

# St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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

St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School  
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Newsletter no 4 Autumn Term

Headteacher: E. Shaughnessy

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2025

## Headteacher's Message

Dear Families,

It's been a busy few weeks here at St Gregory's, and there is so much to look forward to as we approach one of the best times of the liturgical year – the season of Advent.

Advent will soon be upon us, bringing a host of festive celebrations, prayerful moments, and opportunities for our children to come together to reflect on the true meaning of this special season. It is always a joyful and spiritually rich time in our school community. We especially look forward to welcoming you to our Advent Wreath services that are beautifully led by our Key Stage 2 classes.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

*Miss E. Shaughnessy*

Headteacher

## Staffing News

Mrs Squares will be leaving us in the coming weeks as she is taking up a secondment opportunity at another school within our Trust for the remainder of the academic year. We are incredibly grateful for all she has contributed to St Gregory's and wish her every success in this new exciting role. We are delighted to announce that Miss Chastney has been appointed as the Year 3 class teacher. We look forward to welcoming her to St Gregory's and know she will be a wonderful addition to our school community. We are also pleased to confirm that Miss Nolan has been appointed as the Year 1 class teacher and will be with us until the end of the year. She has already made a fantastic start and has settled in brilliantly. I know you will make them both feel incredibly welcome to our wonderful school.

## Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Parents' Evenings this week. It was wonderful to see so many of you engaging with your child's learning, celebrating their achievements, and discussing their progress with our teaching staff. If you have not yet made an appointment, please contact the school office as soon as possible and we will be happy to arrange a suitable time for you.

## Christmas Lunch

We are looking forward to celebrating **Christmas Lunch** and **Christmas Jumper Day** on **Thursday 11th December**. If you would like your child to have a school Christmas lunch on that day, please let **Mrs Peterson** in the school office know by 4<sup>th</sup> December.



## Nativity & Carol Service Attendance Forms

Our Christmas celebrations are fast approaching, and rehearsals for our Nativity and Carol Service are already underway—the children are doing brilliantly, and it promises to be a truly special event!

To help us ensure **everyone has a safe and comfortable experience**, we kindly ask parents and carers to complete the short form indicating **which performance(s)** you will be attending. Knowing numbers in advance is essential for **health and safety** and allows us to organise seating so that all families can enjoy the performances. You will be issued 2 tickets per family – these will be sent home in advance.

Thank you for your cooperation—we can't wait to share these wonderful moments with you.

## Holiday Requests

At St Gregory's, we understand that families may occasionally need to take time away from school for a range of reasons. To help us manage requests efficiently, we kindly ask parents and carers to complete a leave of absence form **at least two weeks in advance** for any planned time away, including holidays.

While we fully appreciate that holidays can be more affordable during term time, please be aware that **Headteachers are only able to authorise leave in exceptional circumstances** and cannot approve requests retrospectively. In most cases, holidays or trips taken for leisure would not meet the criteria for exceptional circumstances.

Regular attendance is extremely important for children's learning, progress and confidence, and time away from school can have an impact on this. We are grateful for your support in helping us maintain high attendance for all children.

If you have any questions or need guidance, please contact the school office—we are always here to help.

## School Uniform

At St Gregory's, we ask that all children follow our clear uniform expectations at all times. **Most children come to school looking very smart each day**, and we are proud of the way they represent our school community.

Wearing the correct uniform helps our pupils feel confident, prepared for learning, and part of our shared identity.

If you ever need support with uniform, please don't hesitate to contact the school office—we have spare items available and are always happy to help.

Teachers will carry out daily checks to ensure children's uniform is in line with our policy. Thank you for your continued support in helping our pupils look their best each day.