

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: October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had another wonderful week in school, where the children have impressed their teachers with their attitude to school life. I would like to congratulate the children who took part in last week's cross country and also our Year 6 football teams who have been in action this week setting an excellent example as true ambassadors for our school.

As always, please contact us if we can help in anyway or if you have any queries.

Mrs A. Dunne

September Intake 2024

We will be holding an open morning for prospective parents to come and have a look around school on Thursday 2nd November at 9:30 am. If you have a child, or know anyone, who is due to start school in September 2024, please feel free to come along.

Applications can be made through South Tyneside Council. Applications close at **4.30pm on Monday 15 January 2024.**

PLEASE NOTE SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS CLOSE AT 4.30PM ON TUESDAY 31 OCTOBER 2023.

Attendance

Attendance continues to be a priority in school, and we appreciate children will, at times, be sick. Please could we remind parents that if your child is off school for any reason you will need to let the school office know on the first day of sickness and for any other reason in advance. This can be done by ringing school on 0191 4552909. Please note that if you do not inform school, the office will contact you as part of our safeguarding procedures and a welfare visit may be carried out if we do not have contact.

School attendance this week:

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
99.23%	97.04%	97.6%	98.67%	98.67%	94.33%	96.97%
Overall school attendance 97.46%						

Safeguarding

Our new Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy is available on our school website.

Please do take time to look at our website. In the parents' tab there are lots of resources to help you keep your children safe online.

A reminder that our Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) are Mrs Dunne and Mrs Blackwood. In their absence, Mrs Squares is our deputy designated safeguarding lead.

Healthy School

As a healthy school we promote healthy eating and would request your co-operation in encouraging the children to bring healthy nutritious choices in their packed lunches. No fizzy drinks please and biscuits, cakes and crisps should be limited wherever possible.

Due to the fact we have children in school with allergies we request that there are no **eggs or nuts** allowed in packed lunches or snacks.

Children are also encouraged to bring a small bottle of water (not juice) to school to keep in the classroom. This bottle will be brought into school each day and taken home each night to be refilled.

KS2 children can bring a piece of fruit for morning break. KS1 receive fruit in school through a Government scheme.

We ask that no sweets or cakes should be brought into school to celebrate birthdays. This puts staff in a difficult position as we are unable to distribute them. Thank you in advance.

Live Sustainably

As some of you are aware we are working towards CAFOD's Live Simply award. As part of this project we are looking for ways to live sustainably. We have been inspired by Pope Francis' letter to save our common home and have a recycling bin in our school grounds. Please feel free to recycle any unwanted and unloved clothing, bags, shoes (pairs) and small toys for redistribution. We hope to share more information about the award over the coming months.

Harvest Collection

All food donated will be collected for the Key Project food bank.
Please do keep your donations coming in.

PSHE

The Ten Ten parent newsletter for October 2023 is available on our school website.

CAFOD

Thank you very much for your generosity – we raised £154.51 towards **CAFOD's** Harvest collection.

School and Parents Association (SAPA)

We are holding a coffee afternoon on Tuesday 10th October at 2:30 pm to discuss how we are going to move forward with SAPA.

As many of you are aware, Jeanette retired in the Summer Term so we are looking to recruit some new members to help us carry on the good work started by Jeanette. We will be looking to organise more fun, fund raising activities for our children. Please do come along if you are able.

The funds raised by SAPA go directly to help the children in our school. In the past year we have provided transport for school trips and subsidised things for the children that unfortunately our school budget cannot stretch to.

One of the easiest ways to raise money for our school with no extra cost to you is to sign up to www.easyfundraising.org.uk Through the easyfundraising app you can access websites including John Lewis, Amazon, Argos, M&S and many more retailers and they will give a FREE donation to our school.

Rosary

October is the month of the Holy Rosary. The children in Key Stage 2 are welcome to come and pray the Rosary on Friday lunchtimes at 12:30pm in the middle entrance. If you have a special intention or have anyone you would like us to remember in our prayers, there will be a box at the school office for you to place your petitions in.

Dates for your diary:

Please note that sometimes dates may be subject to change

10.10.23 @ 2:30pm	SAPA meeting	All welcome
11.10.23 @ 10:15am	Y4 Mini-Vinnies commissioning ceremony	Parents welcome
11.10.23 @ 3:00pm	Reception class welcome liturgical prayer with buddies	Parents welcome
12.10.23 @10:00am	Y6 to Mass at St. Gregory's church	Parents welcome
19.10.23	Y5 to Mass at St. Gregory's church	Parents welcome
20.10.23	School closes for half term at 3:30pm	
Half Term Holiday		
30.10.23	SCHOOL CLOSED for staff training	
31.10.23	School re-opens for all pupils	
2.11.23	New Reception Intake (2024) open morning for prospective parents	Parents welcome
3.11.23 @ 9:15am	Y1 and Y2 liturgical prayer	Parents welcome
6.11.23	Parents' Evening	Appointments will be available to book through the Teachers2parents App nearer the time
9.11.23	Y4 to Mass at St. Gregory's church	Parents welcome
10.11.23 @ 9:15am	Y3 and Y4 liturgical prayer	Parents welcome
13.11.23	Support plan review meetings	Class teachers will arrange these appointments
16.11.23	Y3 to Mass at St. Gregory's church	Parents welcome
17.11.23 @ 9:15am	Y5 and Y6 liturgical prayer	Parents welcome
27.11.23 – 1.12.23	Y6 to Thurston	
Date tbc	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Nativity	Parents welcome – tickets will be distributed nearer the time
13.12.23 @ 2:30pm	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Nativity	Parents welcome – tickets will be distributed nearer the time
18.12.23	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas party	
20.12.23	Y3 and Y4 Christmas party	
21.12.23	Y5 and Y6 Christmas party	
22.12.23	End of Autumn Term School closes at 1:15pm	
Christmas Holidays		
8.1.24	School re-opens for all pupils	

Statutory Assessment Dates 2024	
13 th - 16 th May 2023	KS2 SATs week
3 rd -14 th June 2023	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check
10 th -14 th June 2023	Y1 Phonics Screening Week