



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



Monday 28 February
Start of Term

Thursday 03 March
World Book Day

Friday 04 March
Y9 Bespoke Curriculum Choices
Deadline

Thursday 10 March
Y7 Parents' Engage Evening

Thursday 24 March
Y8 Parents' Engage Evening

Friday 01 April
End of Term

Fri 15 April - Mon 018 April
Easter weekend

Tuesday 19 April
Start of Term

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

Another action-packed half term in the life of St Gregory's.



We celebrated our Y11 Mock GCSE examination results with a mock results day. It was wonderful to see the nervous anticipation and excitement of our pupils, and I look forward to welcoming them in August on their actual GCSE Results day.

Our Y8 pupils enjoyed their delayed Retreat Days (see below), giving them time to build relationships within their Year Group.

I welcomed 120 pupil leaders to discuss our rewards system and our future pupil guides. They are amazing advocates for the school.

It has been a pleasure to see pupils making strong progress towards their Ambition for All Diplomas. Through the diploma we are discovering the wider talents of our pupils who are making outstanding contributions to life outside of school in the community from charity work to environmental causes.

In addition, our sports teams are benefiting from their extra-curricular experiences by successfully competing in local events (see p4).

We ended this week with our Bespoke Curriculum Choices and Parents' Evening, the first face to face meeting for our Y9 pupils, and our Careers Event, which after two years away appears to have more participants than ever.

We are also excited to be continuing with our building development programme enhancing more learning spaces and adding more IT resources across the school.

I want to pay a special tribute to my whole staff team. All teaching and support staff have been incredible in their commitment to providing an uninterrupted education for our pupils all the way through the height of the Covid peak period. Time now to recharge our batteries and enjoy a well deserved break.



Mr McGlinchey
Head Teacher

STAFFING

Farewell to:

Mrs Small
Pastoral Attendance
Officer/Cover and SIMS
Manager



A long standing member of staff, Mrs Small leaves after over 14 years at St Gregory's. We wish her good luck and best wishes in her new endeavour.

HEADTEACHER AWARD



Congratulations to Dylan Birchall in 8 Campion who received the award for his outstanding environmental work in the community, inspiring others to take part too.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Y8 Retreat



Y8 pupils had the chance to take part in their long awaited retreat in school.

We were lucky enough to have the Animate Youth Team in to work with Y8 on the topic of Confirmation.



Registration is now open for pupils in Y8 or above if they wish to be confirmed.

The Liverpool Archdiocesan Confirmation Programme [website](#) has all of the information that you will need to participate in the programme.

Holocaust Memorial Day



To mark Holocaust Memorial Day staff and pupils in RE lessons visited the Chapel, highlighted a child's name from

the lists taken from the Pages of Testimony submitted by Yad Vashem and said a prayer for the child. A quiet moment to reflect.



Remember Me



St Paul's Cathedral have set up an online remembrance book for all those that have died due to the Covid-19 pandemic. You can make a donation or add a loved one to the book if you wish, or you may just like to reflect on the lives that have been lost.
S. Whitlow

YEAR 8 RETREAT DAYS

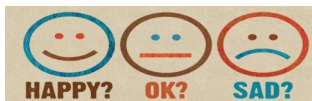


SAFEGUARDING NEWS



The theme this year was 'Growing together.'

Within school all pupils took part in Collective Worship and were encouraged to consider how they had grown and overcome challenges that they had faced. In helping children reflect on the challenges that they have overcome, we are supporting them to develop resilience which is an important skill for positive mental health. For further information and resources for parents click [link](#).



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.



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 [website](#)



Safer Internet Day – Tuesday 8th February

This year's theme was 'All fun and games? Exploring respect and relationships online.' Within school pupils watched a film and took part in discussions around this theme.

As our young people spend more time on their devices it is important that we educate them in how to stay safe online. The link below has resources and guides to support parents/carers in their discussions with their children.

National Online Safety has a wealth of guides, webinars and courses to support parents/carers in educating their child in online safety. If you have not yet done so, please click on the [link](#) and join as a parent of St Gregory's High School.

SIMS Parent App. We were delighted to launch SIMS Parent App last term by way of further improving home school communication. 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.

If you have not yet downloaded the parent app please follow the guide on the school [website](#).



Safeguarding

If you have any concerns about your child please do not hesitate to contact your child's Pupil Progress Manager or Mrs McKenna as the DSL. Our [website](#) has a wealth of information and resources that you may find useful.

Uniform

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.



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.

Earbuds should also be put away and not taken out during the school day.

Smart Watch notifications should be switched off so pupils do not receive texts etc. Thank you, in advance, for your support.

E-cigarettes Many parents will be aware e-cigarettes have become popular amongst young people; their designs aimed specifically at them. Whilst some parents may consider that it is not as bad as smoking, this view is not shared by St Gregory's. It is not risk free and there is no evidence available of the long-term effects vaping has on young people.

E-cigarettes are banned items at St Gregory's and pupils must not bring them into school.

The Police have reported that some shops in Warrington are selling vapes to young people despite the fact that they are illegal to buy under the age of 18. If you suspect that your child is vaping, please speak to them about this and ensure that they do not bring an e-cigarette into school.

Parents/carers may find this article published on the government website '[8 things to know about E-cigarettes](#)' useful to discuss with their child.

C. McKenna



BE MY VALENTINE!



For Valentine's Day, our Y7 Pupil Leadership Team created a Valentine Postal Service, open from February 7-11th. Pupils sent cards and messages to their friends for 20p per message with all donations going to the children's mental health charity [Place2Be](#).

Whilst most people think that the day is all about romantic love, in other cultures they mark the day as a celebration of the spring – the day when plants and flowers start to grow. In Norfolk, they have 'Jack' Valentine who famously leaves treats and presents at people's back doors. In Portugal, it is traditional to embroider a handkerchief for the one you love. Pupils were encouraged to send messages of positivity to someone they know who has been feeling down recently.

All messages were delivered to the happy recipients on Monday 14 February.



ART HOME LEARNING PROJECTS

Y7

Plastic Pollution



Y8

Mexican Culture and the festival 'Day of the Dead'

Y8 have created such high quality pieces.

Lots of yummy cakes and biscuits have been baked! Altars, shrines, masks and many more artefacts.



Y9

Alice in Wonderland images inspired by the Mad Hatters Tea Party.



CHESTER UNIVERSITY TRIP



On Tuesday 15th February, I went on a group trip to Chester University Taster Day. The day consisted of three sessions: one covering Higher Education, one about student societies and a Law lecture.

The Higher Education talk looked at courses, student finance and loans. One exercise was guessing which of a list of twelve courses were fake was interesting, and I was very surprised that my guesses: Brewing and Distilling, Circus

Management, and Golf Management Studies were wrong and that the fake ones were Perfumery, Ballistics Engineering and Netball Studies.

The Student Societies session was very informative and I realised there are societies for everything. If there is not a society you want to join, all you need is a group of like-minded individuals and an idea, and you can create your own.

The Law taster lecture focused on a moral debate looking at several

scenarios and deciding whether it was theft or not.

Finally, we watched a sketch about careers, careers advice, education, university and jobs by '2Engage' a theatre company. I personally found it extremely funny.

I thoroughly enjoyed my experience and would highly recommend it to anyone who is still uncertain as to whether university is for them.

Quinn Parker-Kilty (9Julian)

MATHS NEWS

PUZZLE OF THE WEEK

School has registered to take part in a free, international puzzle competition called Puzzle of the Week. Our young mathematicians will be able to show off their problem solving ability by competing against schools from over 50 different countries.

There will be 16 puzzles each released on a Monday starting on February 14th. Enter the competition by going to the [website](#).

All pupils, staff and parents can register and participate every week. Every answer counts towards our position on the international leader boards! S Holman



LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week

This term they were:

| | |
|---------------|--------------|
| materialistic | duplicity |
| conceit | incorrigible |
| culpable | omnipotence |

Accelerated Reader

Well done to all those pupils who continue

to complete quizzes and access articles. We have 35 Word Millionaires in Y7 and Y8, five of whom are Multi Word Millionaires! Well Done!

Get Caught Reading Advent Calendar Winners

Daniel Johnson (7Teresa), Evie Sherratt (10Teresa) and Chloe Harris (10Teresa). A special mention to 7Plessington form who all had a go! Answers on the [website](#). Congratulations!

LITERACY IN ACTION

Olivia Jacobs (8Campion) has written a wonderful poem called 'Fate' inspired by her Geography lessons about the pollution of our planet. Click on the photo to read the poem.

A. Craig



GCSEPOD

It has been a positive start to 2022 with nearly 1000 pods already viewed on GCSEPod. Antony Woods (11Fisher), Adrian Constantina (11 Plessington) and Jay Brennan (11Campion) are leading with the most pods watched.

An incredible number of questions have been answered on Check and Challenge, giving pupils the opportunity to win virtual diamonds and real-world prizes. Over 6500 questions have been attempted; Isabelle Rimmer (11Fisher), Antony Woods (11Fisher) and Grace Connolly(10Kolbe) currently make up the top 3. Congratulations to the top users of GCSEPod.

Remember to keep checking ClassCharts for opportunities to win prizes and tips on how to use GCSEPod to accelerate your learning.

Keep podding!
Mr Jones

New

There are resources to help parents and pupils with GCSEPod on the school website. [Take a look](#).

LRC NEWS

Romance has been in the air this term. Congratulations to our Valentine's Day competition winners: Jennifer Milner (7Julian), Olivia Richardson (7Julian), Callum Rimmer (7Winefride) and Holly McWilliams (7Julian).

World Book Day is coming! Thursday March 3rd, 2022

There will be a cake sale at **break time** to raise money for Book Aid International, a charity that buys book to send to regions of Africa. At **lunchtime** there will be themed activities base on 'Around the World in



80 Days' by Jules Verne and **After school**, there will be the Annual Team Quiz from 3.00-4.15 p.m. Pupils need a team of four pupils and one teacher. Entry forms available in the LRC.

EPlatform: Forgot to choose a book for the school holidays? Why not have a look at our [e-book platform](#). For pupils on Accelerated Reader you can search by your reading level.

Popular film showing!



DRAMA NEWS

Year 10 Drama students 'flipping the learning' in the classroom

Year 10's certainly rose to the occasion when they were challenged to learn and then plan inventive ways to teach one aspect of the context of their set text 'Blood Brothers' by Willy Russell, to their classmates. The results were amazing!

Post-it notes, quizzes, sweet rewards, praise, questioning, visual aids and quick worksheets to test knowledge are many of the techniques that were used.

Best teacher award went to Dion Josh who is now the proud owner of his trophy. Close contenders were Imogen Walmsley, Sophia Wynne, Annie Bouch, Yashie Bagcat, Rayhan Delvy Varghese and Ellis Clough. There is no doubt that we have many pupils with outstanding leadership qualities.

Congratulations to all class members for their positive approach to this task.
Ms Chappel



BACK OF THE NET

Football

After the final games to decide the overall winners of the Warrington Schools' Football competition, Y7 finished top of their division and Y8 finished third. All the players have been incredible representatives of the school and have shown true sportsmanship and determination throughout the season. Congratulations to you all!



Rugby

The Y7 Mixed Touch Rugby team finished an outstanding third place in their first competition, displaying fantastic skill and determination and the Y10 rugby team beat St Cuthberts 16-8, securing their place in the next round of fixtures. Amazing!

Basketball

Fantastic performance from the Y10 basketball team at the Warrington



Schools' Basketball competition, winning all their matches and showing great sportsmanship.



Sports Clubs

Pupils are having fun, making memories, and demonstrating some fantastic moves in Badminton and Trampolining Clubs.



SAFEGUARDING

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