



The Net

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Issue: 134

July 2026

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 17th July

End of term

Thursday 20th August

GCSE results day

Thursday 3rd September

Start of term

Thursday 17th

September

Open Evening

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

I can't believe that it is the end of another academic year, but here we are at the end of another successful half term. It's quite amazing what can be squeezed into just 35 school days. This half term has been action packed from the first day to the last. A highlight for me was the Year 11 leavers assembly followed by their prom at Statham Lodge. Year 11 have worked so hard on their GCSE's and we are sure they will be successful on results day. Year 11 enjoyed themselves at the prom and showed a few of us older staff how to party!

The final half term of the year is always dominated by transition events involving Year 6 and Year 5's. I have been very impressed by our new Year 6's who really shone during their time school, I have no doubt they will contribute brilliantly to our school community. The visiting Year 5's who came for their Discovery Days really got to know St. Gregory's and they were very well looked after by our fantastic pupil leaders.

Pupils have enjoyed extra-curricular experiences covering so many different locations and events, these include Young Leader training, award winning rowing champions, college visits, public speaking competitions, field work in Edale and Duke of Edinburgh. The experiences will end the year with the Year 10 trip to Berlin – what a way to finish the year for those pupils.

Last week all nations in our school community came together for our 3rd World Culture Day. This was yet another wonderful occasion with the whole community coming together and bringing something to the day,

and shining as One Family by celebrating our diverse range of nationalities.

We will say a fond farewell this term to Mrs Salisbury, who has been our SENDCo for six years, as she moves on to a new and exciting adventure in America. We are blessed that we will be welcoming a new SENDCo, Mrs Fallon to St. Gregory's in the new school year and I am sure she will enjoy working in our welcoming school community.

We also say goodbye to Mrs Pyman, a long serving Teaching Assistant, who is retiring this summer. Mrs Pyman has given the children at St. Gregory's so much wonderful service and support over the years and whilst we will miss her, Mrs Pyman will now enjoy being with her family more often in her well-deserved retirement.

I am very excited about the new academic year to come in September, with lot of new improvements to our school to talk about when the time arrives.

We have enjoyed a final week of activities including Sports Day, rewards trips and of course, our whole school mass with Archbishop Sherrington. I would like to thank my staff for being incredible again all year and for helping our pupils achieve and experience so much. I wish everyone a happy, safe and restful summer holiday of recharging your batteries.

Mr McGlinchey
Headteacher





LITERACY

Summer Holiday Literacy Tips

There are plenty of ways to support your child's literacy development during their summer break. **Why not try some of the below?**

- Make your child in charge of the shopping list, including writing it legibly and accurately as well as reading it back to you during your shopping trip.
- Read around your child; if they see you reading, they will be more likely to read themselves! Maybe take advantage of the sunshine and read outside together.
- Download the 'ePlatform Library' app to enjoy thousands of free eBooks at home through a mobile phone, tablet or laptop.
- Support your local library by visiting and taking advantage of the free resources and summer events.

If your child is eligible for literacy intervention, encourage them to use the Lexia PowerUp platform at home to support their ongoing progress. Miss Mannion



LRC

Discovery Days

We have loved welcoming 11 Year 5 classes to the LRC this half term for their Discovery Days. They took part in a quiz and scavenger hunt. Their reading knowledge has really impressed us!

Year of Reading Challenges

Our Year of Reading Challenges this half term centred around Sci-Fi in June and Sport in July. It has been amazing to see our pupils challenging themselves to read different genres and show commitment to this throughout the year. There are 3 chances to win a £20 Amazon voucher in December for those who complete all the challenges. Keep it up!



Loyalty

At the end of the year, we award a loyalty card prize. All completed cards are entered into a prize draw. Some pupils have read over 100 books – completing at least 2 loyalty cards which is very impressive! Well done to who won the award for this year.

FICTION ADDICTION



'The Naturals
by Jennifer
Lynn Barnes'



'The Naturals' is an amazing thriller about a girls who discovers she has a secret talent. She goes to the FBI, to be trained, use her talent and meet other people just like her. She ends up on a case, finding a killer. Will she find the murderer before it's too late?

Written by Bella Year 9

Thank you!

As we approach the end of the year, we would like to say big thank you to all our Library Assistants who do an excellent job of assisting in our LRC and making it such a welcoming and engaging space. Your contribution is invaluable!

Mrs Andrews



Food Bank Collections



Pupils in our SVP group have been busy collecting donations to give to the local food bank this half term. Well done to all those involved!

Race for Life



Three pupils from 7 Kolbe, Lily, Mia and Rose completed a Race for Life run this term. Well done to those that ran and raised money for such a great cause!

End of Year Mass



Our pupils enjoyed a wonderful whole-school Mass this term. A huge thank you to our special guests, Archbishop John and the Warrington Clergy, for joining us and making the celebration so meaningful. A special well done to our fantastic choir for their beautiful singing, and congratulations to all of our pupils, whose behaviour was exemplary throughout.

Discovery Days



We had a lovely time welcoming Y5 pupils from all over Warrington to St. Gregory's this half term for their discovery days. We hope you all had a fantastic time in lessons and enjoyed learning more about the school.

Faith in Action



We were thrilled to be able to take the above students to the Faith in Action Awards Ceremony this term as a treat for all their hard work throughout the year. Well done everyone! Also a huge congratulations to the Year 6 class at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary for their participation in the award!

Confirmations



It was great to witness lots of our young people being confirmed this term. Thank you to Archbishop John for a lovely service.
Mrs Whitlow

Liverpool Hope Trip

Pupils enjoyed a visit to Liverpool Hope University for a STEM event this term. Well done to Nataniel and Oscar who won the electric vehicles event and were presented with their prize by one of the King's ambassadors.

Mr Poland



Careers Trip

Pupils enjoyed an engaging day of practical career activities with Mediline this term, giving them the opportunity to experience a variety of career pathways and develop valuable workplace skills.

The day began with a series of interactive tasks designed to reflect real working environments. Students took part in a customer service challenge, completed a finance task, and even dressed in medical scrubs to gain an insight into careers within the healthcare sector.

They also met with representatives from Simian, a scaffolding company well known for its apprenticeship opportunities. During the session, students completed a risk assessment exercise before getting hands-on experience by constructing a section of scaffolding under expert guidance. The activity highlighted the importance of safety, teamwork, and technical skills in the construction industry while showcasing the rewarding career routes available through apprenticeships.

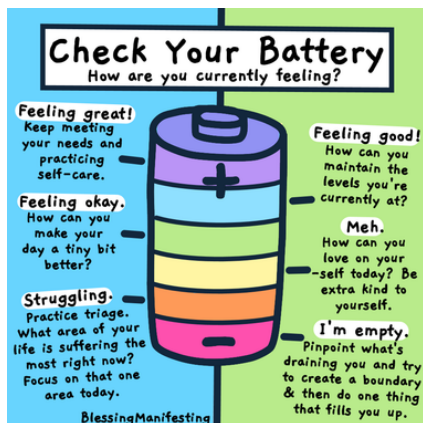
The visit concluded with a trip to the Sellafield offices, where students learned more about the organisation and the wide range of careers it offers. Students gained a valuable insight into one of the UK's leading nuclear sites and the opportunities available within the industry. Overall, the experience provided students with a fantastic opportunity to explore different career sectors, build practical skills, and gain a greater understanding of the many pathways available to them after education.

Mr Poland



Take Time to Recharge This Summer

As another school year comes to an end, it's a great opportunity to pause, celebrate everything you've achieved, and look ahead to new opportunities. Whether this year has felt exciting, challenging, or somewhere in between, remember that every day you've learned something about yourself.



Looking After Your Mental Health This Summer Summer is a chance to recharge both your body and mind. Here are some simple ways to support your wellbeing:

- ☀️ Keep a gentle routine. Try to wake up, eat meals and go to bed at roughly the same time each day.
- 🚶 Get outside. Fresh air, sunshine and movement can all help improve your mood. Even a short walk can make a difference.
- 📱 Take screen breaks. Social media can be fun, but make time for hobbies, reading, music or being with friends and family offline too.
- 💬 Stay connected. Check in with people you care about and don't be afraid to talk about how you're feeling.
- 💧 Look after your body. Drink plenty of water, eat regular meals and try to get enough sleep.
- 🎨 Do something you enjoy. Draw, cook, play sport, listen to music, learn a new skill or simply spend time doing something that makes you happy.

Parent Book Recommendation

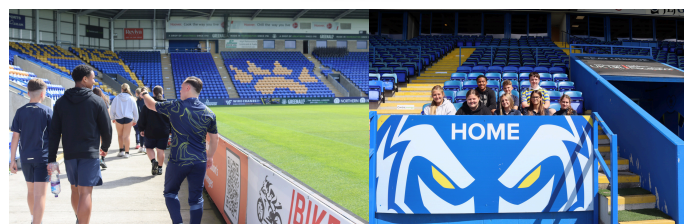
This user-friendly guide gives insights and tried-and-tested strategies to navigate the everyday challenges of life with teenagers, showing you

how to put them into practice in real-life scenarios.



Trip to Warrington Wolves Stadium

Mrs O'Kane and Mrs Whitlow took a small group of pupils to the Halliwell Jones Stadium at the start of this month. They were given a behind the scenes tour and found out about the work that the Warrington Wolves Foundation do to support our community and promote good mental health. A great day was had by all!



Quote for the Summer:

"Rest is not a reward for hard work – it is part of doing your best."

End of Year Reflection

Before you start your summer break, take a moment to think about the past year.

Ask yourself:

- What am I most proud of?
- What challenge did I overcome?
- What have I learned about myself?
- What is one thing I would like to try or improve next year?
- Who has helped me this year, and have I thanked them?

Remember, progress isn't just about academic achievement. It's also about growing in confidence, showing kindness, trying new things and learning from setbacks.

Mrs O'Kane

St. Gregory's Catholic High School proudly celebrated the achievements of its students during the annual AFA Awards Evening. The event recognised pupils for their hard work, dedication, resilience, and outstanding accomplishments across a range of areas.

Families and staff came together to applaud the award winners, making it a memorable evening that highlighted the talent, commitment, and positive values demonstrated by students throughout the year. The celebration reflected the school's commitment to recognising excellence and encouraging every pupil to achieve their full potential.

Mr Lucas



DEMENTIA FRIENDS

St Gregory's becomes a Dementia Friendly school

In June, St Gregory's Catholic High School achieved a remarkable milestone by training the entire school to become Dementia Friends, officially earning the status of a Dementia Friendly School. Pupils were presented with pins and certificates to mark their achievement and commitment to supporting those living with dementia.

The Head of RE, Miss Hanrahan, shared her pride in the students, saying,

"I am incredibly proud of our pupils for embracing this initiative with such enthusiasm and dedication. Their hard work reflects not only their compassion but also the values we hold dear as a school community."

This achievement highlights St Gregory's commitment to raising awareness and fostering empathy, ensuring that all students are equipped to make a positive difference in their community.



BREAD MAKING WORKSHOP

Pupils enjoyed a special workshop learning all about how to make bread this half term. Well done to all those that took part!

Mrs McGibbon



PROM

What a fantastic evening celebrating our amazing pupils! With the sun shining, plenty of smiles, and memories being made, everyone looked incredible and enjoyed a well-deserved celebration at St Gregory's Prom 2026! We wish all our pupils the very best for the future and hope they cherish these special memories for years to come.

Mrs Batty



SPEAKING COMPETITION

This half term, Year 9's Georgia and Zuzanna did something that required a lot of resilience and performed very sophisticated speeches in front of an audience of judges, teachers, pupils, parents and carers, acting as wonderful representatives at the annual Archdiocese Public Speaking competition. Georgia spoke about how we are currently drowning in information and starving for wisdom, and Zuzanna argued in favour of the social media ban for under 16s. Sadly, we had no victory in trophy form this year, but Zuzanna and Georgia have every right to feel victorious nevertheless. Undoubtedly, we'll be back in fighting form next year, ready to cinch a podium spot!

Miss Mannion



POETRY COMPETITION AND RADIO RECORDINGS

Congratulations to the St. Gregory's Media Team on a fantastic term producing their new radio show, Schools Out.

Throughout the term, the team has worked hard to create engaging broadcasts.

Their enthusiasm, creativity, and commitment have made the show a great success and a brilliant platform for showcasing student talent.

A special highlight of the term was the school's poetry competition, with the winning poem being read live on the radio during the show. Congratulations to Milly in Y8 for taking first place with their outstanding entry. Their poem impressed our Media Team with its creativity and originality, and it was wonderful to celebrate their achievement by sharing it with the wider school community.

Well done to everyone involved in Schools Out and to all the pupils who entered the poetry competition. We look forward to hearing what the Media Team has in store next term!

Mrs Hennessey



The winning Poem

African wild dog

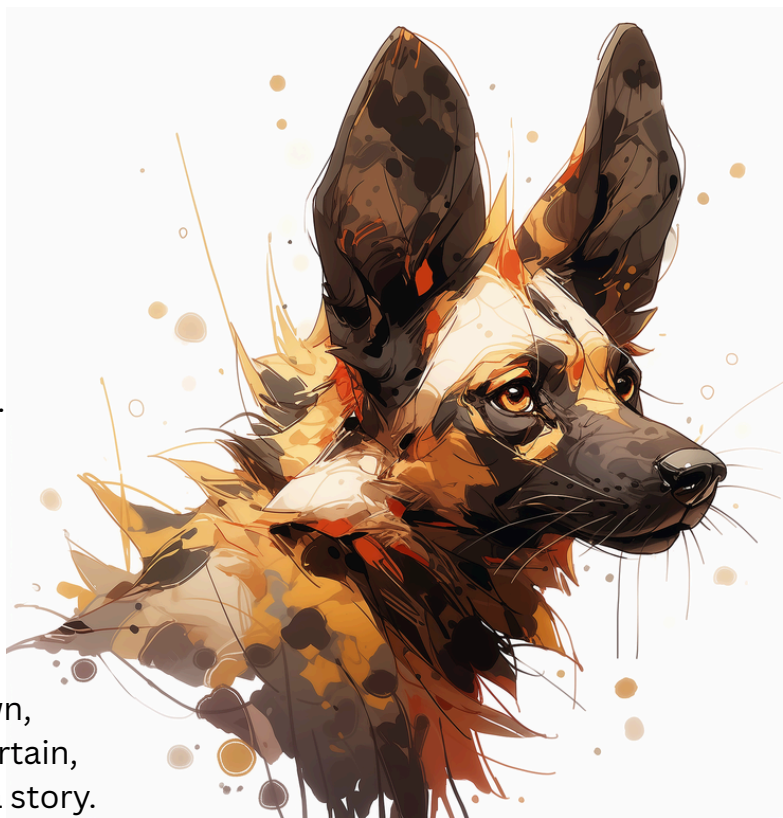
Wild dog, wild dog fleet and free,
Roaming the plains in harmony,
Eyes like dusk, fur like flame,
Who will remember your wild name?

Pack steps quick, a dance so rare,
Swift on the wind, light as air,
Bound by trust, a team so strong,
They belong where the wild song belongs.

Wild dog, wild dog untamed light,
In every shadow, a spark in the night,
Run through the grasses, bold and bright,
Keeper of wonder, keeper of light.

They move beyond the edges of the known,
Where the earth stretches wide and uncertain,
Each step holds a question, each glance a story.

Wild dog, wild dog not bound by fences or names,
But by something deeper, a pulse of the earth,
A call that echoes in open land,
Where they run, untamed and always remembered.

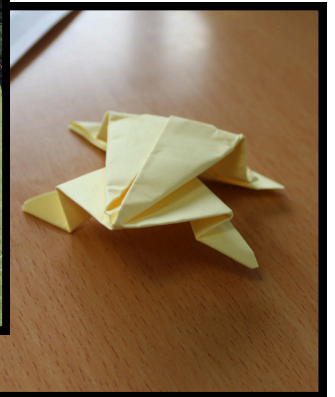
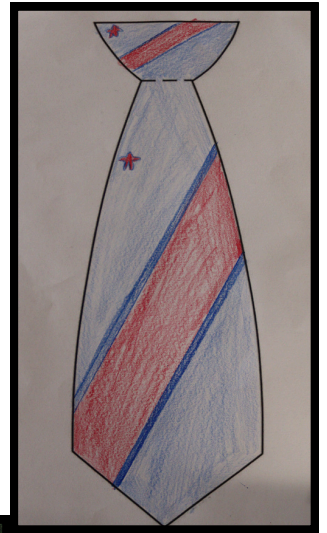


By Milly Y8

CULTURE DAY

St. Gregory's Catholic High School celebrated Culture Day with a fantastic range of activities that gave pupils the opportunity to explore and appreciate different cultures from around the world. Students took part in Chinese writing workshops, dance lessons, and Gaelic football, while learning about the traditions, languages, and customs that make each culture unique. The day was filled with fun, learning, and teamwork, helping pupils to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of diversity within our global community.

Mrs Baldwin



INTERVIEW WITH A PUPIL - DANIEL Y11

What is your favourite memory from St. Gregory's?

There are so many! I would definitely say it has to be one of the school productions.

Which production was your favourite to watch?

Matilda. I have never done so many lighting changes! However, The 39 Steps was the first production I ever did the lighting for, so it will always be a great memory as well.

How do you think your experiences at St. Gregory's will help you in the future?

That's a really difficult question! I feel that St. Gregory's has really helped me prepare for my exams, and that will help me move on to my next endeavours. I also think that all of the staff at St. Gregory's have helped me grow over the last five years.

What are your plans after St. Gregory's?

I'm going to Carmel College in September to study Further Maths, Geography, and History. After that, I'd like to train to become a teacher and maybe even return to St. Gregory's someday as a member of staff!

What is your advice for all the Year 10 students taking their exams next year?

Don't get stressed. Do your best, and remember that you have plenty of time to prepare. The staff here at St. Gregory's are always happy to help you along the way. Also, make sure you work hard on preparing your revision cards so that you're ready when your exams arrive.

What is your favourite revision technique?

I make quite a lot of flashcards. I feel like you learn while you're making them, so they really help me remember the information.

What is your favourite GCSE subject and why?

Geography or History. They're both really interesting subjects.

What can younger students do to maximise their experience at St. Gregory's?

Get involved in extracurricular activities—there are loads to choose from at St. Gregory's. Also, make use of the LRC; there's always plenty to do at break and lunchtime.

Interviewed by Bertie & Dominic and photographed my Keanne (Y9)



INTERVIEW WITH A TEACHER - MISS WAITING

Why did you choose to teach English?

I have always loved English, even when I was in primary school, and I love to read. It is something that I wanted to pass on to future generations.

What is your favourite topic to teach and why?

I love teaching An Inspector Calls simply because I enjoy discussing the historical context and how it relates to the modern world.

What is the best book you have ever read and why?

A Christmas Carol, simply because it's so rich in content. It's not only a seasonal favourite of mine, but also something you can enjoy all year round. I also love all of the film adaptations!

Interview by Caitlin and Jess (Y9).



BERLIN TRIP



Y10 pupils visited Berlin at the end of this term and have had a fantastic time exploring!

Mr Egan



FP&N

Y7 & Y9 have been making thee delicious looking Pizza, pasta and salad dishes this half term.

Mrs J Beswick





Athletics



Well done to all our pupils who represented the school during town sports. Despite the hot conditions, everyone showed great determination and resilience, competing in a range of track and field events. Shoutout to our three winners, Breeze winning the 100m sprint, Cilia coming second in the 100m sprint and Scarlett winning the 200m sprint.

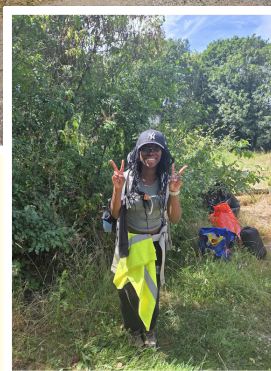
Y9 Rugby



Well done to our y9 team who finished runners up in this years Warrington schools rugby league!

Mr Dean

DOE



SPORTS DAY

St. Gregory's Catholic High School enjoyed a fantastic Sports Day, with pupils giving their all in a wide range of events while demonstrating excellent teamwork, determination, and sportsmanship.

The glorious sunshine provided the perfect backdrop for the day, creating a brilliant atmosphere as students, and staff cheered on the competitors.

Mr Dean



Written by St Gregory's Media & Podcast Team.
Team Editor - Keanne Y9.