



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 05 January

Staff Training Day
School closed to pupils



Wednesday 06 January

Start of Term
(Subject to Government updates)

Wednesday 06 - Friday 15 January

Y11 Mock Examinations

Monday 01 - Friday 05 February

Childrens' Mental Health Week

Thursday 04 February

Y11 Virtual Engage Evening

Thursday 11 February

'Time to Talk' Day
Y9 Virtual Engage Evening and
Curriculum Pathways

Friday 12 February

End of Term

Monday 22 February

Start of Term



STOP PRESS

Congratulations to our new Head Pupils Thomas Oates and Emily Linford and their Deputies Luke Degenhart and Eleanor Ryan.

More details in our next issue.

STAFFING

Farewell to:

Mrs McCarthy Teaching Assistant

HM Government

NHS



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



It has been an incredibly challenging term and Autumn period for our school and the wider community of Warrington as we have sought to navigate our way through the pandemic. It would be easy to choose to talk about the many difficulties and negatives we have had to overcome, however in times of crisis we are able to witness the dedication, resilience, generosity and gratitude of those within our community to make something special happen in the face of adversity.

The children of St Gregory's have made our building alive again with talent and enjoyment and the staff have enabled the school to serve its

purpose to deliver education and personal development. There have been so many examples of our pupils and staff fulfilling our mission to 'stand up and be counted' during this term, thinking of others and taking part in important campaigns to support the local community from Warrington hospital to St Joseph's Family Centre.

Our community can be proud of what we have achieved this term and we look forward to a good rest and a holy Christmas with the hope of 2021 being a year where we can emerge all the better as a result of our journey this year.

Mr McGlinchey.



YOUNG LEADERS LEAD DISCUSSION



I was honoured this week to be part of the group of ten Young Leaders lucky enough to meet Mr Andy Carter, Member of Parliament for Warrington South, and Matthew Park, former Head Boy at St Gregory's who is the Director of Education for the Warrington Youth Cabinet.

We presented our new Diploma initiative and asked them questions about their roles and what they do for Warrington and for us.

Questions were asked about important topics such as GCSE

examinations, how the COVID-19 Pandemic affects pupils, and how Mr Carter became a Member of Parliament.

They answered our questions well, giving us a good insight into what goes on and what they do in their roles. I am sure that the other young leaders will agree that we were extremely fortunate to have this opportunity to represent the school and improve our understanding of what people like Matthew Park and Mr Carter do for our community.

Daniel Roach 10 Fisher



GCSE DRAMA PERFORMANCES (See pg. 4)



CATHOLIC LIFE AND CHAPLAINCY

Charity Work

We have raised money for several different charities including St Joseph's Family Centre and Macmillan Cancer Support. So far this year we have raised over £1600 by our 'Wear it Red or Green Day', Macmillan Coffee mornings and form collections.



Y9 Coffee morning helpers

Y7 Red and Green Day

Emily Wielebski (10 Fisher) also came up with the idea to fill shoeboxes with treats for St Joseph's Family Centre and with a little help from

some other pupils this is what we have created!



Synod Work – Sr Margaret recently came in to lead a session on the Synod with Y10 Chaplaincy Team. We made some notes and all of Y10s opinions and comments were sent to our local Synod representative.

Remembrance Service

'Praising what is lost makes the remembrance dear.'

William Shakespeare

November marked our annual Remembrance Service where we think about those members of the

school community whom we have lost. This year the service was recorded in the Chapel and a candle was lit as each name was read out. The video was then uploaded to the school website for people to view.

Y11 Leavers Celebration

Mr McKenzie and Mr McLeod read out the award winners and the recording was uploaded to the school website for last year's Y11 to view.

Advent Twitter Challenge – posted on Twitter each day challenging pupils and adults to perform an act of kindness each day. The Advent Calendar is on the school website.



S.Whitlow

NOVEMBER 11TH



Every year we meet in the courtyard on November 11th to make our Act of Remembrance for all those men and women who have given their life in the service of this country when fighting in wars that have threatened our freedom.

This year as we have been in lockdown and prevented from doing the things we perhaps take for granted, such as visiting relatives, going out with friends, going on holiday, all done because we want to stop the spread of Covid-19 and

protect others. We have also heard about people who lived during the Second World War and the sacrifices they made. A lot of people didn't see loved ones for many years as they fought abroad; there were food shortages, some of which did not end until many years after World War 2 and of course there were 1000s of people who never got to see their loved ones return.

Every November we meet in the courtyard to commemorate and give thanks for those who sacrificed everything so that we could have the freedom to stand

there that day and all days in the future. During the first lockdown we stood on our doorsteps and clapped in tribute for the key workers who were continuing to work through the pandemic to keep our lives going. On November 11th we stood in silent tribute and gave thanks for those people who gave up their lives for the freedoms we have perhaps, until this year, taken for granted.



Mr McLeod

PUPIL CELEBRATIONS



Congratulations to **Sam Crolla (11Julian)** who has been awarded a scholarship with his club Crewe Alexandra. The team also recently reached the National Final which is a fantastic achievement. We wish Sam continued success in the future.

A commendation to **Teagan O'Loughlin (7Julian)** who for the second year running has organised a shoebox appeal for the homeless. This year she saved £10 a month from her pocket



money, bought £350 of goodies and asked for donations resulting in 40 boxes being donated to the Salvation Army. What a kind and thoughtful act! Teagan recently featured in an article in the [Warrington Guardian!](#)

NUMERACY CHALLENGE

					15
					32
					34
					12
29	10	25	18	11	

Can you work out the values?
Answers on pg 4.

Y10 BREAKFAST CLUB: FEEL GOOD FRIDAY!

After lockdown and missing a lot of school it became evident that there were pupils in Y10 who were struggling to get back into the swing of things.

Everyone has more stress and anxiety in their lives at the moment and Mr Wiles has introduced a morning where pupils can come and have a hot chocolate, croissant and a chat with friends and/or staff. It is rewarding to see the pupils coming to school and chatting with a smile on their face.

The feedback from pupils who have attended has been very positive and some have said that they really look forward to their Friday mornings now.

Mr Wiles



ANTI-BULLYING AND HATE CRIME



Anti-Bullying Week November 16-20

Anti-Bullying Week took on a different form this year but the message was still delivered via Year Group Collective Worship, Personal Development lessons, primary workshops and carrying out an Annual Survey.

We were also thrilled to have been

invited to join the National Hate Crime Conference for Cheshire Police #StandUpNotBack, to showcase last year's amazing Anti-bullying Week.

"Thanks for agreeing to be part of it. You do fabulous work driving forward messages around anti-bullying!"

@OPCCforCheshire



Congratulations to Chloe Taylor 7 Kolbe who won our Anti-Bullying Week poster competition. We received so many fantastic

entries - a fabulous effort from all involved. The winning poster and the six runners-up can be seen on the school website.

Positive Footprints



Over 200 'Positive Footprints' Christmas tree decorations have been given out to nominees recognised for the positive footprint they have left within the school community. Thanks for all of the entries.

Remember to ask yourself.. are you leaving a positive footprint with everyone you meet?



LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week

This term they were:

clarify	inevitable
gratitude	intimidate
resource	abundance
expectation	benevolent

The challenge to compose a sentence around the word is starting to get more competitive!



Accelerated Reader is gathering pace and the competition to reach word millionaire status is gaining momentum with four pupils over one million words: Natasha Tindall, Muhammad Khan, Michael Eriobuna and Jenith Jeyaseelan. Well done!

LRC NEWS

This term we have focused on Horror and Christmas literature, and have welcomed increasing numbers of pupils at brunch times.



For the first time we have launched a virtual advent calendar with pupils and staff recommending books

for the festive season posted on twitter and on our website.

Our newly formed Y8 Reading Club Wednesdays 2.45-3.30pm have just finished 'The Company of Ghosts' by Berlie Doherty—a scary read, beautifully crafted. Rachel liked the realistic characters. If you would like to come along please see Mrs Mason in the LRC.



WORLD WAR 1 PROJECT



Mr. Egan's Y9 classes have spent this half term independently researching the First World War. There has been a variety of projects submitted, ranging from models of trenches and weaponry to research of family members who fought in the conflict. The projects which have been submitted are of a very high standard and are the results of weeks of hard work and research. Although all of the projects are unique and independent, special mention must go to Jackson Peers for his model trench, Spiros Carolino for his engaging research into the role Asian soldiers played in the war and Alicia Meehan for her simple but very effective candle holder.

(More details on the [school website](#))

Well done Y9!!



ART DEPARTMENT NEWS



Y9 pupils have been studying the work of photo realistic artist Sarah Graham this term, who is having a film made as a resource for schools. She will be talking about her work and career and has been asking for questions from pupils to include in the film. They have worked so well demonstrating a mature approach during their mock GCSE Art & Design Exam. All pupils produced an artist study of Sarah Graham's work, achieving brilliant results and our Twitter post achieved recognition from the artist! We continue to be amazed with our

pupil's homework submissions showing outstanding effort.

- Y7 have been drawing natural forms,
- Y8 skulls for their 'Day of the Dead' project
- Y9 produced fantastic quality work in response to their homework brief based on the theme of 'Unwrapped'.



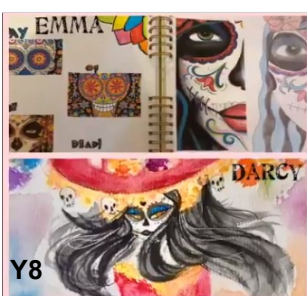
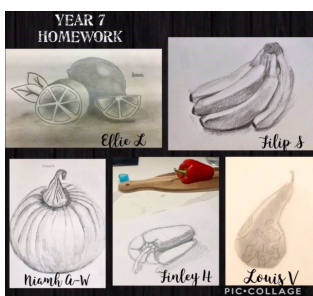
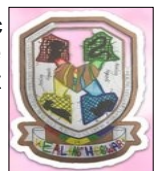
Healing Little Hearts Competition



'Healing Little Hearts' performs free open heart surgery which helps to save the lives of children in deprived countries. The Dean family ran a Harry Potter Crest Competition to raise awareness.

We have had some fantastic entries that demonstrate we have an excellent knowledge of Harry Potter!

J Bond



The winners!



GCSE POD NEWS



GCSE Pod has been used nearly 5000 times this academic year!

The top users in each year group all received a certificate and a pen. When asked about the benefits of GCSE Pod Shimroon said *'it really helps you with lessons.'*

The Christmas competition winner was Edward Price (11Winefride).

Watch this space! There will be a new GCSE Pod competition 'Diamonds are Forever' arriving in the New Year!

Mr Jones



Shimroon Yousaf
9 Winefride

Ella Duddle
10 Fisher

Edward Price
11 Winefride

Answers to Numeracy Challenge

	10		-3
	7		4
	5		2

WELL-BEING WEEK

The last week of term was Well-Being Week, a time to look at our mental health and look forward to the Christmas break.

It has been a busy term focusing on National Days such as Alcohol Awareness and Stress Awareness and promoting our Random Acts of Christmas nominations via Classcharts.

Mental Health Ambassadors for Y7,8 and 9 have been recruited to promote campaigns within their Year Groups and a Helpline numbers card has been produced for pupils (see [website](#) for details). Mrs McSorley

DRAMA NEWS

Drama GCSE Performances

Congratulations to Y11 GCSE pupils who recently performed their original dramas as part of their examination.



Each piece of theatre was of such high quality and thoroughly engaged their audiences each evening. There was an extra reason to celebrate

this year as pupils had less time and were up against occasional episodes of absence, but because of their impressive commitment to weekend and evening rehearsals – they nailed it! The themes they chose both challenged and entertained with topics including the Grenfell and Aberfan disaster; an

exploration of unconscious bias and an upbeat story about a group of lottery winners, to name but a few.

Many thanks to staff who were able to support the department at that time and particular thanks to Mr. Hill who used his previous examining experience to mark our students alongside the drama staff.



Their next performances will be scheduled for the end of February 2021 and we wish them well in their preparation for this.



Y10 Drama – Breakfast Club

Drama pupils have formed a Breakfast Club every Wednesday morning and their attendance has been impressive. The current pandemic meant that they were not permitted to be part of a live audience for the recent Y11 performance exams, so they have committed to coming into school early for eight weeks; watching and discussing a recording of one performance each week. Well done and never lose this great attitude to your learning.

Ms Chappel



BACK OF THE NET



End Ball Inter-Form Tournament

This term saw the launch of our first End ball Inter-form tournament with Y7 and Y8 competitions being completed and Y9 to be played in the New Year!

End Ball is a passing and catching game, similar to netball. The aim of the game is for players to work as a team to pass the ball from one end of the court to the end player.

The competition was fast, end to end

and exciting to watch. Well done to the winning forms.

Thank you to everyone who took part or helped in supporting the PE Department.



7 Fisher with Mrs Williams



Y8 Teams

Rugby League



Ryan Cartledge, the High School Rugby League Co-ordinator for Warrington Wolves Charitable Foundation sent a lovely letter to school looking at the success of the boys' Regional School's competition involving 6 Warrington schools, that was sadly brought to a stop by COVID in March.

Government Guidance allows Touch Rugby to be delivered in schools and we have also helped Warrington Wolves to develop and arrange a mixed-gender inter-school Touch Rugby competition for all KS3 children. We look forward to being the first school to run this fantastic new innovative competition in Year Group bubbles in a COVID friendly way.

SAFEGUARDING

[Christmas Safeguarding Newsletter](#) is now available on the school website

DSL is Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Governor is Mr. Roger Harrison.

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

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