

### ST. GREGORY'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

**RESPECT!** 

**April**, 2022

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

**ISSUE 109** 

### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Monday 18 April** Easter Monday School Closed



**Tuesday 19 April** Start of Term

Wednesday 20 April Y11 Photographs

25 April-05 May Y10 Mock Examinations

Monday 02 May Spring Bank Holiday School Closed

09-13 May Y7 Examinations

**Tuesday 10 May** Parental Workshops: Healthy Lifestyles 3.30 p.m. and 5.30 p.m.

16 May-27 Jun **GCSE** Examinations

Y8 Examinations **Tuesday 24 May** 

16-20 May

**HPV Injections** Friday 27 May

End of Term Monday 06 June

Start of Term



### **STAFFING**

### Welcome to:

Mrs Hannah Pupil Attendance and Cover (Staff) Manager

### Farewell to: Mrs Cotter-Day

Pastoral Support Manager



A long standing member of staff who leaves St. Gregory's for pastures new. We send her good luck and best wished in her new endeavour.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD**



This term has been highly successful and busy for our school community.

The pupils have been outstanding this term. We have given out the highest amount of

**Pupils** history. have raised lots of money for charity, chaplaincy events, group pupil provided voice to improve



£500 for Lymphoma Action (p3)

the options process, developed ideas for a pupil guidebook, become mental health ambassadors, joined positive footprint campaigns, helped at open evenings / parent events and supported each other with reading and numeracy as well winning many medals at sports competitions.



As part of our 'Ambition for All' Diploma I have given out two Head Teacher Awards this term. One to Lucy Higham (7Kolbe) for representing school in Gymnastics and



performing to an outstanding level and one to Olivia Jacobs (8Campion) for her outstanding work about the planet and the environment.

In February we hosted the first face to face careers event in two years. A wide range of employers and colleges were in attendance who were keen to attract the pupils of St Gregory's to their establishments.

St Gregory's will enter a new phase of school site and teaching resource improvement. There will be improvements to MFL, Science, Food Technology area and Construction facility. We will also be relocating our school reception providing a wonderful new environment for visitors to our school.

It is at this time of year that we prepare to celebrate Easter and reflect on a time of renewal. I hope that you and your families have a safe and restful holiday period and I look forward to a successful summer term.

Mr McGlinchey Headteacher

### Y10 GCSE RESIDENTIAL



On Friday 4th March Y10 GCSE pupils travelled to the beautiful island of Anglesey for a weekend at The Conway Centre, Menai.

Pupils however, were too busy being highly creative to step outside to enjoy the beautiful surroundings! Staff were very proud of how pupils engaged with each workshop and pupils are to be praised for their

willingness to work so well with pupils from other schools. The Drama department have already booked St Gregory's in for the same time next year, so if you are



currently in Y9 and have opted for GCSE Drama...put the date in your diary!



World Book Day (Page 2)













# Word of the Week

This term they were:

Narcissism	Ostentatious
Petulant	Resurrection
Stalwart	

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



### Accelerated Reader Scheme

Our Y7 and Y8 Accelerated Readers continue to go from

strength to strength with 15 multimillion word millionaires and 40 word millionaires. Well done!



### **Poetry by Heart**

Over the last few months pupils have been attending

English extra-curricular sessions to prepare for and represent St. Gregory's in a national competition 'Poetry by Heart'. They have each had to learn two poems of their choice from different

eras. Lucy Fisher (7Campion), Holly

**LITERACY NEWS** 

McWilliams (7Julian) and Emily Murphy (7Plessington) performed their poems in a showcase in the LRC at breaktime to an appreciative audience of their



peers. They have now recorded their performances and sent them into the competition.

When asked why she signed up for Poetry by Heart Lucy replied 'I would like to build up my confidence in performing and reading aloud' and on the question of what skills she had developed Holly replied 'Memorising poems, it's really enjoyable, I learnt to focus on pace, enunciation and emphasis'.

The chosen finalists get to perform at the Globe Theatre in London, and meet some of the poets on the judging panel. They have all worked extremely hard and are brilliant ambassadors for the school. Good luck!

### **World Book Day Activities**

Pupils in English enjoyed World Book Day themed lessons.

Teachers brought in their favourite book, stimulating discussion with pupils and many wore t-shirts with book/ reading related quotes. (See p1)

The winner of Teachers'
Favourite Book Prize Draw
was Callum Rimmer
(7Winefride) and the
winners of the Reading
for Pleasure Poster
competition were
Louis Vesaa

Louis Vesga (8Plessington) and Olivia Jacobs (8Campion). Well done!





Art celebrated World Book Day by studying the fabulous author and illustrator Tim Burton! The wonderful 'The Nightmare Before Christmas' and the dark and gothic tale of a boy named 'Vincent' inspired by Edgar Allan Poe 'The Raven'.



### **LRC NEWS**

### **World Book Day**



The highlight of this term has to be World Book Day celebrating its 25th Anniversary!



The LRC was buzzing as we started the day with a cake sale at break time raising £50 for Book Aid International.



Lunchtime activities were based around the featured book

'Around the World in 80 Days' by Jules Verne, and culminating in the World Book Day Quiz. Ten teams took part in a hotly contested competition—almost as hot as the temperature in the LRC!

Congratulations to the winning team 'Reading Rogues' Cameron Pickstone-Cable (9More), John Cunningham (9Plessington), Toby McWilliams (9More) and Mr Egan.



**Reading Rogues** 

The winners of the Mascot prize was 'The Dynosaurus' team: Elizabeth Bradbury (9Teresa), Rachel Degenhart (9Winefride), Quinn Parker-Kilty (9Julian) and Amy Preston-Hill (9Winefride).

### **Competition Winners**

World Book Day Activity Jennifer Milner (7Julian)

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Cameron Pickstone-Cable (9More) John Cunningham (9Plessington) Quinn Parker-Kilty (9Julian)

## Guess the Name of the Teddy: Fuzzball

Conor Grehen (7 Winefride)

Congratulations to you all and thank you to everyone who took part. Mrs Mason/ Mrs Huckerby





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

### How do I access it?

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 comer and select sign in. Enter the username and password
- ⇒ Username: Student email
- ⇒ 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 Mason / Mrs Huckerby

### CAREERS FAIR















### SAFEGUARDING

## Support for young people who are struggling

At St Gregory's we offer a lot of support for our pupils; however, during the Easter holidays when we're not available you may feel that you need help.

Take a look at the services listed below and check out our school website.

### **ADDvanced Solutions**



ADDvanced Solutions is a Community Network that encourages, equips and empowers children, young people and their

families living with neurodevelopmental conditions, learning difficulties and associated mental health needs. They have lots of useful information and resources and offer drop-in sessions, network groups and many other forms of support. You can also sign up to their newsletter.



Happy? OK? Sad? is a mental health

site for people who live or work in Warrington. It includes details of services and resources for children and young people. On the site there are links to additional local and national resources, which you can download free, including mental health resources aimed at young people and suicide prevention resources.



ChatHealth Warrington: is a secure text messaging service for young people 11-19, parents and carers. The service provides information, advice and support on a range of health and wellbeing issues.

**Text: 07507 330101**Monday-Friday from 9am until 5pm.

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

Further information can be found on the Bridgewater NHS <u>website</u>.



**Kooth** offers free online support and counselling to young

people aged 11–18 in Warrington. All pupils have a Kooth log in.



**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. On the website are free downloadable resources including flyers, posters promoting the service, and leaflets on "Coping with Exams" and "Being Yourself During Change".



**Mermaids** provides support advice and guidance for gender -diverse young people and their families. Their website

has videos, blogs and information that you or your child may find useful. Their telephone number is 0808 801 0400.

If you or your child would like more help regarding this, please contact us at school and we will ensure that they receive the correct support.



### **Online Safety**

We are aware that our young people spend a lot of their time online and whilst there can be many positives in the online world there are

also many dangers that as parents you need to be aware of. **National Online Safety** is a platform which provide advice, webinars, courses and much more to support parents in keeping their child safe online. It has been pleasing

to see that many of our parents have signed up and completed courses using National Online Safety. If you' have not yet done so, please follow the <u>link</u> and sign in as a parent.

### Uniform/mobile phones/smart watches and ear buds

Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting us in ensuring pupils are wearing the correct uniform to school. As a polite reminder, pupils should wear a formal shoe, trainers are not permitted; hoodies are not allowed, only a school jumper can be worn underneath the school blazer. A coat may be worn to and from school and outside at break and lunch if a pupil is cold.

Pupils are allowed to wear one small pair of ear-rings in the lower lobe of their ears, no other piercings are allowed. A small cross and chain may be worn but other jewellery including rings and bracelets are not allowed.

Mobile phones should be switched off and not be taken out during the school day. If a pupil breaches this then the device will be confiscated overnight in line with our mobile phone and behaviour policy. Likewise, ear buds should also be put away and not taken out during the school day. Notifications should be switched off on smart watches so that pupils are not receiving texts etc.

Thank you for your support with regards to this.

### **SIMS Parent App**

If you have not yet downloaded the Parent App please follow the guide on the school website.

On the app you can see your child's attendance, behaviour, achievements,

timetable as well as amend your details. We will also be sending all reports and grade grids using the app in the future.



C. McKenna

### **POSITIVE FOOTPRINTS AMBASSADORS**

### Positive footprints-what is it?



Our lives and our mental health are impacted by the positive footprints each person leaves on us every

day. This can be within school, work or home. The ambassadors, consisting of 48 pupils from Y7-11 including Young Leaders, aim to embrace the positives, combat negativity and spread this positivity throughout the school and local community.

The first meeting looked at our ambassadors strengths and attributes and how they could be

used to help people feel happier by encouraging kindness to others and creating their own positive footprint.

The team set two challenges to spread a little happiness this term. Firstly a 'secret' school challenge and secondly collecting Easter Eggs to donate to St Joseph's Family Centre.



### **CHAPLAINCY NEWS**

Lymphoma action

Thank you to everyone who gave a donation or

took part in the raffle to raise money for <a href="Lymphoma Action"><u>Lymphoma Action</u></a> during the Carol Service in December. We raised £500!



A huge thank you to everyone who contributed towards the Ukraine collection. We were inundated

with items from pupils and their families, staff and the local community. Your help will go such a long way to help those most in need and we are very grateful for your support.



Y10/11 Chaplaincy team sorting!

S Whitlow

### **ART DEPARTMENT**

This term:

Y7 have been studying **Yellena James**. They chose sea life creatures and added Yellana James style patterns within it. Plastic was added and a powerful slogan, to highlight the wider issue of plastic pollution within the ocean. The final artwork will form a display in school.

Y8 have been exploring the artist and architect **Hundertwasser**. They have created some wonderful research pages and selected different buildings. This project will lead on to some exciting 3D outcomes.

Year 9 have explored the theme of contemporary portraiture starting with artist Loui Jover who creates exciting, fragmented portraits combined with abstract shapes and interconnecting lines. They have created wonderful mind maps and portrait collages that convey a personal message about their chosen celebrity. This will lead onto some independent and large-scale portraiture work.

### **Tate Gallery Trip**

Y10 have created some 'Zine's' in preparation for their trip to Liverpool. A zine may include anything artistic or





otherwise that you may wish to express in some sort of "pamphlet-esque" or "book-like" form, replicate that creation, then share!

On March 9th, the pupils went to the Tate and Museum of Liverpool. The most impactful piece being from Bob & Roberta Smith 'All schools should be Art Schools'

J Bond/S Wynn





### **GCSEPod**

GCSEPod, with over 1,500 pods viewed and 2,500 questions answered. Jessica Hilton (10Plessington), Shimroon Yousaf (10Fisher), and Imogen Walmsley (10Campion) have watched the most pods, and Isabelle Rimmer (11Fisher), Zeynep Kirici (10Teresa) and Ruth Degenhart (10Plessington) have answered the most questions. More chocolate and GCSEpod prizes

Another bumper term for

### Y10/11 Examination Preparation:

are still available!

There is information on ClassCharts

to help you, including instructions on creating a playlist.

- Year 11: use the advanced examination information provided by the exam boards to create playlists to help revise for the topics they will be tested on.
- **Year 10:** watch the GCSEpods covering topics for the mocks.
- Assess your Progress: use Check and Challenge.

Further information on how to use GCSEPod for both parents and pupils are on the school website. D Jones

### **BACK OF THE NET**

Congratulations to all our teams who have shown dedication, resilience and excellent commitment in all matches, r epresenting St. Gregory's with distinction.

#### Netball

Congratulations to our amazing Y7 netball team who have been crowned Warrington champions!



### Rugby

Excellent first performance from Mr Parry's Y7 Rugby team! Many more games to come.



### **Basketball**

Tremendous effort from Mr Parry's Y7 basketball team in their first full tournament at St Gregory's! Well done guys!

Congratulations to our Y10 basketball team for their outstanding performance in the Warrington School's basketball league. They finished in 3rd place in the play-off finals playing with an incredible spirit and representing St. Gregory's with distinction.

### **Visit to Warrington Wolves**





Y7 Team

Y10 Team

A group of lucky pupils went to the Halliwell Jones Stadium on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March to watch the first team train ahead of their weekend game. The pupils met several of the players after training too. Noah Dean, a Y7 pupil who is also a mental health ambassador, was able to talk to player Mike Cooper about his involvement in the mental health charity 'State of Mind'.





### **SAFEGUARDING**

Take a look at our new Wellbeing Newsletter (Easter 2022)

### DSL Mrs McKenna ( Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140
Social Work Teams: 01925 446257
Out of Hours: 01925 443322

Safeguarding Governor Mr Roger Harrison.

Cheshire Constabulary :101 ChildLine: 0800 1111