

# St. Gregory's Catholic High School

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**Headteacher**  
**Mr E McGlinchey BSc (Hons) NPQH & NPQEL**

Dear Parents and Carers,

## End of Spring Term 2022

I write to you as we complete a very busy but successful spring term. The term started with our community navigating through the omicron issues and ends with the tragic situation in Ukraine. I know that our community continue to face many challenges, in particular as a result of the cost of living rises.

Despite this, in school there has been a tangible sense of resilience and optimism throughout, with our young people standing up to be counted and doing all they can to learn about these issues and to try and make a difference. I want to thank all families who supported the archdiocese plea for donations of essential supplies for the people of Ukraine. We were inundated with donations and we know you have done this at a time where you will have made sacrifices. All of your donations are now in Ukraine.

St Gregory's continue to offer free breakfasts each morning to our children who are entitled to free school meals and our parents continue to be invited to well-being sessions by our school counsellor, Miss Abram.

**Your children have been outstanding this term.** We have delivered the highest amount of rewards in our history as a school. Pupils have raised lots of money for charity, ran chaplaincy group events, provided pupil voice to improve the options process, developed ideas for a pupil guidebook, become mental health ambassadors, joined positive footprint campaigns, helped at open evenings / parent events and supported each other with reading and numeracy as well winning many medals at sports competitions.

We therefore ended the term with a celebration mass of thanks for those pupils in our school who have provided outstanding service to others. The mass consisted of around 240 young people who have helped each other, the school and the wider community and lived our school mission through their actions.

This will be the last letter that we post to parents in order to become more environmentally friendly and to reduce rising postage costs. All future letters to parents will be sent out via our 'parent app' and will also be available on the 'letters home' section of our website. There may be occasions where pupils are given letters to take home to you. The 'parent app' has improved how you keep in touch with us.

I would like to thank the vast majority of parents who now have now downloaded the 'SIMS parent app' and view it regularly. If you do not have the 'SIMS parent app' yet, you will have a link in your email inbox (check 'other'/'junk') that the school holds for you. Further instructions can be found on our school website here: <https://www.stgregoryshigh.com/parents/sims-parent-app> .

*One family... inspired to learn.'*

SEAL it with RESPECT

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Website: [www.stgregoryshigh.com](http://www.stgregoryshigh.com)



St. Gregory's R.C. High School Appeal Trust. A REGISTERED CHARITY



### **Continued renovations to the school site and teaching resources**

I am very pleased to announce that St Gregory's will enter a new phase of school site and teaching resource improvement. The MFL department will receive a facelift across all classrooms and there will be substantial improvements in Science, a Food Technology area and a construction facility. We will also be **relocating our school reception** and providing a wonderful new environment for visitors to our school.

### **Parent Engagement Evenings and positive partnership with the school**

I have been delighted to welcome you back into school for face to face meetings with our teachers during engage evenings. I want to offer a special mention to our **Year 7 parents** for a staggering **95% turnout** to the recent evening for their children.

The overall percentage turnout from parents across all parent engage evenings has been 87% which has been very positive. If you have **not** managed to attend a recent parents engage evening, I must remind you of the importance of attending events where the progress and development of your child is discussed. The **Year 10 parent engage evening** will take place on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> of June.

### **Attendance and Covid-19**

I want to once again stress the absolute importance of strong attendance to school, the correlation between good attendance and positive academic performance cannot be underestimated. St Gregory's expects all pupils to achieve between 100% and 97% attendance every academic year. This means that there should be **no more than 5 school days off per year** (the equivalent of a full week). We will contact parents via the parent app and our website to keep you updated with the changing guidance from the government on what to do if your child tests positive for covid-19.

### **Standards**

I continue to thank the vast majority of our pupils for their outstanding standards of conduct. We are regularly at the top end of all schools in Warrington and the Liverpool Archdiocese for excellent behaviour. In order to ensure a positive summer term for the very small **minority** of our young people where there have been issues in adhering to our high standards, I remind all parents and carers that mobile phone remain **banned for usage in school** and must be kept out of sight. We also expect conduct **to and from** school, including on public transport and within our communities to be fitting of a pupil from St Gregory's. I also remind all of our pupils that uniform must be smart, complete and in line with our policy.

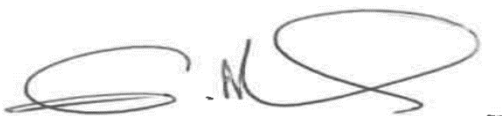
### **Parent Governor Elections – Autumn 2022**

In the new academic year, there is likely to be parent elections to elect two parent governors to our full governing board. St Gregory's is looking for members of our parent body who can contribute different skills and knowledge to what is a strong governing board and I write to you now so that you can begin to consider if this is something you may be interested in as part of strengthening our parent partnership.

### **The summer term**

School reopens at the normal time for the summer term to all pupils on **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022**. As the weather improves, it is likely we will be opening our school field during lunch times for our pupils to have extended grass space to enjoy social time, relaxation and exercise. In the mean time I would like to wish you and your families a very restful, safe and holy Easter holiday period.

Yours sincerely,



Ed McGlinchey