



This issue is published during a worldwide Pandemic and our school's partial closure.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

All the following are dependant on Government advice on when the school can reopen.

Monday 22 February
Start of Term

Thursday 04 March
World Book Day
Y10 Parents' Engage Evening

Friday 06 March
Y9 Curriculum Pathways Deadline

Thursday 18 March
Y7 Parents' Engage Evening

Thursday 01 April
End of Term

Fri 02 April - Mon 05 April
Easter weekend

Monday 19 April
Start of Term

STAFFING**Welcome to:**

Mrs. Houghton Teaching Assistant

Farewell to:

Mrs McSorley Emotional Health and Well-Being Officer

HM Government

NHS

WASH COVER MAKE
HANDS FACE SPACE

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

It has been another incredible half term for our school community, we were fully prepared to welcome everyone back to school in January when the country was sadly back in the grip of the Covid crisis. This required our community to once again 'stand up and be counted' and ensure that we could continue to deliver a good education for our pupils.

I would like to pay tribute to my staff, parents and especially our pupils for how well each and everyone has adapted to new ways of teaching, learning and communicating with each other. We have had two virtual parents evenings and attendance to both events has been outstanding.

I want to also thank parents / carers and pupils for your responses to our school survey on remote learning

and communication. I received almost 900 responses from parents and pupils and the feedback has been extremely positive but also provided us with important information on how to enhance the overall remote learning experience for all. It was a joy to read our pupils responses on how they have overcome issues and are coping during school closure.

We now look forward to an announcement by the government that will allow pupils to return to school in a safe manner so that we can become a family community once more.

Mr McGlinchey
Head Teacher

**SAFEGUARDING**

This last year has been a challenge for us all. Parents and carers may feel that they are being pulled in many directions whilst children and young people may be struggling with home schooling and not seeing their friends and extended family. This, alongside potential financial pressures, working from home, and worry about Covid-19 can all lead to a stressful household.

To support parents/carers, 'Young minds' (youngminds.org.uk) have produced a '[Supporting Parents Helpfinder](#)' where parents/carers can find out how to support their child/ward's mental health during the pandemic (and beyond).



In addition to this, they have also created a useful poster highlighting ways to give support to children when they have angry feelings or outbursts. This may help families start a conversation

and talk about each other's feelings.
[when-emotions-explode-poster.pdf](#)
([youngminds.org.uk](#))



Tuesday 9th February was
Safer Internet Day.

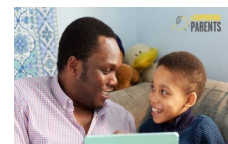
(<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/2021>)

The theme for this year was '**An internet we trust: exploring reliability in the online world.**'

This encourages children and young people to celebrate the amazing range of information and opportunities online, and its potential to inform, connect and inspire us, whilst also looking at how young people can separate fact from fiction.

For more information and resources on Safer Internet Day please go to:
<https://www.childnet.com/resources/safer-internet-day>

Mrs McKenna
Deputy Head Teacher



EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL BEING

School Mental Health Silver Award



During this pandemic the emotional health and well-being of our school community is paramount, and St. Gregory's have recently been awarded the School Mental Health Silver Award which is delivered by the Carnegie Centre of Excellence for Mental Health in Schools, for its outstanding mental health and wellbeing provision. The Carnegie Centre aims to strengthen pupils' mental health by supporting schools to make a positive change at all levels of the UK's education system, improving students' outcomes and life chances. The award shines a light on the excellent work we are doing to support our school community.

Children's Mental Health Week



Monday 1st February saw the start of Children's Mental Health week which incorporated 'Time to Talk' Day' on Thursday. The theme of the week delivered in online lessons was, 'Express yourself'.

The week ended on Friday with a special 'Well-Being Day'. Online lessons were suspended for the day and pupils at home were encouraged to carry out activities away from their devices.

Pupils in school took part in Yoga/ Meditation sessions, designing art work for display at the Orford Jubilee Hub, watching BBC Scotland's biggest music festival filmed in July 2018 featuring Radiohead and Kasabian, a reading quiz and some physical activity.

Mrs McSorley.



St Gregory's Catholic High School
Wellbeing Day
Friday 5th February 2021

As part of Children's Mental Health Week we have decided you need a day away from your screens, so on Friday there will be no live lessons!

Instead do something that will be good for your mental and physical wellbeing. Here are some ideas.

Meditation & Prayer Listen to music to calm your thoughts.	Pet Pampering Walk, groom and play with your pet.
Nature Walk Go for a walk and see if there are any signs of Spring. Take photographs.	Help Someone in Your Home Mend something, however, make lunch or just make a cup of tea.
Ride Your Bike	Baking Fill the house with the smell of freshly baked biscuits, cakes or bread.
Get in Touch Give a friend or relative a call.	Read a Book Escape into another world.
Laughter Find some silly jokes that make you or someone else laugh.	Be Creative Draw, paint, sculpt, make music or write a story.
Write a Letter or Card Write to someone who has helped you over this last year.	Go for a Run
Jigsaws and Puzzles	Make Plans What do you want to do when you leave school? Jot down your ideas.

MINDFULNESS TIPS

Here are some suggestions to help with your mindfulness.

Action for Happiness



Why not visit the [Active for Happiness](#) website. They produce a monthly calendar with suggestions of what to do on each day to help your mental wellbeing.

Kooth



Kooth, a safe and anonymous online mental wellbeing

community have been uploading podcasts this term promoting their [#DontDoltAlone](#) Campaign. Their latest podcast can be found on [spotify](#).

Oak National Academy Virtual School Library



Take a look at the Oak National Academy Virtual School Library. It has free reading and writing activities from your favourite children's authors at the National Literacy Trust.

Healthy Tip for Online Working!

- Adjust devices by raising the contrast on the screen
- Make fonts larger on devices
- Make sure your feet can reach the floor while online
- Every **10** minutes look at an object at least **10** metres away for at least **10** seconds
- Try to blink every four seconds to keep your eyes wet and happy. Blink more!
- Close your eyes and roll your eyes around in a circular motion to ease the strain on the muscles.
- Take a break of 15 minutes for every 1.5 hours you spend on your devices.
- Take some exercise. Go for a walk!



ART IN LOCKDOWN

The department are extremely pleased with the high quality work that has been achieved by our pupils during the lockdown period.

Y7

Plastic Pollution and the work of Yellena James.



Y8

Mexican Culture and the festival 'Day of the Dead'



Y9

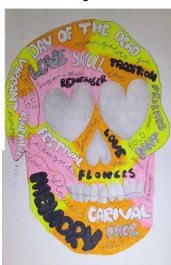
Alice in Wonderland and the iconic scene based on the Mad Hatters Tea Party.



DRAMA IN LOCKDOWN



Miliee



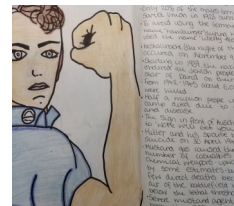
Special recognition goes out to all our 'Stars of the Week' pupils who either contributed massively to the learning during the lesson or wowed us with their upload of their outcomes at the end of the lesson.



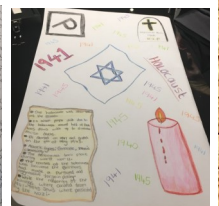
Y7 pupils have been studying the Holocaust using 'Rose Blanche' by Roberto Innocenti as their stimulus. In the book a young German girl watches as the streets of her town fill with soldiers and tanks.

Then, one day, she follows a truck into the woods and discovers a terrible secret. The pupils were asked to carry out independent research on the Holocaust, and produce a piece of work on the topic.

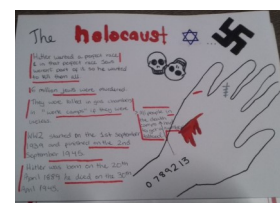
Well done! Ms Chappel



Anastasija Jansone



Summer Thompson



Elaine Varghese

LRC NEWS

World Book Day March 4th, 2021

Virtual World Book Day is coming!

To shine the spotlight on reading for pleasure, the LRC has compiled a fun quiz to be delivered on the day in English lessons, along with other book related activities. This will replace our popular Annual World Book Day Quiz, and will also be posted on the LRC page.

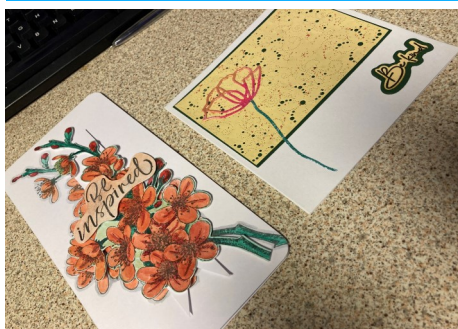
Look on the World Book Day [website](#) for even more fun activities!



EPlatform

The LRC have also setup an ebook trial with some fantastic titles to choose from. Detail on how to borrow the books has been sent via ClassCharts.

ANTI-BULLYING AND HATE CRIME



Our Anti-Bullying team from Y7-10 are currently working on a big project that includes sending cards to a local care home in order to spread some cheer and love to the residents and we look forward to receiving some replies back!

This is an example of one of the messages

'We just wanted to let you know that we are thinking about you and we hope everyone is safe during this time of the year. We hope you like our card that we have made.'
From the Anti-Bullying Team



LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week.

This term they were:

impeccable	avid
incessant	voracious
commendable	



Accelerated Reader

Well done to all those pupils who continue to complete quizzes and access articles.

Particular congratulations go to Muhammad Khan (7 Campion) who has become our first two million word millionaire and Matthew Selby (7 Kolbe) who has passed the most quizzes, 68 in total!

From next term, to help pupils struggling to access books and complete an AR quiz, LRC staff will be uploading Quick Read audiobooks to the Y7 Curriculum Tile.

GO FISHING!



Izzy Gibbins (9Julian) who has already featured in 'the Net' for her amazing achievements in the world of fishing has recently been featured

in the [Warrington Guardian](#) promoting fishing to help with children's mental health and well-being. She is hoping to start a fishing club in school by taking part in the [Let's Fish!](#) initiative for schools, organised by the Canal and River Trust. Well done!

HEAD BOY AND GIRL

Thomas Oates and Emily Linford have sent in amazing statements talking about their experiences at St Gregory's. They are now available to read on the school [website](#).



GCSEPod

GCSEPod continues to allow pupils access to their learning during lockdown.

During Teams lessons pupils have been accessing pods and quizzed on their subject knowledge. The scores can be used by pupils and teachers to highlight any gaps in knowledge or any misconceptions. Pupils can address gaps by watching a catch-up pod or the teacher giving feedback in the lesson.

Competition remains fierce in both GCSEPod competitions, 'Pods Win Prizes' and 'Diamonds are Forever'. In January, over 1000 pods were watched and over 4700 questions were answered on check and challenge. Mqhele Simango watched the most pods and Alicia Meehan achieved the most diamonds by correctly answering questions.

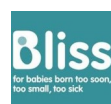
Well Done!
Mr Jones



LRC Christmas Competition Winners

Jessica Clavering	9 More
David Dalekorej	7Fisher
Maya Khan	9More
Jazmin Kovacs	7Teresa
Chloe Lynskey	7Kolbe

FUNDRAISING



9 Fisher and Mrs Wood set themselves a challenge to walk/run/cycle 250km this term to raise £250 for Bliss

UK, a charity that looks after and cares for premature babies.

They have reached their target and walked/run/cycled 267km and at press have raised an amazing £163 for the charity!

Well Done!



SAFEGUARDING

DSL

Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Warrington Duty and Assessment Team: 01925 443400
(Working Hours)/ 01925 444400 (Out of Hours)

Safeguarding Governor

Mr. Roger Harrison.

Cheshire Constabulary :101
[ChildLine](#): 0800 1111