ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



it with RESPECT!

July, 2022

Welcome to:

Leader

Manager

of Music

Farewell to:

Analysis Leader

'ONE FAMILY... INSPIRED TO LEARN.'

ISSUE 110

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

STAFFING

Mrs N Dickin MIS and Data Analysis

Miss L Krusinskyte Subject Leader

Jessica Smith Music Subject Leader

Mrs J Mason

Miss E Evans Pastoral Support

Mrs R Hennessey Media and

Communications Coordinator

Mr P Micallef MIS and Data

Friday 22nd July Last day of school Thursday 25th August GCSE Results Day Monday 5th September Start of term Thursday 27th October End of term



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

The summer term is almost complete and this offers the opportunity to reflect on a successful journey for our school as we close one chapter and open another.

This academic year St. Gregory's Catholic High School celebrated its 40th year serving the community. To mark the event, we hosted a number of special events, with the centrepiece being a whole school Mass celebrated by Bishop Tom Neylon. Our current generation of pupils were joined by many former staff and pupils who were invited to return to our school to mark this wonderful occasion.

Our <u>Ambition for All</u> programme is proving to be a huge success in recognising and unearthing the individual talents of our young people. To celebrate their accomplishments, pupils were invited to receive platinum awards to honour those who have achieved above and beyond our expectations.

Our year 11 pupils have worked incredibly hard towards their GCSE examinations and approached them with outstanding maturity as the first year group to sit traditional exams again since 2019. Year 11 celebrated their efforts at the school prom at Statham Lodge in Lymm. It was clear that they know how to party



and celebrate together in what was an emotional evening for all involved.

It has been very pleasing to see pupils being able to get out and about again and there have been many trips over the past year to colleges, work environments and amazing experiences connected to the curriculum. Our talented pupils have also had the opportunity to go out and compete again, winning many sporting events.

I would like to thank my entire staff publically for the incredible lengths that they go to, to ensure our school continues to be one of the best in the North West, which is made easier as a result of the positive parent partnership that we have in place. Finally, a special word of thanks and appreciation to our pupils who make our school an incredible place to learn and work.

Mr McGlinchey Headteacher

40th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

St. Gregory's Catholic High School celebrated its 40th Anniversary this academic year. It first opened its doors to 11 - 16 year olds from across Warrington on September 1st 1981. Since then it has seen approximately 8000 pupils pass through its doors.

To celebrate the school's 40th Anniversary, on Monday 18th July, Bishop Tom Neylon was invited to celebrate a whole school Mass. Bishop Tom was also joined by local parish priests Fr Dave Heywood, Fr John Schofield, Canon Christopher Cunningham and the school also welcomed the return of former school chaplain Fr Richard Ebo. There were

around 1000 pupils and staff in attendance at this very special celebration and former staff and pupils were also invited as guests. The celebration Mass also saw a new altar which and lectern. had been commissioned in commemoration of this event. During the Mass, Bishop Tom consecrated the altar with prayers, chrism oil and incense - a once in a lifetime opportunity for the pupils, staff and guests.

Also, many students and staff played a significant part in the celebration with singers, musicians and actors all contributing to a prayerful and joyous Mass.

After Mass, special guests including the founding Head Teacher, Tom Brophy, along with Bishop Tom Neylon were invited to a buffet and to share memories of the school whilst students and staff received a special chocolate bar and special 40th Anniversary pin badge to commemorate the event.

Mrs S Whitlow





years. We wish her good luck and best wishes at

Farewell to Mrs Janet

Mason, LRC Manager.

Janet served St. Gregory's

as a member of staff for 22

Education Library Services.



LITERACY NEWS

This term they were:	
Propaganda	Succession
Rapacious	Tantamount
Stereotype	Unequivocal

Thank you to all those pupils who have sent in sentences using the featured word of the week.

Accelerated Reader

Our year 7 and 8's have had a fantastic year of reading and quizzing on the Accelerated Reader programme. We now have 56 word millionaires and over 19 multi-millionaires-a brilliant achievement by everyone. Keep up the great work.

Poetry By Heart

Monday On 20th June, 3 year 7 pupils were very lucky to be invited to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre on



London's South Bank to attend the national Poetry by Heart finalists' celebration. Lucy Fisher in 7C did our school proud by performing a recitation of Sylvia Plath's Mushrooms on the world-famous stage. We were also treated to an hour of performance and questions with the poet laureate, Simon Armitage. Our pupils returned hugely inspired and we cannot wait to enter the competition again next year!

Public Speaking Competition

We are blessed with some inspirational public speakers here at St. Gregory's and this was very evident in the number of strong entries we had for our recent public speaking competition. Our school winners were Callum Rimmer in 7W, who performed a heartfelt speech about climate change, and Rachel Degenhart in 9W for a powerful speech about oppression. An enormous "well done" to

all of our entrants - you were brilliant!

Dr K McCooey-Heap





Pupils and staff were encouraged to take part in our Random Acts of Kindness Challenge. Once

completed, challenges were recorded and all participants will receive one of our Positive Footprints keepsakes for taking part. We are so proud of everyone's efforts and for the kind acts completed.

Mrs W Dolphin



June was Pride Month, when the world's LGBT communities come together and celebrate the freedom to be themselves. In the LRC this was reflected in our book display which showcased some wonderful authors of YA LGBT literature.

For our final book display of the summer we will be looking at BAME authors. Remember you can take out two books to read over the summer holidays so come along to the LRC and take your pick from our amazing book selection.

Eplatform

Forgot to choose a book for the school holidays? Why not have a look at our ebook platform. For pupils on



How do I access it?

Try our eplatform

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

How do I read them?

On 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

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

- ⇒ Username: Student email
- \Rightarrow Password: password (once signed in change the password)

Once downloaded the book can be read on all devices without the need for internet connection and will be automatically returned in two weeks.

Any Problems? Please contact Mrs Huckerby

LRC NEWS

Accelerated Reader you can search by your reading level.

Cheshire Book Quiz

Our year 8 team successfully made it

to the final of The Cheshire Book Quiz on the 21st June. Natasha Tindall, Elliot Taylor, George Wild and



Olivia Jacobs got to meet the author Nick Bowling, who wrote one of the featured books, and were presented with a book token each for reaching the final.

Cheshire Book Award

The year 9 reading club attended the Cheshire Book Award final on the

was thoroughly enjoyed by the pupils who were able to meet two of the shortlisted

authors. Tamsin Winter and George



Lester who were available to answer questions and sign books.

29th June. The fantastic annual event

One More Chapter

Members of the newly formed LRC group 'One More Chapter' With the books they have chosen for the LRC



Mrs K Huckerby

MONT BLANC

Well done to Mr Mitchell from our DT Department who completed 'Tour Du Mont Blanc' cycle event representing The River Reeves Foundation. The River Reeves Foundation provides bursaries for disadvantaged children. You still have time to donate via the link. www.gofundme.com/f/mont-blanc-

challenge-2022

Mr Mitchell



National Online Safety

Many thanks to the large number of parents and carers who have signed up to National Online Safety. It is a platform that offers support, advice and guidance to teachers and parents with regards to how to keep our young people safe online.

You may wish to complete the parental course in order to help you support your child in their use of the internet and social media. The course should appear on your dashboard as a watchlist if you have already signed up.

In order to log in, please follow the link below and follow the <u>instructions to sign in</u> <u>as a parent.</u>

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 kids to get active, help them learn new things, make friends and have fun.

To find out more or book and event please follow the link <u>https://</u>www.warrington.gov.uk/haf

Mental Health

Research shows that a number of young people and adults are struggling with their

SAFEGUARDING

mental health. The Samaritans is a charitable organisation that is there to listen to anyone who is struggling at any time of the day. In July they are running their 'Talk to Us' annual awareness campaign for 2022. Samaritans' awareness day is 24th July, and their social media will be promoting awareness. <u>https://www.samaritans.org/support-us/campaign/talk-us/</u>

For other mental health and wellbeing support, please visit <u>Happy? OK? Sad?</u> It includes details of services and resources for children and young people.

ChatHealth Warrington: is a secure text messaging service for young people, parents and carers. 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.

The text numbers for Warrington are: 11 - 19 Young People's Service – 07507 330101

5 - 19 Parents Service – 07480 635994 Further information can be found on the website by following the link: www.chathealth.nhs.uk.

Kooth: offers free online support and counselling to young people aged 11–18 in Warrington. All pupils at St Gregory's have been given log in details for Kooth and have access to the service. <u>Home - Kooth</u>

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 free resources which can be downloaded.

Further Safeguarding Information

If you need further advice and guidance, please go to the safeguarding page on our website where you will find a wealth of information and useful links.

https://www.stgregoryshigh.com/pastoral/ safeguarding

Stay Safe in the Sun

Hopefully we will see the sun during the summer holidays and whilst we all enjoy the nicer weather, it is important that we 'stay safe in the sun':

- Wear sunscreen – at least factor 30 with a four star UVB rating

- Check for heat exhaustion – ensure that you move into the shade

- Stay hydrated - drink plenty of water

Water Safety

As the temperature increases it is perfectly natural to want to cool off. However, there are many dangers when it comes to swimming in unsuitable rivers, canals and quarries and this does not take into account the hazards of freezing cold water and currents. Please take time to speak to your child about the dangers of swimming in open water.

For more information click the link <u>https://</u> canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-thewaterways/safety-on-our-waterways/ summer-water-safety

What to do in the holidays with your teen

Finally, if you're looking for ideas of what to do to get your teenager off their technology and outside during the summer holiday, please click the link for some ideas (some even include chores).<u>https://lindastade.com/what-to-doin-holidays-teenager/</u>

Have a happy and safe summer.

Mrs C McKenna

Confirmations

Around 60 candidates from year 8 were confirmed in St. Oswald's over 9th and 10th July. They worked hard to prepare for this in their RE classes and also met within their parish. Congratulations to all who were confirmed!

Faith In Action

Some students from the chaplaincy team attended a Faith in Action awards ceremony at St Jude's Catholic Church, Wigan. St. Gregory's students received Bronze, Silver and Gold awards for all their hard work throughout the year. Congratulations to all!

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Walking Day

Just under 40 students attended Warrington Walking Friday Day on 1st July to represent St. Gregory's. Behaviour was exemplary and they were shining role models for the younger primary schools who were also

Mrs S Whitlow

dav.

walking on the









Enjoy your summer holidays and do not forget that you can download a summer playlist to enjoy at the beach! Mr Jones

SAFEGUARDING

BACK OF THE NET

Rugby

Year 7 Boys – Warrington schools runner up. What an excellent start to high school Rugby League.

Year 10 Boys – Year 10 Warrington schools champions. The team have made the school proud.



Javelin

Year 10 - A huge congratulations to our year 10 pupil Laura, who came

2nd in the mixed year 10 & 11 girls Javelin competition. A great effort and result at Warrington Town Sports for St. Gregory's

100m Relay

pupils.

Year 7 - Well done to Alice, Charlotte, Mia, and Holly on winning the Warrington Town Sports year 7 girls



100m relay final. Amazing teamwork and exceptional speed.

Athletics Squad

Everyone performed magnificently with 12 top 3 finishes. Particularly great performances from the year 7 girls relay team, year 7 boys relay team, year 9 boys relay team, Jake in the 100m and Daniel in the shot put who all won their events.



Safeguarding Governor Mr Roger Harrison.

Cheshire Constabulary :101 ChildLine: 0800 1111

Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140 Social Work Teams: 01925 446257

the most pods and answering the

highest number of questions on

Check and Challenge.

DSL

Out of Hours: 01925 443322