

# ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

RESPECT!

**April**, 2021

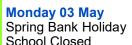
**'ONE FAMILY... INSPIRED TO LEARN.'** 

**ISSUE 103** 

# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Monday 19 April** Start of Term

**Thursday 22 April** Y8 Parents Evening



Friday 28 May End of Term

Monday 07 June Start of Term



# WELCOME BACK!



We now have every pupil back in school and our site is alive again with face to face learning. Everyone has been brilliant, dealing with all challenges superbly.



Melvyn Welsch (8 Julian) was so happy to be back he created short animated film in celebration. Amazing!

# **STAFFING**

# Welcome to:

Mr Ellis

Science Teacher

(Maternity Cover) Pupil Wellbeing Miss Abram Counsellor and Life Skills Coordinator



# MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



This term we welcomed back our school community and I must send a huge thank you to all our parents/carers as all our pupils have returned and

settled in well.



We have had a challenging time with the mass testing which could not have

taken place without the dedication of our stalwart volunteers, helping us to ensure a smooth operation and move into the next phase of home testing.

As part of our continued improvement of the school, we have secured funding to develop the ICT infrastructure and investment in new equipment which will enable pupils and staff to have access to new technology that will enhance learning and teaching.

Also, as part of our vision and plan for improvement, our brand-new SEND hub situated at the heart of the school will open this summer, reflecting our commitment to an inclusive community.

We are happy to announce we have appointed a new Pupil Wellbeing Counsellor and Life Skills Coordinator, Miss Abram who starts next term and will be a valuable addition to the school supporting our pupils with their mental health.

I am also delighted to announce that we have a full cohort of pupils starting in September and we look forward to the transition events that will help the children settle into our St. Gregory's community.

This summer we will also start planning celebrations for September as our school turns 40! Watch this space for developments.

Everyone at St Gregory's wishes our community a very happy and holy Easter when hopefully we can find the time and space to reflect on resurrection, renewal and optimism for the future.

Mr McGlinchev Headteacher



# **DRAMA NEWS**

## **Loving Learning!**



Y10 GCSE pupils have come back into the classroom with energy and a great willingness to throw themselves back into practical work, even with the

challenges of wearing their masks whilst working. Many showed outstanding commitment by staying after school to rehearse for their first practice performance last week.

# An Evening at the Theatre



We hosted our second 'Evening at the Theatre' this term. Y10 Drama classes returned school to watch a live recording of 'One Man, Two Guvnors' by Richard Bean, performed at the National Theatre

and starring James Corden.

Set in the 1960's the play is a fast-paced, hilarious farce, accompanied by skiffle band 'The Craze' that follows the mixed fortunes of Francis Henshall. Down on his luck and eternally hungry, Francis (James Corden) suddenly finds himself employed by two bosses and what follows is a chaotic and hilarious plot that reveals some characters' secrets.

It was a pleasure to see our pupils being able to access live theatre, and enjoy watching it together in the safety of their own class bubbles. Watch this space for more 'Evenings at the Theatre' which we hope to expand to other year group bubbles if restrictions surrounding Covid-19 ease.

Ms Chappel/ Miss O'Connor





# **LITERACY NEWS**

# Word of the Week

This term they were:

imperative	assume
obligatory	introspective
liberation	endeavour

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



Our Y7 Accelerated Readers continue to go from strength to strength with

many pupils accessing the quizzes during lockdown.

Special congratulations to Olivia Jacobs (7 Campion) who has reached the one million word count and Natasha Tindall (7 Fisher) still our top scorer with over three million words!



### **Ebook Platform**



We are pleased to announce that pupils are now able to borrow eBooks from this exciting new eBook library. Click here or login to RM Unify

and from the launch pad click on the EBook platform tile.

The library catalogue is full of bestselling, popular fiction titles and will offer your children a 24/7 access to a digital library in addition to the print library in school. Pupils can have 2 books out on loan at any one time.

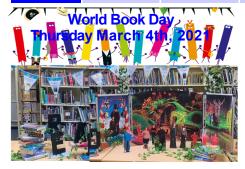
The eBooks can be read on a computer, laptop, or through the free App on your tablets smartphones.

Details will be sent on classcharts and loaded on the school website, sign in and get reading!

Mrs Mason/Mrs Huckerby

# **LRC NEWS**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<b>BRUNCH 1</b>	YEAR 10	YEAR 8	YEAR 8	YEAR 7	YEAR 7
<b>BRUNCH 2</b>	YEAR 11	YEAR 11	YEAR 11	YEAR 9	YEAR 9



This year World Book Day came while the country and school were still in lockdown, posing challenges for the LRC. The day was different but we still managed to shine a spotlight on the rewards of reading for pleasure.

The annual World Book Day Quiz was recorded and played in English lessons on the day, vouchers for the free books available to pupils were distributed and we bought some copies to give away to pupils on the day.



The winners of the guiz were: Phoebe Cusack (7Kolbe),

Finn Hammil (7Fisher), John Cunningham (8Pilkington), Quinn Parker-Kilty (8Julian), Jessica Howell-Davies (9Kolbe), Shimroon Yousaf (9Winefride), Zack Tully (9Pilkington), and Olivia Aston (10More).







Congratulations to you all and well done to everyone who took part.



If you would like to try the quiz it is available on the school website.

Also check out the World Book Day site for book related activities.

Mrs Mason/ Mrs Huckerby

# **ENGLISH NEWS**

A very touching poem which reflects beautifully on our last year.



# **FUNDRAISING**

### **Team Fisher**

During the recent lockdown, members



of 7 Fisher completed virtual team sponsored walk to raise money for their chosen charities. Cancer

Research UK and RSPCA. Inspired by Sir Captain Tom Moore and his heroic efforts walking laps of his garden for the NHS last Summer we set ourselves the challenge to walk from Warrington to London. Pupils kept a log of their walks and the combined efforts of 'Team Fisher' brought us to the outskirts of Paris, France - over 500 miles!

Although the journey was a team effort, Finn Hammil managed to virtually get us all the way to Coventry with his own determined effort! Well done 7 Fisher!



Miss Williams (Proud 7 Fisher Form Tutor)

# Walking all over Cancer

Jess Pick (11 Campion) has taken on the challenge to walk 10,000 steps a day throughout March to raise money for Cancer Research UK.

She has raised £1352, 35% above her target of £1000.

Well Done!



# ART DEPARTMENT

Some wonderful examples of Y7 work inspired by Dean Russo animal paintings, and Y9 Artist's Study and Pastel Study.







Year 9 Artist Study





Celebrating World Book Day with a piece from a past GCSE pupil who completed this during their Art and Design Exam



# **FOOD**



This term Y9 pupils first face to face lessons have been focusing on research into sugar.

Pupils have found information on the Sugar Tax, what it is

and why it was introduced, following up with a written task sending Boris Johnson a letter/email to discuss their concerns and the role the industry should play in the reduction of sugar in foods.

Pupils discussed the long and short-term impacts of sugar on the body, and how much sugar was in a range of products including those that are seen to be low sugar options. Their completed work will be displayed in G19.

Mrs. Cross

# **GCSEPod**

In the past half term nearly 2000 pods have been watched by pupils in Year 9. Year 10 and Year 11.

GCSEPod has been used as a valuable tool to help Year 11 pupils prepare for their regular assessments.

Pupils have been practising examination style questions and making playlists to boost their knowledge.

Saman Kazemipour (11 Fisher) watched the highest number of pods during this period and Oliva Burns (9 Winefride) earned the most diamonds. Well done both of you!

Mr Jones



Using GCSEPod to Revise

# **CHAPLAINCY NEWS**



The Chaplaincy Team are just beginning a project to help St Benedict's Church, Orford renovate their grotto. The initial meeting with Sr Maria discussed creating a mosaic. The pupils are very excited to start watch this space!

In Collective Worship forms have been discussing ways to help create a caring school community. 7 Julian wanted people to be less judgemental and make an effort to approach people if they're on their own. 9 Winefride wanted to have a baking competition online where people can share recipes and create fresh baking smells in every home.

Mrs Whitlow

Have a go at playing our wellbeing bingo.



# **SCIENCE NEWS**



KS3 pupils were welcomed back to a week of activities to mark British Science week The theme of the

week was 'Innovation for the Future', looking at inventions, design and futuristic holidays; from hotel facilities on the moon and beyond, to ways of exploring oceans of the deep. Our pupils are now looking forward to the future and where they might visit once lockdown travel restrictions are lifted!

The activities encouraged pupils to 'think outside the box' and analyse how future challenges may be overcome by Science.

Pupil's ideas and creative skills have been showcased in a poster competition which will close to entries on Tuesday 20th April. Prizes will be awarded in school for the best and most innovative designs and ideas, whilst all entries will also be submitted to the British Science Association to be entered into a nation-wide competition.

Pupils were also encouraged to share 'take away' Science experiments with their families at home, swapping 'lockdown family board game night' with a 'family Science night' instead.

"I enjoyed trying Science experiments at home with my Dad" George Wild 7Campion

"I enjoyed designing a hotel which would be under the ocean" Finley Hewitt

Miss Williams

7Julian.

# **UNIFORM**



We appreciate that, with shops being closed, you may have struggled to ensure that your child/ ward has the correct uniform. However, when pupils return to school on 19<sup>th</sup> April can we request that all pupils

are wearing the correct uniform.

There should be no hoodies and/or trainers. Jewellery should not be worn other than what is permitted in the Uniform Policy. Hair should be a natural colour and make-up/false nails/false eyelashes are not allowed.

For further information on the correct uniform please see our Uniform Policy on the website.

Mrs McKenna

# SAFEGUARDING

It was lovely to see our school fully open with pupils eager to learn.

We understand that, for some, the period of school closure may have caused pupils added stress and anxiety. Within school we are here to offer help and support for our pupils. However, during the Easter holidays you may feel that you need help. The following organisations could help.



Happy? OK? Sad? is a mental health site for

people who live or work in Warrington, it includes details of services and with links to additional local and national resources for children and young people. There are also free downloadable mental health and suicide prevention resources aimed at 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.

Text numbers for Warrington are: 11 - 19 Young People's Service 07507 330101

5 - 19 Parents Service **07480 635994** 

Lines open: Mon-Fri 9am - 5pm.

Messages will be responded to within 24 hours. Outside these hours, users will receive a 'bounce back' text message indicating that they will receive a response when the line re-opens.



Voluntary Warrington Voluntary Action Action has launched Yoof, a brand new

Digital Platform for children and young people from across Warrington and Cheshire.

It will provide a virtual space for children and young people to meet and socialise with their friends and other people their own age. They will be able to access high quality social opportunities to develop their interests, friendship groups and support their re-engagement with education.

For those children and young people who are feeling isolated and struggling with their mental health they will be able to access qualified Youth Workers and Counsellors in a discreet manner. This will provide children and young people who are suffering with extreme emotional wellbeing issues with an avenue to process and discuss their concerns and prevent their situation worsening as they wait to access a medical intervention. The platform will include digital content from children and young people's organisations across Cheshire, which is categorised in an age appropriate manner.

Kooth offers free online support and counselling to young people aged 11-18 in Warrington.

PAPYRUS PAPYRUS is young people who are having thoughts of suicide and anyone who is worried about a young person who may be at risk of suicide. There are free downloadable resources including flyers and posters promoting the service, leaflets on "Coping with Exams" and "Being Yourself During Change".

**National National Online Safety** Online are offering a free mobile Safety app for parents and carers which provides guides to social media apps, games, devices as well as online risks. Click the link National Online Safety Mobile App to find out more.

Mrs McKenna

This term's Easter Safeguarding Newsletter is now available on the school website

# 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