



The Net

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Issue: 120

March, 2024

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Thursday 28th March**
End of Term
- Monday 15th April**
Start of Term
- Thursday 18th April**
GCSE Art Exam
- Tuesday 23rd April**
Yr8 Vaccinations
- WC Monday 29th April**
MFL Speaking Exams
- Monday 6th May**
Bank Holiday
- Tuesday 7th May**
GCSE Exams continued
- Wednesday 12th June**
Yr10 Mock exams start
- Friday 24th May**
End of Term

STAFFING

Welcome to:
Mr Owen— Geography Teacher



THIS TERMS NEWSLETTER

Literacy News	2
LRC News.....	2
Fiction Addiction.....	3
Meet the Teacher—Mr Owen.....	3
Music.....	3
FP&N.....	4
Easter Word Search.....	4
Careers.....	4
Pupil Achievement.....	4
Chaplaincy.....	5
Drama.....	5
Ebook Platform	5
Peace Centre.....	5
Meeting Andy Carter.....	6
Safeguarding	6 & 7
Attendance celebrations.....	7
Back of the NET	8

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This has been a very short half term, but one packed with activity and key events. The most important event has been the commencement of Lent and the build up to Easter, our most important week of the year. During lent, we have been able to celebrate and reflect on the service we can provide for others and this was highlighted in our volunteers mass, celebrated at the end of the term with Father Raymond. The volunteers mass enabled our community to showcase the great work of pupils who support others through charity work, Mini Vinnies, paired reading and numeracy, school leadership and chaplaincy work - to name but a few!

The half term has been packed with celebrations of special talents too. Most notably, the continuing success of Daniella in Y10 with more karting victories. Our schools sports teams have been doing very



well too, from the Y9 rugby team to the Y7 athletics teams - all those that participated have represented St Gregory's brilliantly. We acknowledged important events such as Mother's Day, World Book Day, International Women's day and World Down Syndrome awareness day and we end the term with our Big Lent Walk in support of Gaza, the children of Gaza and the Holy land.

I wish the whole community of St Gregory's a holy, restful and peaceful Easter and as always I offer special thanks to my incredible staff body who have once again gone above and beyond for the children.

God bless.



McGlinchey
Headteacher

SVP FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to all those who donated to the SVP Food Drive this term. We have been overwhelmed with the generosity of those in our school community .

Mrs Cooper



LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week	
Emblematic	Inscribed
Gravitational	Accede
Credence	

eBook Platform Prize

At the end of this term, we will be announcing the winner of our eBook Easter egg! A prize is being offered to the most frequent users of the platform to congratulate them



on their dedication to reading for pleasure. Well done to Gavin Y8, Kerri Y7 and Rahmah Y7 who were the top users in the Spring Term!

Haven't given the eBook Platform a go yet? Access thousands of free electronic books and audiobooks via RMuNify or the 'ePlatform' app. Just sign in with your school email.

First Chapters Prize Draw

This half-term every child in the school was invited to enter their name into a prize draw to win a free book to keep and to enjoy. The first chapters of these books have been enjoyed with form tutors and there have been some brilliant discussions with a range of staff about our fantastic selection of novels. Congratulations to our winners.

Miss Mannion



LRC NEWS



World Book Day

It has been a busy half term in the LRC. World Book Day was celebrated on 6th and 7th March in the LRC beginning with our annual World Book Day Quiz where 10 teams took part, competing against each other using their book knowledge. Well



done to Mrs Salter's Team 'Sweet and Salted' who were well deserved winners! During World Book Day, the LRC was decorated we had lots of activities for the children to take part in centred around our theme of Alice in Wonderland. Our World Book Day Competition was 'Design a Packed Lunch'. We had several

different entries including recipes, menus, cake baking and artwork. Congratulations to Isla, Jacob, Dylon and Ellen,



who were winners of the competition.

STEM Project 'We Will Wonder'



During lunchtimes in the LRC, children have been busy designing their Egg-O-Naut for

the STEM project led by Mr Poland. The project links to the 'We Will Wonder' Literacy Trust project to promote reading

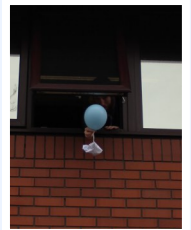
and STEM. The children have thoroughly enjoyed taking part in the project!

We enjoyed having the opportunity to celebrate some of our fascinating, beautiful STEM books alongside the project.

Book Displays

The book displays and daily activities as well as World Book Day and STEM, have centred around careers, International Women's Day, and International Happiness Day. In our book clubs, the children are now absorbed in exploring the shortlisted books for the 'Carnegie Award for Writing' and the 'Cheshire Book Awards'. Book clubs are open after school to all year groups with Years 7 and 8 on Thursdays after school in A week and Years 9 and over on Mondays after school in B week.

Mrs Andrews



MEET THE TEACHER - MR OWEN



Interviewed by Quinn Y11.
Photography by Mason Y11 & Dylan Y10



Who inspired you to teach?

It all started when I was in school! I had some good teachers who inspired me to have a passion for the world that we live in. They are the reason I chose geography, as it was one of my stronger subjects at school. I really enjoyed PE as



well!

Why did you decide to teach Geography?

Everything we do is linked to geography. It is about the world we live in and effects everyone. Learning about



the world we live in is important.

How have you found working at St Gregory's?

I have really enjoyed it! It is a lovely school community,



everyone is really friendly.

What is your favourite topic in Geography to teach and why?

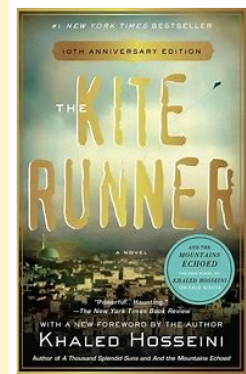
My favourite topic is physical geography which includes different landscapes and different processes that create different hazards.

What Football team do you support?

I support Gaelic football. The team you support is the place that you are born! You are not allowed to change the team you support! So, I support County Lough, but they have not won a title since 1957.

FICTION ADDICTION

Kite Runner



The Kite Runner is a novel written by Khaled Hosseini, based in 1960s - 2000s in Afghanistan and the USA. It is a page-turner that explores themes of friendship, betrayal and redemption through its complex characters. It follows Amir, from Kabul, who struggles to deal with his past with his best friend Hassan, and leaving his home when Afghanistan's government is overthrown by the Soviet Union. I would recommend it to everyone Y9+, and it is a story that will stay with you forever.

Written by Alice, Y9

MUSIC

Cranton College Visit



Thank you to the music students from Cranton College for performing to our Y9 pupils this term. We hope that you enjoyed your visit as much as we all loved listening to you!

Celebration Mass

Our choir performed beautifully at our recent mass celebrating those pupils that give their time to school groups and help in the community.



Open Mic Night

The open mic night was a great success. Well done to all those pupils that performed.

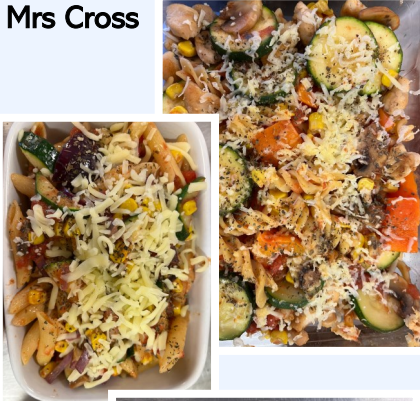


Mrs Gray

FP&N

Well done to all of our FP&N students this term. Here are just a few of their fantastic bakes.

Mrs Cross



EASTER WORD SEARCH

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

EASTER
CHOCOLATE
EGG
SPRING
CROSS

LAMB
JESUS
RESURRECTION
HOLY
LENT

BUNNY
CARROT
DECORATE
MIRACLE
SACRIFICE

CAREERS

Chester Zoo



Some of our Y9 pupils visited Chester Zoo this term for a conservation conference. All the pupils involved had a brilliant time learning more about the work that Chester Zoo does to prevent the extinction of endangered species.

National Careers Week

Pupils celebrated National Careers Week this term by spending the start of their lessons learning more about the career paths available after they leave high school.



Miss Crawley & Mr Poland

PUPIL ACHIEVEMENT

Well done to Ioana in Y7 who has successfully achieved 6 Blue Peter badges! The badges she has achieved have been given for kindness, music and for helping the environment. Keep up the great work!



PEACE CENTRE

Warrington headteachers from St Gregory's, Great Sankey and Warrington Colleges joined Wendy & Colin Parry at the Peace Centre this term to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the Warrington Bomb - a chance to reflect on the great work of the Peace Centre.

Mr McGlinchey



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 surname: 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 the LRC Manager Mrs Andrews



YEAR 11 PRACTICAL DRAMA EXAM – CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Congratulations to all Y11 Drama students who performed their scripted extracts to an invited audience for their practical drama examination. The two evenings were a great success, and our visiting AQA examiner watched no fewer than 34 extracts over the two days. Plays ranged from classics such as 1984, A View from the Bridge and Antigone to lesser-known play texts such

as Pink Mist by Owen Sheers and Girls Like That by Evan Placey. These performances count for 20% of their final GCSE mark and we wish pupils well as they approach the end of their course. Many thanks to George in Y10, Mr Fitton and Mrs Clayson for their help and support.

Ms Chappel



CHAPLAINCY

Form Collective Worships have been a great success throughout Lent.

A massive thank you to all involved.

Mrs Whitlow



MEETING WARRINGTON MP , ANDY CARTER



Andy Carter, the conservative MP for Warrington South, came to

informed pupils about how he ensures the views of the people that live in Warrington South are heard by the government and told everyone a little about the legislations that he votes on when he visits parliament.

Thank you to Mr Carter for his time.



Pupils then asked Mr Carter about healthcare, local environmental concerns, Warrington public transport, school funding and mental health in schools.

St Gregory's to meet with the headteacher and answer the questions prepared by St Gregory's pupils regarding the local community and what it is like to be an MP.

Andy began the session by explaining what an MP is and how a Member of Parliament represents a certain area. He



SAFEGUARDING

Holiday Activity and Food Programme (HAF)

HAF is an exciting new scheme, funded by the Department for Education, giving children in England who are eligible for free school meals the opportunity to take part in fun, enriching, school holiday activities.

Places on the holiday schemes are available free of charge to children aged 5 to 16 who receive free school meals, but children and young people of all ages and backgrounds are welcome to attend. Each local programme will provide delicious, healthy meals, allow children to get active, help them learn new things, make friends and have fun.

To find out more or book an event please follow the link [Warrington HAF programme](#).

Online Safety

We are aware that young people spend a lot of their time online and, whilst there can be many positives in the online world there are also many dangers that as parents you need to be aware of. National online safety is a platform which provides advice,

webinars, courses and much more to support parents in keeping their child safe online. It has been pleasing to see that many of our parents have signed up and completed the course using National Online Safety. If you have not yet done so, please

follow the link and sign in as a parent.

[National Online Safety](#)

In addition to this there are many other sites that provides information and support.

CEOP: [CEOP](#)

SWGfI: [SWGfI - Tik Tok controls](#)

UK Safer Internet Centre: [Safer Internet](#)

Please do take the time to talk to your child about staying safe online.

PEGI ratings

All films and games have age ratings which are used to ensure that entertainment content is clearly labelled with a minimum age

recommendation based on the content they have. **These age ratings provide guidance to consumers, parents in particular, to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product for a child.**

When it comes to games, many are suitable for players of all ages, whilst others are only suitable for older children and young teenagers. A specific portion of games on the market contains content that is only appropriate for an adult audience.

The PEGI rating considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty. A PEGI 3 game will not contain any inappropriate content but can sometimes be too difficult to master for younger children. Reversely, there are PEGI 18 games that are very easy to play, yet they contain elements that make them inappropriate for a younger audience.

It is an important part of safeguarding to ensure that a child is not exposed to content that is not appropriate for their age. For further information please follow the link [PEGI age ratings | Pegi Public Site](#)

SAFEGUARDING

YGAM – The Young Gamers and Gambling Education Trust

YGAM was founded in 2014 to educate young people, parents and professionals in the harm that can be caused by online gaming and gambling. YGAM's parent hub has a wealth of information to support parents and provide advice on gaming and gambling [YGAM parent hub](#). In addition to this the website offers free workshops and resources for parents [YGAM website](#).

Domestic Abuse

Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status, sexuality or background.

Children who witness domestic abuse are also victims of domestic abuse.

Signs You Are In An Abusive Relationship

A lot of people do not realize that they are in an abusive relationship. Here are some of the signs that you could be in an abusive relationship that you need to get out of...

- Your partner sexually or physically abuses you. If they ever make you have sex with them when you don't want to, hit you, shove you, or push you, this is domestic abuse.
- Your partner threatens you or your family.
- Your partner puts you down. They attack your capabilities, mental health, looks, or intelligence. They blame you for their violent outbursts.
- Your partner is jealous. They may isolate you from your family or friends or they may accuse you of not being faithful.
- Your partner is possessive. They may check up on you all of the time and they may get angry if you hang out with certain people.
- Your partner has strangled you, beat you, or hit you in the past.

Emotional Abuse

Emotional abusers look to chip away at your feelings of independence and self-worth. You can end up feeling like you do not have anything without your abusive partner or that there is no way out of your relationship.

Emotional abuse includes verbal abuse. This includes controlling behaviour, intimidation, isolation, shaming, blaming, name-calling, and yelling. Abusers who use psychological or emotional abuse will

often throw about threats of physical violence, as well as other repercussions if you do not do what they demand.

If you believe that you are a victim of domestic abuse you are not alone and there is support available:

Domestic Abuse: How to get help - [How to get help](#)

Refuge - [Refuge National Helpline](#)

Bright Sky is an app that provides support and information for people who are concerned that they are victims [Bright Sky](#)

Ask for ANI is a code that you can use at participating pharmacies. They will then provide a space, phone and ask if you need to contact the police.

UK SAYS NO MORE is working with Boots, Morrisons pharmacies, Superdrug pharmacies, Well pharmacies, independent pharmacies, HSBC, TSB, The Co-operative bank and selected Metro banks across the UK to provide Safe Spaces in their consultation rooms for people experiencing domestic abuse.

You can ask for a 'Safe Space' and many will also respond to 'ANI'. They will also provide a space for people to contact the police. [Safe Spaces Locations - UK SAYS NO MORE has further information.](#)

Attendance & Punctuality

At St Gregory's Catholic High School, we set a target of 97% attendance to ensure that pupils are in school and making the most of their learning as well as to encourage them to develop good habits for life. We are very pleased with the attendance and punctuality of the vast majority of our pupils, and this is celebrated with them through weekly 100% attendance rewards. Parents are able to see their child's attendance and punctuality as well as the number of achievement and behaviour points on SIMS parent app.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, then please remember that you must contact the school absence line to inform school of this. This should be done in advance of 8.40am and must be done on each day of absence. If school have not heard from you, a text message will be sent to your mobile number informing you that your child/ward is absent – this is part of our Safeguarding procedures.

All pupils should arrive at school no later than 8.40am so that they are ready and in their form rooms by 8.45am. It is important that pupils are in form on time as this ensures a positive start to the day and pupils are present to take part in collective worship and hear notices that are being given out.

Appointments – where possible please avoid making appointments for your child during the school day as this can be disruptive to their education. If it is necessary for your child to attend an appointment during the school day, then please contact the attendance team in advance of the appointment providing evidence of the appointment. When collecting your child please go to the main reception to inform them that you have arrived at school.

Uniform/mobile phones/smart watches and ear buds

Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting us in ensuring pupils are wearing the correct uniform to school. As a polite reminder pupils should wear a formal shoe, trainers are not permitted; hoodies are not allowed, only a school jumper can be worn 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 ears, no other piercings are allowed. A small cross and chain may be worn but other jewellery including rings and bracelets are not allowed. Make-up, including false nails, false eyelashes and nail varnish is not permitted and pupils will be asked to remove these if they are worn to school.

Mobile phones should be switched off and not be taken out during the school day. If a pupil breaches this then the device will be 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 smart watches so that pupils are not receiving texts etc on their smart watches. Thank you for your support with regards to this.

Should you need further support and advice the safeguarding page of our website has a wealth of information to support you. [St Gregory's Safeguarding](#)
Mrs McKenna

BACK OF THE NET

Y9 Rugby

An outstanding team effort from our Y9 rugby league team who narrowly lost in the Northwest counties quarter final this term.



Indoor Athletics

Congratulations to our Y7 indoor athletics team for their efforts in the Warrington athletics county championships. They achieved a bronze medal and have represented St. Gregory's with determination and distinction.



Mr Dean

ATTENDANCE CELEBRATIONS

Congratulations to all of the pupils that won an Easter Egg during Collective Worship over the last week for 100% attendance!
Mr McKenzie



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
Edited by George Y10 and Daniel Y9



SAFEGUARDING

DSL
Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

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