



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

06 and 07 January
Staff Training Days
School closed to pupils



Monday 10 January
Start of Term

Friday 14 January
Y11 Mock Examination results

Wk Beginning 17 January
Y9 Examinations

Tuesday 18 January
Y11 Engage Evening
Y10 HPV Injections

Friday 18 February
End of Term

Monday 28 February
Start of Term



STAFFING

Farewell to:



Mrs Jimenez
MFL Teacher.
A long standing member of staff, we wish her well on her next adventure.

Mrs Turner SEND/Administrator
Mrs Wood Geography Teacher
Maternity leave.

Welcome to:

Mrs Bardolia Geography Teacher
(Maternity cover)
Ms Garcia MFL Teacher
Mrs Hodgson Receptionist

Important Reminder

Please download and use the [Parent App](#) to ensure you receive all communications from the school.



MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



This term has been incredibly busy and rewarding.



In November, we marked Remembrance Day with our annual parade in the courtyard and we also welcomed back our Y11 class of 2021 for their Awards Ceremony to celebrate and recognise their achievements.



As part of our 'Ambition for All' Diploma I have given out two Head Teacher Awards this term. One to Noah Dean (7Julian) who has made an excellent start at St Gregory's making suggestions to support pupils in class, helping at Collective Worship events and reading at the Remembrance Service and one to Jessica Clavering (10More) who received a letter from the Prime Minister for her health awareness work and fundraising efforts. She is an

amazing pupil who lights up our school and contributes so much.



There have been so many examples of our pupils and staff thinking of others and taking part in important campaigns to support the local community from the 'Wear it Pink' Campaign, to the food collections and staff serving breakfast to the homeless at the Salvation Army.

The Christmas Celebration at Sacred Heart was a fitting culmination to the term. It was a thought provoking look at Christmas, mixing the traditional with the modern in both drama and music.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our families a joyous and peaceful Christmas and thank you for your continued support.

Mr McGlinchey



REMEMBRANCE DAY PARADE



On the 11th November this year, school stopped to remember those men and women who, in every conflict since the Great War, have given their lives to defend our freedom. As pupils belonging to the army, navy and air cadets stood to attention in their uniforms in the winter sunlight, pupils from Year 7 and 11 were invited to reflect particularly on those men and women from the armed services who had suffered with their mental health as a result of their war experiences. In the two minutes silence, as leaves floated gently from the cherry tree in the courtyard, we prayed for those who had been unjustly punished for not being able to fight

because of their PTSD and all those whose lives had been cut short as a result of the lack of understanding about mental health issues connected to war.



Later that evening, staff, Governors and relatives gathered in Sacred Heart Parish Church for our annual Mass of Remembrance. As always, this poignant service gave us time to reflect on past friends, colleagues, governors and pupils who have died since the opening of our school in 1981. Sadly and inevitably, the list grows longer every year but this annual event in our school calendar, as with the Remembrance Parade earlier in the day, gives us a moment in our busy lives to stop, remember, reflect and give thanks for the lives of all who have gone before us.

Mr McLeod



Christmas Celebration



SAFEGUARDING

Financial Support

The Household Support Fund is the government funding to support vulnerable families with food costs and utility bills between October 2021 and March 2022 (it was previously known as the Local Support Grant, and prior to that the Winter Grant Fund). If you have previously been in receipt of the grant funding you will automatically be notified about the new household support fund and, if still on benefits, will be paid £40 per child to cover the Christmas and New Year period for meals and towards their general household bills. Please note you do not need to apply again if this is the case.

For any new benefits related FSM children, you can make your first claim via the following application form: [Household Support Fund](#). Families will receive a payment for each child either direct into your bank account or you can request post office vouchers.

Further payments will be made to cover February half term. If you have any questions regarding the application form or the household support fund please contact: HouseholdSupportFund@warrington.gov.uk or you can contact the education team education@warrington.gov.uk.

For any family not on benefits related free school meals who hit financial crisis over the winter months you can apply for the existing [Welfare Assistance Fund](#) which is a one off payment which is awarded based on an individual needs basis.

Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) over Christmas

HAF is available for all children across Warrington who are eligible for free school meals, in addition to this a small percentage has been awarded to vulnerable children who are not in receipt of free school meals. The HAF programme for Warrington is inclusive and working parents can also pay to attend HAF provisions. There are different HAF provision across Warrington from 20th December through to 6th January. You can book your child/children on to these provisions directly with a HAF provider or via the [booking system](#).

Staying Safe Online

Children have greater access to the internet during the holiday period and whilst we are all aware of the benefits of the online world, we are also conscious that there are risks for children. As a school we have signed up to **National Online Safety** which provides a wealth of information from guides, webinars, courses, and many more. If you have not done so already, please follow the [link](#) and sign up as a

parent, once you have done this you will be able to download the app. In addition to this there are many other sites that provide information and support.



Please do take the time to talk to your child about staying safe online.

Mental Health & Support

Whilst many of us look forward to the Christmas holiday, it can prove a challenging time. If you or someone you know is struggling or in need of support the following websites may be helpful:



In addition to this, the Safeguarding page of our [website](#) has information and links to other services which you may find useful.

The Big Ask

The 'Big Ask' was a survey aimed at understanding the lives of children. As part of the survey, children were able to highlight their experiences of peer-on-peer abuse and sexualised bullying.

In response to the report St Gregory's have been working with pupils through assemblies and PHSE to ensure that they understand what peer-on-peer abuse is, how to spot the signs, what to do if they or someone they know is being abused, how to report any concerns that they have as well as what a healthy relationship looks like.

To support parents, the Children's Commissioner of England has produced a booklet to support parents and carers in talking to their child/children about online sexual harassment. You can access this booklet and many other useful resources on their [website](#).

Finally, I would like to wish you and your family have a wonderful Christmas.

C McKenna

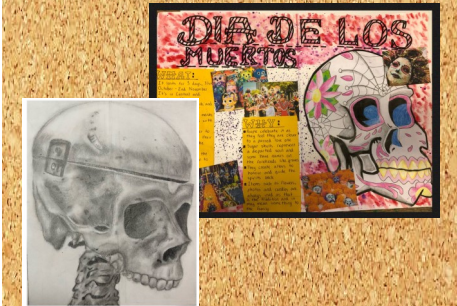


ART DEPARTMENT

Year 7 have been looking at the artwork of Ernst Haeckel and Kathy Klein. They have produced some wonderful compositions that explore colour mixing and symmetrical designs using watercolours and collage.



Year 8 have produced some amazing research inspired by 'Day of the Dead'



Year 9 pupils are working on: A Mad Hatter's Tea Party Project, combined with sweet inspired still life observational studies and research on the artist Sarah Graham The standard of the homework submissions has been incredible!





LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week

This term they were:

Condescending	Audacious
Segregation	Contempt
Manipulative	Ignorance
Imperious	Festivity

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

'We can end ignorance by reading books and journals.' Ryan Dobson 7M

Accelerated Reader

Our Accelerated readers in Y7 and Y8

continue to go from strength to strength with new word millionaires adding to the group which now has 10 millionaires and five multi-millionaires. Well done!

Don't forget to get a book from the LRC or read an e-book from our [e-book platform](#). Keep reading over the Christmas holidays!

Poetry by Heart Competition



The competition has begun! Can you learn a poem and perform it at our heats in February? Check out the

Poetry by Heart [website](#) and choose a poem from the list. The winners will be forwarded to the Poetry by Heart judges

and the chosen finalists will get to perform at the Globe Theatre in London in the Summer of 2022.

Next meeting: Monday January 17 in N16 after school.

Christmas Poem Competition

We have had some lovely entries for the 'Reading Plus' competition on the theme 'What Christmas means to me'. Take a look at the website to see some of the entries.

Get Caught Reading Advent Calendar

The winners and answers will be posted on the website next term.

LRC NEWS

This term we have focused on horror, historical and Christmas literature, and we have welcomed increasing numbers of pupils throughout the day.

Christmas Fayre



On Friday 10 December the LRC had its first Christmas Fayre in two years. It was very popular with pupils keen to have the opportunity to try all the activities and buy a sweet treat! The lucky winner of 'Guess the name of the Teddy' was

Noah Hughes (7Winefride). Congratulations!



LRC Christmas Competition winners: Riley Pryal (8Kolbe), Lucy Greenhow (7More) and Louisa Shannon (7Kolbe)



Take a look at our a virtual advent calendar with pupils and staff recommending books for the festive season. Keep Reading!

MFL COMPETITION

Congratulations to the winners of the European Languages Day T-shirt competition: Chloe Costello (7More), Harrison Smith (8Campion) and Sofia Pereira.(9Julian).

Thank you to everyone who took part!



ANTI-BULLYING AND HATE CRIME

Anti-Bullying Week

November 15-19

'One Kind Word'

The Anti-Bullying Core Team, (Keiran Rogerson,(11Winefride) Jenny Williams (11 Winefride) and Emily Wielebski(11Fisher) have been working with Mrs Dolphin to plan this year's Anti-Bullying Week and have decided this year to produce their work over multiple weeks and months instead of cramming everything into the one week. Anti-bullying needs to be the focus all the time.

Our new St Gregory's 'Positive Footprint' hoodie will be available in January. The hoodie will cost £20 to

purchase and pupils can wear this in place of their school blazer in February.



Orders can be placed from Monday 10th January until Friday 14th January. Look out for more details in January on the Parent App.

During Anti-Bullying Week our annual survey was given to Y7-10, to see how much pupils knew about Anti-Bullying Week and whether they have ever felt bullied. Pupils also attended a Personal Development session

about anti-bullying and hate crime and the subject was raised during Collective Worship.

Positive Footprint Award

Launched during Anti-Bullying week and continuing until the end of term, pupils and staff have been asked to nominate a person who has left a positive footprint with them. A positive footprint is something nice that does something for you and it leaves a positive thought with you.

To find out more, go to the Anti-Bullying page on the [website](#). Kieran Rogerson (11Winefride)



FUNDRAISING

Buy a book for Behala

The book sale raised £61 for Children of the Dump It was also amazing to meet and speak to so many of our Y7 and 8's who love reading and care about the education of others thousands of miles away. Thank you to everyone who donated and bought books. S. Pilkington



'Wear it Pink' Campaign

Thank you to everyone who wore pink for the day and help raise £813.71 for breast cancer research.

WHERE HAS ST GREGORY'S TAKEN YOU?

To promote different career paths to our current pupils we would love to hear where the subjects you studied at St Gregory's have taken you. Each department will have its own display. To be part of it please answer the following questions in an email and send them to ACraig@stgregoryshigh.com.

Could you please attach a picture of yourself, preferably in your place of work. If you're still at university you can still be part of the displays, just add your intended career path instead.

- Name
- Years at St Gregory's
- Favourite subjects in school
- Where did you go after leaving St Gregory's?
- What did you study there?
- Career path to date
- What do you love most about your job now?
- How did life at St Gregory's prepare you for your future?

CATHOLIC LIFE AND CHAPLAINCY

Light Up A Life - Our Y10 students went to Liverpool Cathedral on 8th December to take part in Nugent Care's Light Up A Life Service. The students that took part were responsible for bidding prayers on the day.

Christmas Celebration Raffle - We raised over £300 for Lymphoma Action due to one of our students recently

being diagnosed. Winners of the raffle will be announced in the New Year.

Food Collections - Our students managed to collect a massive amount of tinned food, scarves/hats/gloves, chocolate and toiletries for local charities. Both charities were thrilled to accept the donations - well done for such a good effort!

MULTI-ABILITY SPORTS DAY

Warrington Multi-Ability Sports Day is an event that gives young people with a special educational need from mainstream and special schools in the Warrington area the opportunity to take part in appropriate physical activities that could lead them to take part in competitive opportunities on the day and at future School Games events.

Our pupils had a great time and thoroughly excelled in a variety of activities



including Rugby, Boccia, Table Cricket and New Age Kurling.

All the pupils got on so well together and made some beautiful friendships. Staff from other schools commented on how polite, kind and well behaved our pupils were. All the pupils that took part in the event had an amazing day and did themselves and our school proud. Miss Heaton and Mr Funnell



GCSEPOD NEWS

It's been a busy half term with many pupils winning lots of prizes. At the time of going to press over 1600 pods have been watched since the beginning of November. Jessica Hilton (10Plessington), Hannah Moreira (11More) and Annie Rostron (10Campion) are currently in the top 3 based on pods watched. Rency Raju (10Fisher), Anora Jenu (9Fisher) and Keiran Rogerson (11Winefride) were winners of certificates and chocolates during our GCSEPod Christmas competition.

Over 2300 questions have been answered on Check and Challenge. Isabelle Rimmer (11Fisher) has dominated the top spot since the start of this academic year by collecting nearly 1500 diamonds. Well done, that shows tremendous dedication to your studies!

In the new year remember to keep using GCSEPod to help plug gaps, assess prior knowledge and revise for any assessments.

Enjoy your Christmas!
D. Jones



BACK OF THE NET

Netball



The Y7s have competed in their first Warrington Schools Netball Tournament at the Ball Hall in Latchford. Their level of play was outstanding and they won all of their matches conceding only one goal.

Huge congratulations to the team on such an achievement.

Upper school netballers travelled to Cardinal Newman for an evening of intense netball. It was wonderful to umpire such high-level netball from both teams

and we thank Cardinal Newman for being such lovely hosts.



Football

It has been an excellent term for all of the football teams at St. Gregory's so far this year. All of the teams from Year 7-10 are currently in second place in the league as they approach the final play-offs to decide the overall winners of the Warrington School's Football competition.

Rugby League

We look forward to resuming Rugby League in school in the Spring Term as the Warrington Schools competitions start. This term our Y10 team have been competing in the North West County Championships drawing with St. Ambrose Barlow from Swinton. In the New Year they will face Standish High School and St. Cuthbert's High School to decide whether they progress into the National Schools Rugby competition.



Y7 pupils took part in the Warrington Schools mixed touch Rugby League competition. They performed exceptionally well in the tournament and have progressed into the next round of matches in the competition which will take place in the New Year.

Cross Country

Congratulations to Dylan Langley (7Kolbe) who finished in overall first place and to Orlaith Clarke-Malone (7More) who finished in overall second place in the Warrington Schools

Cross Country competition that has run from October to December this year.

Y9 Dodgeball Club

The girls are enjoying learning Dodgeball and having some great matches. Well done girls.



SAFEGUARDING

Take a look at our new Wellbeing Newsletter (December 2021) on the school [website](#)

DSL
Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140

Social Work Teams: 01925 446257

Safeguarding Governor
Mr Roger Harrison.

Cheshire Constabulary :101

ChildLine: 0800 1111

Out of Hours: 01925 443322