St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

We give thanks to God, work together and always try our best

Website: www.st-gregorys.co.uk

Email: office@st-gregorys.co.uk

Newsletter: February 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are now well in to the Spring Term and the children have been working extremely hard in class. As I am sure you are aware from our school Facebook page, we have had some sporting success over the last few weeks. We are very proud of all our children who have represented our school so well – a shining example for all.

As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we would welcome some feedback from parents on the catholic nature of St Gregory's school. We will be sending home a questionnaire with your child for you to complete. We would encourage you to talk to your child about their experiences of curriculum RE and collective worship if you are not sure how to respond. Warmest wishes,

Mrs Dunne

Staffing Update

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Boulter to our staffing team. Mrs Boulter will be supporting children across the school and I am sure her wealth of experience will be invaluable.

Parents' Evening

Parents' evening will be on Monday 13th February. Please note that appointments will be available to book online as usual week beginning 6th February 2023.

Holiday Dates

Attached at the end of this newsletter are the terms dates for next academic year 2023 – 2024. Please ensure you take note of the dates when planning your family holidays. This information is also available on our school website.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is our duty to monitor attendance and keep you informed of your child's attendance. We have a number of children whose attendance is below 96% which is a concern, it is considered that attendance of 92% or below is persistent absence which will be closely monitored by school staff. Please do not be offended if you receive a letter from us. Likewise, it is really important that we work together to ensure the children arrive to school on time – please do remember arriving late is unsettling for the children and learning does start the minute the children walk through the door. Children who are persistently late miss a significant amount of learning. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Ten Ten Newsletter

Don't forget to check our website for the latest Ten Ten Newsletter for parents. This can be found in the Catholic Life and Mission tab under Collective Worship.

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 7th February is Safer Internet Day. All classes will be learning about how to stay safe online. Our school website has information for parents in our online safety section, which can be found in the Parents tab.

Say Cheese!

The school photographer will be in school on Tuesday 14th March to take children's photos. Siblings in school will have their photographs taken together. Please can we ask that parents of siblings who would also like an individual photograph of their child to contact Mrs Rochford in the school office.

Pre-school age children are welcome to come into school at 8:15am.

Parental Safeguarding Questionnaire

Thank you for completing our online questionnaire. The results of which were overwhelmingly positive. The majority of parents said they feel their child is safe when in school and feel that school takes safeguarding matters seriously.

We do take our responsibilities regarding safeguarding in school very seriously. There were some areas that a minority of parents were unsure of. Not all parents were aware of where to find our policies and some parents were not aware of who our designated safeguarding leads were.

Policies can be found on our school website under the key information tab. Paper copies are available from the school office on request.

Mrs Dunne is the designated safeguarding lead and Mrs Blackwood and Mrs Squares are the deputy designated safeguarding leads in school. There are posters displaying this information around school. If you feel you have an issue to discuss or raise about the wellbeing of a child or any other matter, please contact the school to speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

Communication was another area highlighted that parents felt could be improved. We do include upcoming dates with the newsletter and have included other key dates throughout the year which hopefully will help parents to plan. There are occasions where we are not able to give as much notice as parents would like due to circumstances beyond our control – hopefully these are few and far between and we will always endeavour to communicate with parents in a timely fashion.

We are always looking at ways to improve communication with parents and if you feel there is anything else we could do to improve communication, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

World Book Day

World Book Day this year is on Thursday 3rd March 2023. We would like to invite children to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. Remember home-made costumes are often the best!

Mini-Vinnies

Our Year 4 Mini-Vinnies will be hosting a cake sale on 10th February to raise money for CAFOD. All classes will have the opportunity to buy a cake. Please support them by sending in a small donation.

Dogs on School Grounds

Polite reminder that dogs, other than guide dogs, are not permitted on school grounds. Please drop your child at the school gate from 8:45 am when a member of staff will be on the yard.

This month will mark a year since the war in Ukraine began. Since then thousands of lives have been lost and pain and suffering linger on. *Lord*,

We ask for Your mercy for those in danger and in fear.

We pray for an end to violence and that peace should reign.

For the people of Ukraine – that they are renewed in strength, courage and hope.

Amen

Dates for your diary:

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9.2.23 @ 10:00 am	Y3 Mass at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
10.2.23	Mini-Vinnies' cake sale					
12.2.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 2 at St. Gregory's Church					
13.2.23	Parents; Evening	Parents welcome				
17.2.23	End of Half Term					
27.2.23	School re-opens after Half Term					
2.3.23	World Book Day					
3.3.23	CAFOD's Family Fast Day					
9.3.23 @ 10:00 am	Y5 Mass at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
12.3.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 3 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
14.3.23	School Photographer					
15.3.23 @ 3:00 pm	EYs and KS1 Mothers' Day Liturgical Prayer	Parents welcome				
17.3.23	Comic Relief Day					
26.3.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 4 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
31.3.23	End of Spring Term					
17.4.23	School re-opens for Summer Term					
23.4.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 5 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
May 2023	KS1 SATs Test Period					
8.5.23	School Closed – Bank Holiday for coronation King					
	Charles III					
9.5.23 – 12.5.23	Y6 SATs week					
21.5.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 6 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
26.5.23	End of Half Term					
5.6.23	School re-opens after Half term					
11.6.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 7 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
5 th -23 rd June 2023	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check					
12 th -16 th June 2023	Y1 Phonics Screening Week					
24.6.23 @ 10:00 am	FHC Day at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
6.6.23	Sports Day					
2.7.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Going Forth Mass at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome				
20.7.23	End of Summer Term					

Please note that sometimes dates may be subject to change.

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	2023 - 2024 School Calendar																									
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School Closed/Holidays School Closed/Bank Holiday

School closed/INSET day