



The Net

St. Gregory's Catholic High School

Issue: 125

Feb 2025

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Friday 14th Feb** - Last Day of term
- Monday 24th Feb** - First day of term
- Wednesday 5th March** - Ash Wednesday Mass
- Wednesday 5th March** - World Book Day Quiz
- Thursday 6th March** - WBD Celebrations
- Thursday 6th March** - Y7 Parents Engage Evening
- Wednesday 12th March** - Drama GCSE Exam
- Thursday 13th March** - Y10 GCSE Preparation Evening
- Friday 4th April** - End of term

STAFFING

Welcome to:
Mr Smith- Y11 Pastoral

THIS TERMS NEWSLETTER

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MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

The first half of the spring term has been shorter in comparison with the previous autumn term, but our pupils have achieved a great deal in those 6 weeks.

We began 2025 with extreme ice, snow and severe windy weather conditions that resulted in many local school closures. The St. Gregory's community came together magnificently to ensure our school stayed open and overcame the challenging conditions. I am very grateful to our site staff, school staff and pupils for ensuring that we could find a way to remain open and start the term so positively.

The main event of this half term has been the commencement of our Jubilee Celebrations with the launch of Pilgrims of Hope on Friday 24th January. The St. Gregory's family look forward to making our pledges of how we can all play our part in being pilgrims of hope going forward. There will be many updates about how we engage with the jubilee year.

As always there have been many extracurricular experiences for our pupils, made possible by our fantastic staff. The highlights include pupils participating in Warrington Wolves Inspiring Futures programme, Warrington Indoor Athletics, a brilliant Drama residential trip to Menai in Wales, Poetry Live in Manchester, sending our sports stars off to compete in New Age Kurling and gaining professional football experience at Liverpool Academy.

This half term, I want to shine a light on the amazing team work of our RE team. We have welcomed some new staff to RE department this year and they are taking RE education, a subject at the heart of school life here at St. Gregory's, from strength to strength.

Over the

last few weeks, we have welcomed our key partners in school - our parents and carers. From parent workshops, to parent engage evenings for Y10 & Y11 (intervention), we have welcomed over 700 parents this half term alone.

Our pupil leaders have used their voice at the Headteachers breakfast meetings to make some great suggestions to improve the school experience and I am pleased to say we now have plans for a peace garden in school and some new table tennis tables for all to enjoy during social times. Our mental health ambassadors led the way with raising the importance of talking about mental health on 'Time to Talk' day on the 6th February - we are fortunate to have such a wonderful group of pupils and expert staff who support our school with this important issue.

We end the half term with our all important Y9 options evening and careers day. Y9 will make important choices that help shape their futures and they will be guided well by our staff and KS4 pupils.

The final day of the half term is Valentine's Day, and as always, our wonderful LRC is marking the occasion with creativity, in the form of 'date with a book', so lots of children have a book to enjoy with a hot chocolate over the break.

I wish everyone in the St. Gregory's community a well deserved, restful and enjoyable half term break.



**McGlinchey
Headteacher**

LITERACY NEWS

Word of the Week

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Acquire | Inhabitant |
| Jubilant | Courteous |
| Discrimination | Charismatic |

Lexia Celebrations



'Endeavour'

A huge 'well done' to our Y7 and 8 pupils who have been participating in the Lexia PowerUp reading interventions

this half-term! A particular congratulations to Zoey Okhamafe in Y7 and Siri Rajulapati in Y8 for being the top Lexia users in their respective year groups so far this year; I know that they have

both worked hard on Lexia both in and out of school.

So many of our pupils are making excellent progress with the platform so far, but remember that you can maximise your reading progress by using Lexia at home: something we encourage our intervention pupils to do at least once a week alongside their two intervention sessions. Pupils will receive achievement points every time they use Lexia at home and will make further progress towards another all-important certificate!

Key Stage 4 Interventions

As a literacy team, we know that the need for reading support does not end in Y8. As such, we are currently researching the best methods of delivering reading

intervention to our older pupils in Key Stage 4 as a means of supporting them to access an increasingly challenging GCSE curriculum. Watch this space for further updates and do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the literacy team for further information.

Word of the Week

It has been fantastic receiving so many emails from pupils using the 'Word of the Week', as it means that the literacy team are able to award even more achievement points! Remember that points can also be earned for using the word in form time or in lessons. Try coming up with as many sentences as possible or even using the word at home with parents and/or carers.
Miss Mannion

LRC NEWS



Story Telling Week

This half term's main event in the LRC was Storytelling

Week.

Throughout the week, LRC users enjoyed creating



stories using the games and activities that were available at break and lunchtime. There were many entries for our competition 'Reimagine Your World' where pupils were asked to use their imagination to create a story around a setting in their own environment. The shortlisted stories were put to a public vote and were



enjoyed by users of the LRC who then voted for their favourite one. Well done to Anna in Y8, Keeley in Y9 and Lucas in Y8 who won the competition.

Chinese New Year

Chinese New Year was also celebrated this half term with a

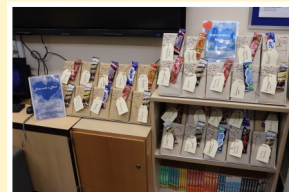


'Design a Snake' competition which were used to help decorate the LRC. Well done to Teegan, Ilhan, Emily, Molly and Parker for winning prizes for their designs.

A Date with a Book

We have ended the term with

our 'Date a Book' event where pupils have used clues to choose a wrapped



up book that had a little treat with it to enjoy over the half term. We look forward to hearing about the surprise reads after half term.

Book Club

Book Clubs are busy reading through the Cheshire Book Award nominations and we have enjoyed some great quizzes planned by book club members. Book clubs take place on Thursdays after school – A Week for Y7&8 and B Week for Y9+.
Mrs Andrews



THE DIGITAL THEATRE PLUS

We now have a subscription with Digital Theatre Plus (DT+) and pupils can log in via the link below or via the DT+ tile on RMUnify.

<https://auth.digitaltheatreplus.com/>
Username: student@stgregoryshigh.com

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE USERNAME IS IDENTICAL FOR EVERYONE!

Password: lovedrama2024

This site boasts a magnificent collection of live performances of a wide range of plays; acting tutorials; theatrical terms and techniques; poetry and support material and performances of set-texts on our English curriculum. It also spotlights different roles within the world of theatre in an accessible and engaging style. This resource has great potential to inform and inspire our pupils, and families are also very welcome to explore its wealth of content.



VALENTINES WORD SEARCH

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| D | B | A | G | L | P | F | L | O | W | E | R | S | W | T |
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| C | S | C | A | N | D | L | E | S | D | K | M | R | D | B |
| L | T | C | L | C | Q | S | P | Z | E | P | L | F | E | G |
| Q | U | B | E | K | T | R | Y | X | G | H | J | I | M | O |
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HEART
 CHOCOLATE
 PINK
 RING
 CANDLES

RED
 DATE
 PETALS
 FLOWERS
 LOVE

ROMANTIC
 ROSES
 PARTNERS
 TULIPS
 FOOD

CRONTON COLLEGE TRIP - STEM

St. Gregory's pupils had a fantastic day at the Mond Trophy this term at Cronton College. Our Y10's tackled exciting STEM challenges and enjoyed every minute!

Mr Poland



UKMT MATHS CHALLENGE

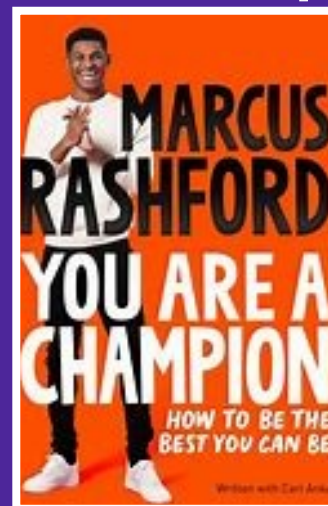
St. Gregory's would like to congratulate to following Y9 & Y10 pupils on their success in the UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge this half term!

| | | |
|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| Timothy - Gold | Joey - Silver | William - Bronze |
| Alice - Gold | Noah - Silver | Macey - Bronze |
| Holly - Gold | Duaa - Bronze | Princess - Bronze |
| Antonina - Gold | Sophia - Bronze | Gabriel - Bronze |
| Jason - Gold | Tia - Bronze | Harry - Bronze |
| Jennifer - Gold | Daniel - Bronze | Megan - Bronze |
| Kathy - Silver | Erin - Bronze | Oliver - Bronze |
| Orlaith - Silver | Emily - Bronze | Harry - Bronze |
| Abel - Silver | Oliver - Bronze | Gavin - Bronze |
| Toby - Silver | Lucy - Bronze | Anika - Bronze |
| Jacob - Silver | Norbert - Bronze | Lottie - Bronze |
| Max - Silver | Olivia - Bronze | Juliusz - Bronze |
| Ailsa - Silver | Thomas - Bronze | Jack - Bronze |
| Joel - Silver | Ruby - Bronze | Mysha - Bronze |
| Poppy - Silver | Olivier - Bronze | Daniel - Bronze |
| Anji - Silver | Ethan - Bronze | |
| Christin - Silver | Tornvei - Bronze | |
| Loreta - Silver | Yvie - Bronze | |

Special mentions to Timothy (Y10) and Abel (Y9) who got the best in their year groups. Also, Timothy (Y10) Alice (Y10) and Holly (Y10) who all achieved very high scores. These pupils have been invited to take part in the next round of the competition!

Mr Johnson

FICTION ADDICTION 'You are a Champion'



Marcus Rashford talks about how he made it, how hard it was and about his life overall. He explains what it feels like to score goals and miss penalties. Scoring his first goal caused him to score many more, but it would also be difficult for him and he would beat himself up if he didn't score or play well. I don't support his team but I love how he plays. I've never liked another player from a rival team except him. I feel that I can relate to him so much - he is funny and understanding.

Written by a Y8 pupil.



INTERVIEW WITH A TEACHER - MR RICHARDS



Why did you want to become a teacher? and the organ.

I didn't originally plan on becoming a teacher, I wanted to be in the RAF. I went through all of the interviews and tests and they told me to go and get my degree, so I pursued music and I was helping out in schools. I realised that developing people's passion for music was what I wanted to do, so I became a teacher.

Was music your favourite subject at school?

It was one of my favourite subjects, I also really liked physics up until my GCSE's and then psychology at A-Level.

What instruments do you play?

I started on the violin when I was in Y3 and I studied singing in university. My main instruments are singing, violin

Do you have a favourite song/ band?

That's a really difficult question! At the moment I quite like Stephen Sanchez, but on the whole, Mahler.

What is your favourite part of teaching at St. Gregory's?

How delightful, respectful and passionate all of the students are! St. Gregory's also has a lovely sense of family and teamwork.

Who is your favourite student technical manager?

Anyone willing to help!



Interviewed by Daniel (Y10) and photographed by Lucas (Y10)

VISIT THE
ST.
GREGORY'S
WEBSITE
AND LISTEN
TO OUR
PODCAST



MENAI

Y10 Drama pupils visited Menai in Anglesey this half term. Our pupils had an amazing time and took part in several movement workshops. Y10 you are superstars! Thank you to the inspiring tutors who led our sessions.

Mrs Chappel



E-BOOK PLATFORM

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

Try our e-platform! How do I access it?

Log in to RM Unify and click on the eplatform tile from the launch pad.

How do I read them?

On a 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 corner and select sign in.

Enter the username and password - username:

Student email Password:

password

Once downloaded the book can be read on all devices without the need for internet connection.

Any problems? Please contact the LRC Manager

Mrs Andrews



NEW AGE ICE KURLING

Well done to those pupils that attended the New Age Kurling Competition. The St. Gregory's team won each of their matches against three other competing schools, and are now through to the regional finals in March.

Mrs Gallagher



CHAPLAINCY



2025 is a Year of Jubilee!
This year, Catholic school communities, including St. Gregory's, have been invited to join together as pilgrims of hope, pledging to work together for God's Kingdom of justice, peace

and love. St. Gregory's will be celebrating the Jubilee throughout 2025. We have made a fantastic start to our celebrations with students writing their pledges to help within the local and wider communities.

Advent Mass
Thank you to Canon Dave

Heywood for visiting St. Gregory's to lead our mass with Y8 & Y9 pupils at the end of last term. All of our students behaviour was exemplary. Mrs Whitlow



FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Well done to all of our FP&N students this term. Here are just a few of their fantastic bakes. Mrs Cross

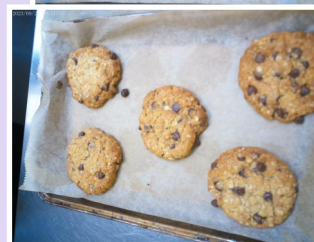
Y9 Pop Tarts



Y8 spring rolls



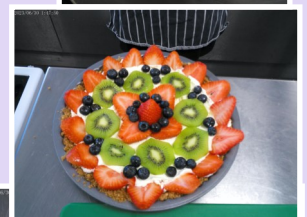
Y9 Oat Cookies



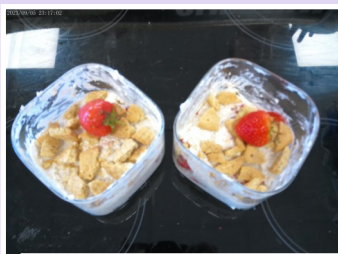
Fairtrade Fruit Muffins



Y9 Food Styling



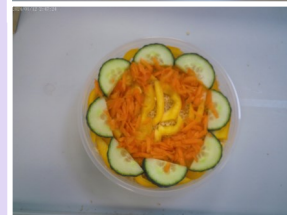
Y9 Overnight Oats



Y7 Fairy Cakes



Y9 Couscous Salad



WELLBEING



A group of our Y8 and 9 pupils, accompanied by Mrs O'Kane and Mrs Whitlow, kicked off their participation in the Warrington Wolves project - Inspiring Future Minds with a trip to the Halliwell Jones Stadium. As



well as meeting the staff involved, they had a tour of the stadium, completed the stadium step challenge and even had a taster session on wheelchair rugby! The pupils involved in this 12-week programme will complete their Young Sports Leader Award with the aim of developing

confidence, resilience and team building skills.



Time to talk

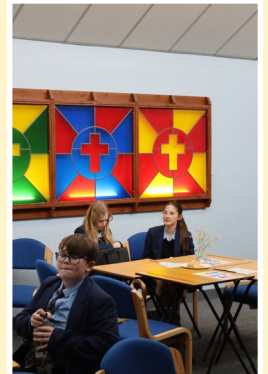


Our wonderful Mental Health Ambassadors continue to work hard in school to help promote good mental health and support those who are struggling.

This week, our focus has been on Children's Mental Health Week, which has taken place from 3rd-7th February. The theme was, 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself', which encourages us to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means, to help us grow and develop resilience to cope with what life throws at us.

During the week, the Mental Health Ambassadors participated in a very special Celebration of the Word, delivering an important message to every year group. Based on a

reading from Matthew's Gospel, we talked about the idea of being 'blessed' and what that means for each of us. Pupils were encouraged to reach out for support when they were not feeling blessed with good mental health, and were reminded that Jesus is with them, especially through these difficult times, through the words and actions of others.



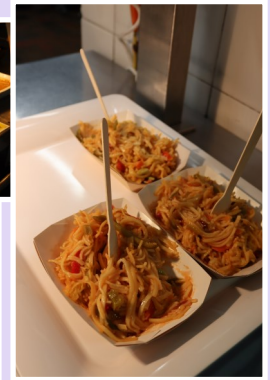
As part of our Children's Mental Health Week activities, we used our weekly Wellbeing Wednesday meeting to celebrate Time To Talk Day. We invited pupils and staff to come along, have a biscuit and talk about mental health, in a bid to help reduce stigma and normalise the reality that we will all struggle with our mental health at some point in our lives. We would like to say a huge thank you to the pupils and staff who came along to take part, it meant a great deal to the Mental Health Ambassadors.



Mrs OKane

CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATIONS

St. Gregory's celebrated Chinese New Year this half term with delicious foods in the canteen, decorations across the school and activities in the LRC.



Athletics



Congratulations to our brilliant Y7 and Y8 indoor athletics team. Brilliant performances produced by all competitors. Well done everyone!

Y9 Boys Football



BACK OF THE NET

Congratulations to our Y9 football team on reaching the quarter finals of the Cheshire Cup by beating Helsby High School this half term.

Liverpool Training Academy



4 of our St. Gregory's pupils were invited to Liverpool Training Academy on a gifted and talented programme. The boys were put through their paces by the coaches and taught the importance of health, nutrition and wellbeing within professional football.

Basketball



Congratulations to our Y10 basketball team on their excellent performances in the recent Warrington Schools Basketball Competition.

Mr Dean

Contact Details— Please ensure that we have the correct contact details for you. You can update your contact details in the SIMS parent app. If you do not have the SIMS parent app please contact school enquiry for further information schoolenquiry@stgregoryshigh.com



Produced by the St. Gregory's Media Team

SAFEGUARDING

DSL
Miss Lavin

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