeguarding Governor
Mr Roger Harrison.

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140

Cheshire Constabulary:101

Social Work Teams: 01925 446257

Out of Hours: 01925 443322

ChildLine: 0800 1111