

# St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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



Website: [www.st-gregorys.co.uk](http://www.st-gregorys.co.uk)

Email: [office@st-gregorys.co.uk](mailto:office@st-gregorys.co.uk)

Newsletter: December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you know, we had our Ofsted inspection last week. As I am sure you can imagine, our children were fabulous. Thank you to parents too who found time to complete the online survey; it was lovely to receive such positive feedback. Many thanks also to our governors, Trust and diocese who were a great support and of course to our staff who always work so hard to ensure the very best for our children. I look forward to sharing the official report with you once it is published.

With every good wish.

Mrs A. Dunne

## Travelling Crib

During this season of Advent, when we prepare for the coming of Christ, children will be given the opportunity to bring home a 'travelling crib'. Everything needed will be sent home with the children to share the Christmas story with their families. So that all children can have this opportunity, we ask that the crib is returned to school the following day. Many thanks in anticipation of your support.

## Interim reports

Following parents' evening a couple of weeks ago you will already have some idea how your child/children is progressing. Next week you will receive an interim report for your child/children. If you feel you need to speak to your child's class teacher, please contact school to make an appointment.

## Weather warning

Please take care when dropping off/picking up your children. We ask that you follow the gritted pathways in the school yard. Thank you



### The Joy of the Gospel

DIOCESE OF Hexham & Newcastle  
VICARIATE FOR FAITH & MISSION

'I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; [...] No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord"' (#3)



## 'Tis the season...

Please take note of the diary dates at the end of this newsletter for the various celebrations and events we have organised over the coming weeks.

I know the children are very excited to share these important occasions with you and as always, we are grateful for your support.

## School and Parents Association (SAPA)

### Christmas raffle

Please return sold tickets and money to school before Friday 15th December. The raffle will be drawn at our Christmas craft day on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. Please put the name and year group of your child on the back of the strip along with the name of the person who has bought the ticket.

We appreciate Christmas is an expensive time for parents so would like to stress that you are under no obligation to sell the tickets.

If you are able to donate a raffle prize, please sent this into school with your child or drop it into the school office.

### Christmas Parties

We will be providing food for the Christmas parties and this year we are asking for a £1 donation towards this.

### Christmas craft day

We will be holding a Christmas craft day in school on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December. We have lots of festive activities planned and again ask for a donation of £1 towards the cost of resources. All children will have some goodies to bring home.

### Easy fundraising

Please consider joining <http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk> for your online shopping. It costs you absolutely nothing and by shopping through the App we receive a small donation from retailers (including Amazon, eBay, Marks & Spencer and Argos) if you order via [www.easyfundraising.org.uk](http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk). This helps support our school at no additional cost to you.

### Volunteers

We are always after volunteers to help in school. Any time you can give will be very welcome!

### What do we do with the money raised?

All monies raised go directly to benefit our children. We regularly subsidise transport on school trips including paying the cost of coach travel to and from Thurston. The money also goes to pay for Christmas and leavers' gifts along with helping to buy items that we would not normally be able to afford using our school budget. We cannot stress how important your support is.

Finally THANK YOU for your continuous support.

## Attendance

School attendance this week:

Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
97.69%	91.11%	93.2%	94.33%	94.67%	94%	95.15%

Please report any absences to the school office either by telephoning 0191 4552909 or email [office@st-gregorys.co.uk](mailto:office@st-gregorys.co.uk) before 9:30 am on the day of absence.

## Safeguarding

Our child friendly safeguarding and child protection policy is now available on our school website. 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.

## Dates for your diary:

*Please note that sometimes dates may be subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. We will endeavour to let you know of any changes as soon as possible.*

11.12.23 @ 2:30pm	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Nativity	Parents welcome – tickets have now been allocated
13.12.23 @ 2:30pm	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Nativity	Parents welcome – tickets have now been allocated
14.12.23	Christmas dinner and jumper day	
18.12.23	Reception, Y1 and Y2 Christmas party	
19.12.23	SAPA Christmas crafts day	
20.12.23	Y3 and Y4 Christmas party	
21.12.23	Y5 and Y6 Christmas party	
21.12.23 @ 7pm	Choir singing at Carols by candlelight at St. Gregory's church	Parents welcome
22.12.23	End of Autumn Term School closes at 1:15pm	
<b>Christmas Holidays</b>		
8.1.24	School re-opens for all pupils	

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