



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 1st November

Staff Training Day. School closed

Tuesday 2nd November

Start of Term

Thursday 11th November

Remembrance Day Parade

Thursday 25th November

Y11 Presentation Evening

Mon 29th November - Fri 10th December

Y11 Mock Examinations

Wednesday 22nd December

End of Term

Thursday 6th and Friday 7th January

Staff Training Days School Closed

Monday 10th January

Start of Term



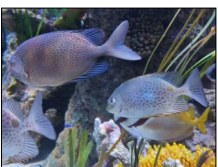
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

The winners of the competition are:

First: Mateusz Kotowicz (9Fisher) Diversity 'Fish'

Second: Beth Corlett (10Teresa) Spirituality 'Walk in the Wood'

Third: Niamh Graham (8More) Diversity 'Welcome'



All winning photos are on the school [website](#).

Miss Sanderson

STAFFING

Welcome to St Gregory's

Mrs Clayson	Teaching Assistant/SEND
Mrs Lowe	Pupil Support Manager
Mrs Maher	Mathematics Teacher
Miss Mitchell	DT Technician
Mrs Turner	SEND/Administrator

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD



Congratulations to our wonderful Y11's of 2020-21 on their GCSE examination performance. Every year we are proud to celebrate strong examination performances because of the hard work of pupils and staff. Results Day was buzzing with anticipation (photos below) and all our Y11 pupils have now gone on to further study at college or taken up apprenticeships.

I could not be happier with the start to the new academic year, in particular the start made by our new Y7 pupils to life at St Gregory's.

Our Open Evening on the 23rd September welcomed a record attendance of prospective new parents and pupils. The positive feedback from our visitors to the school highlighted the conduct and manners of the pupils that supported subjects and acted as tour guides on the evening. Hundreds of your children volunteered, which is testament to the pride they have in their school. We look forward to welcoming new pupils in the future to our St. Gregory's community.

Our new extracurricular events are up and running and I have been delighted to

see the large number of pupils that are taking part in activities ranging from gardening to young poets clubs. As winter draws in we will scale these activities back a little to account for the lack of daylight but will return to a normal rota in spring.

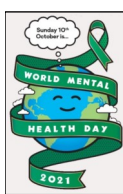
St Gregory's was proud to be part of a wonderful parish event at St Joseph's church recently that saw church banners that were designed by pupils from St Gregory's, St Joseph's and St Vincent's unveiled by the new Bishop, Tom Neylan. The banners will now take pride of place in the church for many years to come. (Photos p3).

This term our entire school field area is being fitted with new fencing, part of the programme of development to make the school the best possible learning environment.

I would like to wish you and your families a safe and restful half term period and I look forward to another successful half term

Mr McGlinchey

EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



World Mental Health Day. October 10th. The theme was Mental Health in an Unequal World. The conversation around mental health has never been louder than it is now, but the problem is also not going away.

We've heard the phrase "the last 18 months has been like no other" and while that's true, there is more emphasis on poverty due to lockdown, and more recently the fuel crisis.

It is in these gaps in our society where mental health is visibly different.

This theme highlighted that access to

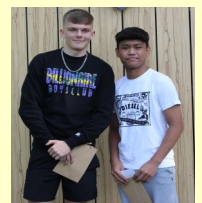
mental health services remains unequal, so the 2021 World Mental Health Day campaign provides an opportunity for us to come together and act together to ensure that people are able to enjoy good mental health.

We all need to be there for each other more than ever, to help each other back on our feet.

If you're struggling, feeling low, anxious, or worried about family and friends, speak to someone you trust, at home or school, to get advice, help, support or even to just to talk to someone.

D Abram

GCSE RESULTS DAY 2021



GCSE POD



A big welcome to Y9 who have successfully logged on to GCSEPod and started using all of the wonderful features within the app! Y9, Y10 and Y11 all have access to 1000s of examination board specific pods designed to help them learn even more about their fantastic subjects. They can test their knowledge and earn diamonds by answering questions through Check and Challenge, and can complete homework set by their teachers. Each month there are opportunities to win prizes by watching the most pods or earning the most diamonds.

Over 1300 pods have been viewed and 5300 diamonds achieved by pupils this year. So far, Tenniel Stubbs (10More) has watched the most pods and Blaze Donzo (10Julian) has collected the most diamonds.

Keep it up everyone!
Mr Jones

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Throughout Black History Month, History pupils have looked at inspirational and important individuals who have affected the world in a positive light. The projects completed by our pupils have been to an exceptionally high standard. The History department will be displaying completed projects in classrooms.

Mr Egan

**Katrina
Tan
9 Kolbe**



HEAD BOY AND GIRL

Daniel Roach and Daisy Freeman, both in 11 Fisher, have almost completed their first term as Head Boy and Girl.

They and their deputies are taking an active role in the events of the school. Their first task was to deliver a speech on Open Evening and speak to visitors. We look forward to their contribution to our school life this year. For more information go to the school [website](#).



CAREERS EDUCATION, INFORMATION, ADVICE AND GUIDANCE NEWS



Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance is a significant part of St Gregory's Catholic High School's provision, helping students make informed decisions and choices about their future career plans and next steps.

Our Careers Advisor, Erica, will be in school every Friday in N9. Careers appointment are open for all years. If you would like one, please tell your form tutor or email Miss Craig at acraig@stgregoryshigh.com

For more information check out our careers [webpage](#).

College Open Evenings next term

Book your place via the college's website

Carmel College	Tues 2nd November Sat 13th November	5.30pm -8.00pm 11.00am-1.30pm
Cronton Sixth Form College	Tues 9th November	5.30pm – 7.30pm
Priestley College	Sat 6th November Weds 17th November	10.30am to 12.30pm 5.30pm to 8pm
Riverside College	Tues 16th November	5pm – 7pm
Warrington and Vale Royal College	Wed 10 November	5.00pm – 8.00pm
Winstanley College	Tues 2nd November	3.30pm – 7.30pm

DRAMA NEWS

It's been a fantastic comeback for practical Drama this term. Y11 pupils have been allowed an audience to watch their performances for the first time since March 2020; extra-curricular is back in full swing and the nation's theatres are open!

Drama Clubs

We have had an amazing turn out for each club so far.

Y7 have been learning to creating characters within an ensemble drama.

Y8 have been exploring twisted fairy tales.

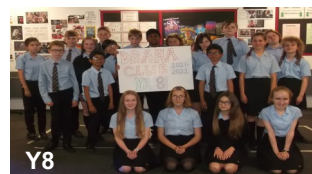
Y9 have delved into the script of *A Monster Calls*, a powerful piece adapted from Patrick Ness's novel, a meditation on love, loss, and more importantly, letting go and healing.

Pupils' enthusiasm is palpable!
Newcomers are always welcome.

Year 11 Exam Performances

Long awaited, but our resilient Y11 pupils finally performed their exam dramas a few weeks ago. Topics included: the impact of fast fashion on our environment, exploring the impact of social media on privacy and mental health and the plight of refugees to name but a few.

Congratulations to all.



An Evening at the Theatre

A real highlight this term has to be the Y10/11 GCSE Drama trip to the Storyhouse Theatre, Chester to see 'Blood Brothers', a musical by Willy Russell, which revolves around twin boys who are separated at birth and brought up in completely different environments. The production was exceptional providing inspiration and understanding for GCSE pupils studying the play. It was an enjoyable trip for everyone!



Black Lives Matter



On Wednesday 13th October, a group of Y11 pupils performed a powerful drama about racism to Y8 and Y9 pupils after school. The performance focused particularly on Rosa Parks' place in the history books as well as highlighting the issues relating to racism today. Thank you to Daniel Ford, Emily Wielebski and Daisy Freeman for their time and willingness to provide this opportunity for our younger pupils.

Ms Chappel/ Miss O'Connor



LITERACY NEWS



Accelerated Reader

Our Y7 and Y8 pupils have been given the opportunity to take part in the Accelerated Reader Scheme which aims to create a reading for pleasure culture through the fostering of healthy competition and regular reading.

We already have three word millionaires in Y7, with others nearly there. Congratulations to Daniel Johnson (7Teresa), Louisa Shannon (7Kolbe) and Orlaith Clarke Malone (7More).

Word of the Week

This term's Word of the Week's are:

Altruistic	Authoritative
Aesthetic	Compassionate
Anarchy	Exploitation

Thank you to all those pupils who have sent in sentences using the featured words.

Ebook Platform

Remember to check out our Ebook Platform. If you have not already downloaded the App, click [here](#) or login to RM Unify and from the launchpad click on the Ebook platform tile.

The library catalogue is full of bestselling, popular fiction titles and will offer your children 24/7 access to a digital library. Pupils can have two books out at any one time. Sign in and get reading!

LRC NEWS



National Poetry Day



On October 7th, the LRC was a hive of activity for National Poetry Day. The theme for this year was 'Choice' and pupils and staff were all invited to come to the LRC at lunchtime, choose a poem and read it.

There were some lovely poems chosen. Thank you to everyone who took part.

The 'Best Reader of a Poem' winners were Nathan Willis (7Plessington) and Amy Preston-Hill (9 Winefride).



BANNER COMPETITION



Banner on display at St. Joseph's Church



Our wonderful choir!

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

This has been a busy half term with confirmations and Y7 Retreat Days.



Kimberley Cosslett (11Fisher) was baptised and made her First Holy Communion in our school chapel on Friday 8th October. Fr John came to celebrate with us along with Kim's close family and our staff. Congratulations Kim!

Y9 Confirmations

The Y9 cohort and some other older pupils have been making their confirmation this term. They were joined by Archbishop Malcolm and Bishop Tom alongside their family and friends at St Oswalds, Padgate.

Y7 Retreats:

Our Y7 retreats have taken place at Lowe House, St Helens, giving pupils an opportunity to get to know the other pupils in their form. The theme was 'Stand up and be Counted', exploring how pupils can do the right thing in life. Thank you to [Animate Youth](#).

Suzie Whitlow Chaplain



OPEN EVENING



Art Jon Burgerman inspired canvas with all visitors contributions



The competition to celebrate European Day of Languages (Sept 26th) has ended and we are delighted with the entries – over 500! The winning designs have been sent to the printers and will be presented to the winners after half term

T-SHIRT COMPETITION

during Collective Worship.

A selection of entries can be seen on the school [website](#).



Drama Photo Booth!

ENRICHMENT CLUBS



English Instagram Recommend a Book

SAFEGUARDING NEWS

October is **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, religion, socio-economic status, sexuality or background.

Signs of Domestic Abuse

Does your partner, ex-partner or someone you live with:

- cut you off from family and friends and intentionally isolate you?
- bully, threaten, or control you?
- take control of your finances?
- monitor or limit your use of technology?
- physically and/or sexually abuse you?

Remember: Domestic abuse is not always physical violence. It can also include:

- coercive control and 'gaslighting'
- economic abuse
- online abuse
- threats and intimidation
- emotional abuse
- sexual abuse

If you believe that you are a victim of domestic abuse you are not alone and there is support available:

[Domestic Abuse](#) How to get help.

[Refuge](#) for women and children against domestic violence.

[Bright Sky](#) is an app supported by the Hestia Organisation that provides support and information for people who are concerned that they are victims.

[Ask for ANI](#) is a code that you can use at participating pharmacies. They will provide a space, phone and ask if you need to contact the police.

[Safe Spaces](#) are also available in Boots, Morrisons, Superdrug and Well pharmacies, TSB banks and independent pharmacies across the UK. Many will respond to 'ANI'. They will also provide a space for people to contact the police.

Bonfire Night

Most of us look forward to bonfire night and this year there may be more reason to celebrate given that we have now come out of lockdown. However, bonfires and fireworks are dangerous. In 2018-19 a total of 1,936 people in England needed hospital treatment because of firework injuries. Almost a third (31%) overall were aged under

18. Hand surgeons see devastating injuries due to fireworks and even sparklers, which we consider to be safe, can cause significant harm if not used correctly. Most injuries are caused by people misusing them leading to them exploding in peoples, hands and face which can cause loss of fingers, loss of sight or serious disfigurement.

Please remind your children of the dangers of bonfires and fireworks and follow the advice below:

- **Always buy your fireworks from a licensed seller**
- **It's an offence to supply category F2 fireworks or category F3 fireworks to under 18s**
- **Since 2017 you can only buy fireworks that are CE marked**

Online Safety

Young peoples' use of technology has significantly increased over the past few years. Whilst there are many benefits to the use of IT and the internet, it also poses many threats to young people. The NSPCC reported that during last year's lockdowns their helpline saw a 60% increase in contacts from people worried about children experiencing online sexual abuse. At St Gregory's we have invested in [National Online Safety](#) which is a platform that provides advice and support for parents in how to keep your child safe online. There are courses that you can complete as well as videos and webinars. for you to watch. If you have not done so, please click on the [link](#) and sign in as a parent so that you can make full use of the software. You will also be able to download the app onto your mobile phone.

Other sources of information and guidance include:



Supporting Parents

As a school we recognise the challenges that parents face as pupils go through the teenage years. To support parents with this, we are planning to hold a series

of information evenings throughout the year. Further information will be sent to you via email but please see below for the dates and themes :

11th November - Anxiety

25th January - Emotional regulation

10th February - Online Safety

8th March - Exam preparation - Y10 & 11 parents

10th May - Healthy lifestyles

In addition to this, the children's mental health charity Place2Be has launched a new Parenting Smart [website](#), aimed at helping parents with typical situations they can find themselves in with their children. Advice can be found on over forty topics including:

- Understanding sibling rivalry
- My child is lying, what does it mean, what should I do?
- My child has trouble going to sleep
- My child says 'I hate you!'
- Cultural identity: who am I?

Staying safe at night

The clocks will be going back an hour on 31st October which means that the nights become darker. It is important that we all remember how we can keep ourselves safe in the dark, including teenagers. Below are some links that you may find useful to discuss with your child:

[Firstaidforlife](#) Keeping children safe in the dark

[Rospa](#): Road safety guide for parents



It is really impressive to see the number of pupils who ride their bikes to school, but they need to ensure that they are visible as the nights become darker and that they wear a helmet to protect themselves should they

fall/be knocked off their bikes. The following resource provides advice about cycling at night:

[Cycle Training](#): Safety first cycling at night.

C McKenna

BACK OF THE NET

Football

Well done to all our football teams this term. Great effort, resilience and sportsmanship shown!



SAFEGUARDING

DSL Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)	Safeguarding Governor Mr Roger Harrison.
Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140	Cheshire Constabulary :101
Social Work Teams: 01925 446257	Out of Hours: 01925 443322
	ChildLine: 0800 1111