



The Net

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Issue: 131

Feb 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 13th February

End of term

Monday 23rd February

Start of Term

Friday 27th February

Curriculum Choices
Deadline

Thursday 5th March

World Book Day

Thursday 5th March

Y7 Engage Evening

Thursday 2nd April

End of term

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Spring is in the air! We officially enter the second half of the academic year and the days are getting lighter and a little warmer. Once again, so much has been achieved during this six-week half term.

I have thoroughly enjoyed visiting all of our partner primary schools with Miss Dolphin to speak with, and answer questions from the Year 5 pupils. We have been so impressed by the warm welcome we've received at each school and look forward to one day working with these wonderful young people when they join us at high school.

The major events of this half term have been the Year 11 mock results day and Year 9 options evening. When Year 11 opened their mock exam envelopes, there was a clear sense of excitement. Year 11 are clearly up for the challenge of their final few months before the exams, and I am confident they will do well.

Year 9 have big decisions to make with the curriculum choices deadline approaching, but with the Year 9 options market place, parent engage evening, parent talks, a fabulous options booklet and 39 employers to speak to at the careers fair, they will be well guided as always.

We were delighted to welcome our MP, Sarah Hall, to school to discuss SEND, children's mental health and school funding.

Sarah was very understanding of the challenges facing schools, and I am confident she will be a strong advocate in her role as an MP. She clearly enjoyed meeting our pupils and listening to them talk about their learning. We look forward to working with Sarah in the future.

I was also very pleased to welcome our Year 10 parents in for their engage evening. This is an important event that informs parents how well Year 10 have settled in their GCSE courses.

I would like to recognise one of our very special members of staff, Dr McCooey-Heap (the Head of our English department,) who finished 3rd in the recent England's strongest woman competition. Everyone in school is very proud of this fantastic achievement.

Trips this half term alone have involved Chester Zoo, the MOND trophy at Cronton, Medical Careers trips, Rowing events, a Drama trip to Menai and a MacBeth Shakespeare company amongst many, many more. It's been busy!

The open mic night arranged by Mr Richards was very special - the evening showcased a huge variation of talents - personal favourites of mine was the Beatles medley and the finish with Sweet Child of Mine by Guns and Roses. Every act was amazing and I am in awe of their talents and guts to get on stage.

After half term we will be launching our new extra-curricular programme and we will be introducing new clubs, such as the Darts club, which will be overseen by our very own Luke Littler, Mr Sexton! As always, I wish everyone a restful half term - especially to my staff, who have worked incredibly hard

over the past six weeks.

**Mr
McGlinchey
Headteacher**



LITERACY

Lexia PowerUp Sessions

Well done to the pupils in Years 7 -10 who continue to attend their Lexia PowerUp literacy intervention sessions - what fantastic progress you have made! It has been a real joy handing out certificates and so many achievement points for fantastic work on the platform.

And a special well done to our top Lexia users in each year group: Chris in Year 7, Marcus in Year 8, Oliwier in Year 9 and Aliyaan in Year 10. 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!

LRC

2026 is The National Year of Reading with the theme of 'Go All In'. To celebrate this, the LRC have launched a Reading Passport Incentive where pupils can win a different themed bookmark every month and be entered into a prize draw at the end of the year to win a £20 Amazon Voucher. Each month has a genre theme and to complete the monthly challenge, pupils read a book from that genre and complete an LRC activity to win a bookmark prize.

In January, our theme was 'Reading for Empathy' and February is 'Romance' which has included our 'Date a Book' event – a blind date with a book and a hot chocolate treat.

We are looking forward to 'Detective and Crime' in March which will coincide with our World Book Day celebrations.



National Story Telling Week

The first week in February was National Story Telling Week. The LRC ran activities

Word of the Week

It has been fantastic receiving so many emails from pupils using the 'Word of the Week', as it means that the literacy team are able to award even more achievement points! Remember that points can also be earned for using the word in form time or in lessons. Try coming up with as many sentences as possible or even using the word at home with parents and/or carers.

Miss Mannion

FICTION ADDICTION

'Lightfall' by Tim Probert

A book about friendships, adventure and mystery. Friends going on adventures and helping each other through tough times. Finding loved ones and protecting them from darkness.



Written by Julia Y7

during the week and a 'Tell it Your Way' competition - a Storytelling competition without writing! Entries have included animation, dances, rapping and beautiful artwork. The entries were showcased in the LRC on the Friday and 3 winners were chosen. Well done to Paisley, Gabriela, Aarya and Agnes who won prizes.

Mrs Andrews



OPEN MIC NIGHT SUCCESS

ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

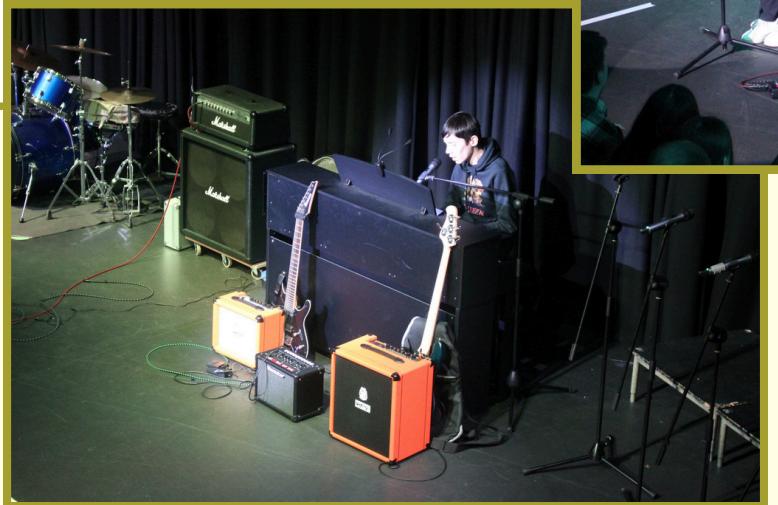
OPEN MIC NIGHT

TUESDAY 10TH FEB 2026
5:30PM-6:30PM

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT MR RICHARDS



There was some amazing talent on display at our Open Mic Night. Well done to all those pupils that took part!



VISIT FROM THE PHOTOGRAPHER

A big thank you to F11 Photography for visiting St Gregory's this term to deliver an inspiring photography careers session. Pupils learned about equipment setup, lighting, headshots, movement, editing, and group poses. Pupils gained valuable hands-on experience and had a fantastic time.



WORD SEARCH

ROMANCE	R	B	T	N	F	V	Y	F	C	E	V	O	L	Y	R
BELOVED	D	O	V	D	O	Q	D	M	D	U	A	O	P	E	N
CHERISH	E	F	M	E	N	F	E	R	F	M	O	Z	L	Q	D
IDYLL	A	H	E	A	R	T	S	A	T	T	R	A	C	T	D
CUPID	G	I	Y	L	N	R	B	H	J	N	T	A	N	Y	E
LOVE	K	W	Z	V	K	C	K	C	T	I	F	O	M	W	V
HEARTS	Y	M	A	B	T	T	E	E	O	K	I	L	G	F	O
RELATIONSHIP	Z	C	H	E	H	S	I	N	D	S	Q	D	Q	F	L
SWEETHEART	C	U	P	I	D	R	S	J	S	J	B	Z	Y	A	E
ALLURE	H	E	S	D	U	H	B	A	C	A	Y	D	A	L	B
AFFECTION	E	R	B	Q	I	P	P	L	M	T	Q	M	V	L	L
PASSION	R	J	K	P	O	I	J	Y	J	S	O	I	L	U	E
ADORE	I	O	T	A	F	F	E	C	T	I	O	N	Z	R	A
CHARM	S	W	E	E	T	H	E	A	R	T	N	E	J	E	Q
ATTRACT	H	S	G	U	D	F	O	Q	M	E	R	O	D	A	C

CHAPLAINCY

Over the last term we have successfully raised money for numerous charities.

The total amount raised on the last day of term was £902.12. With an additional £256 raised from the Year 7 Christmas Cafe that Mrs Williams hosted with her form.

A massive thank you to Mrs Williams, 7F and any staff that were able to help in the organisation and running of this fantastic event during the last week.

So, in total, £1,158.12 was raised!

The money will be split between St Joseph's Family Centre and to help families at risk of homelessness in Warrington.

A huge thank you to all involved!

Mrs Whitlow

HANDLEBARDS THEATRE



Thank you to The HandleBards Theatre Company who visited St. Gregory's this term to perform Macbeth to our Y11's and run two workshops with our drama students. Everyone involved had a fantastic time!

Dr McCoey-Heap

RUBIK CUBE

Our Rubik Cube Club have been busy this half term! They meet every Tuesday night after school in The Hub. The team bring different Rubik Cubes, talk about different solutions, have time with each other and just have a good chat. Everyone is welcome!



MOND TROPHY CRONTON



On Friday 22nd January 8 of our pupils from year 10 attended The MOND Trophy competition at Cronton sixth form college. It is a competition that sees schools from across the North West battle it out in a range of STEM challenges. The challenges demand a high level of innovation and problem-solving skills. Students compete in teams against others, and the battle lines are drawn in maths immersive rooms, biology, physics, chemistry, computing, and engineering. With 13 schools attending in total and 27 groups going head to head in what was the biggest MOND Trophy to date, Team B at St Gregory's High won the engineering section which was a wonderful achievement!

RADIO WARRINGTON



Our Media and Podcast Team had a fantastic time at Radio Warrington this term. They discovered how the radio station works, how to use the equipment and began planning for our upcoming radio segment in March! Thank you to the Radio Warrington team who welcomed our pupils and answered all of their questions.



CAREERS FAIRE

St. Gregory's pupils were very excited this term to meet stallholders from a range of different businesses and colleges and discuss new opportunities after St. Gregory's. Here are just a few of the pictures from the day.



Mrs Roberts



As February arrives, we begin to notice the first signs of Spring – slightly lighter mornings, new growth outdoors, and a sense of fresh beginnings. This reminds us of the importance of caring for ourselves and one another.

Children's Mental Health Week 2026

Children's Mental Health Week takes place 9-13th February and it is a timely opportunity to reflect on how we can support the wellbeing of our children – and ourselves. Our Mental Health Ambassadors will be leading Celebration of the Word, there will be information shared on the screens around school about the importance of 'Belonging' and we will be hosting a small cake sale towards the end of the week.



Welcome!

We would like to formally introduce another addition to our fantastic Year 7 Mental Health Ambassador Team. This is Leyla, a role model in helping people feel that they belong. She describes herself as kind and friendly, with a passion for making everyone feel included. Leyla enjoys Jujitsu and Gymnastics outside of school and is always willing to lend a helping hand in school.



Thought for the Month

"Every day may not be good, but there is something good in every day." A gentle reminder to notice small positives and nurture optimism, even during busy or challenging weeks.

App Recommendation

Headspace for Families

A user-friendly mindfulness app offering short meditations, sleep stories, and breathing exercises suitable for adults and children. Many families find it helpful for calming busy minds and building emotional resilience together.



Wellbeing Activity for Families

"Spring Gratitude Moment"

Once a week, invite everyone to share:

- one thing they are grateful for
- one way they showed kindness, generosity, or service to someone else

This can be done around the dinner table or before bedtime and helps strengthen connection, empathy, and positive reflection.

Mrs O'Kane

Y11 FOOTBALL

Well done to our year 11 football team. They have represented the school magnificently over the past 5 years, we are all proud of you!



Y11 NETBALL

Year 11 netballers won their tournament this term by beating:

Bridgewater A team 11-9

Bridgewater B team 8-3

Kings 14-2

Culcheth 12-1

Well done team!



Mr Dean

Football Result



Well done to our Yr7 girl's football team in a recent tournament, having drew and won a game!

INDOOR ROWING

I'm pleased to confirm that the following three pupils have qualified for the National Indoor Rowing Championships in London on Friday 20th March 2026:
Gonzalo
Kuba
Lacie

Please join me in congratulating all three pupils on this fantastic achievement.

The boys relay team also placed 3rd in the Warrington Youth rowing section receiving a bronze medal.

Well done to all those that took part!



Miss Heaton