



St. Gregory's Newsletter

Headteacher's Message

15th December 2025

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 most joyful times of the year – the season of Christmas. It has been wonderful to see so many of you at our Advent Wreath services. This week, we are delighted that Year 5 and Year 6 will be leading these beautiful celebrations. Christmas is always a joyful and spiritually rich time in our school community, and we are grateful to share these moments with you. Thank you for your attendance at the Nativities, carol services, and the Christmas Fayre – your support makes these events so special for the children and the whole school community. As we prepare to break up for the holidays, we wish you and your families a peaceful and joyful Christmas. May this season bring you hope, happiness, and time to rest and celebrate together. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Miss E. Shaughnessy
Headteacher

Upcoming Events

Year 5 Advent Wreath – 15th Dec
–3.10pm

Year 6 Advent Wreath –18th Dec
–3.10pm

Christmas Disco – 17th Dec –all day

School will close for the Christmas holidays on Friday 19th December at 1pm. We return on Monday 5th January 2026.

A Christmas Prayer

Lord Jesus,

As we celebrate Your birth,
fill our hearts with peace, joy, and love.
Help us to remember the true meaning of
Christmas and to share kindness with
everyone we meet.

Bless our families, friends, and school
community, and keep us safe in Your care.
Amen.

The annual 'Carols by Candlelight' at St Gregory's church is at 7pm on Wednesday 17th December. The children from our KS2 choir will delight us all. Come and join us for a joyous celebration of the Christmas story and be our guests for mulled wine, teas, coffees and mince pies afterwards in the hall. Any donations from the evening will go into the church Outreach Fund to help various causes in the local community.

See you there!

We are thrilled to share that our Christmas Fayre raised an incredible £1,600! This amazing achievement wouldn't have been possible without the generosity and support of our wonderful school community. A special thank you to SAPA for their hard work and dedication, and to everyone who donated prizes, baked goods, and gave their time to make the event such a success. Your contributions help us provide fantastic opportunities and resources for our children.

We truly appreciate your continued support!

Christmas Masses

Christmas Vigil 6.30pm Sacred Heart (Carols at 6pm)

Christmas Morning 9am St Gregory's church & 10.30am St. Oswald's church.
Children are welcome to bring a toy along on Christmas morning to be blessed.

We're proud to share some exciting news!

St Gregory's has been awarded the **CAFOD LiveSimply Award**. This special recognition celebrates our efforts to live simply, care for creation, and show solidarity with those in need. Thank you to our pupils, staff, and families for supporting the projects and initiatives that made this possible.

Together, we are making a real difference!

LiveSimplyAward

CAFOD The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development

Staffing Update -January 2026

As Mrs. Squares leaves us for her secondment at another Trust school, we warmly welcome Mrs. Campbell to the Senior Leadership Team. She will join me, Miss Watson and Mrs. Douglas. Together, we are committed to ensuring every child thrives and feels valued at St Gregory's.

Class Newsletters

Class Newsletters for spring term will be sent home during the week commencing **Monday 5th January.**

- Year 4 Swimming begins on Monday 5th January. An email with full details will be sent to Year 4 families.

PE Days:

- Nursery and Reception have PE on a Monday with Little Movers.
- Year 1 – Year 6 (except Year 4) have PE on a Tuesday with Mr. Morris.
- Each class will have second PE session with their teacher and this day will be included on the class newsletter and will resume from Monday 12th January.



On the first day of Clickmas, my child said to me, “Can I have that new device, app or game?”

Parental settings are really important for everyone to understand, it's useful to know what controls you can have and how you can keep the whole family **safe** online

First look at what settings you can put in place on your home Wi-Fi, then on your devices and then on the games and apps your children use

Many platforms allow you to set limits and restrictions, explore these tools together so your children see this as a shared responsibility, not just a set of rules

This three-step approach will **filter** out most of the harmful content while you continue to **monitor** the content they are accessing

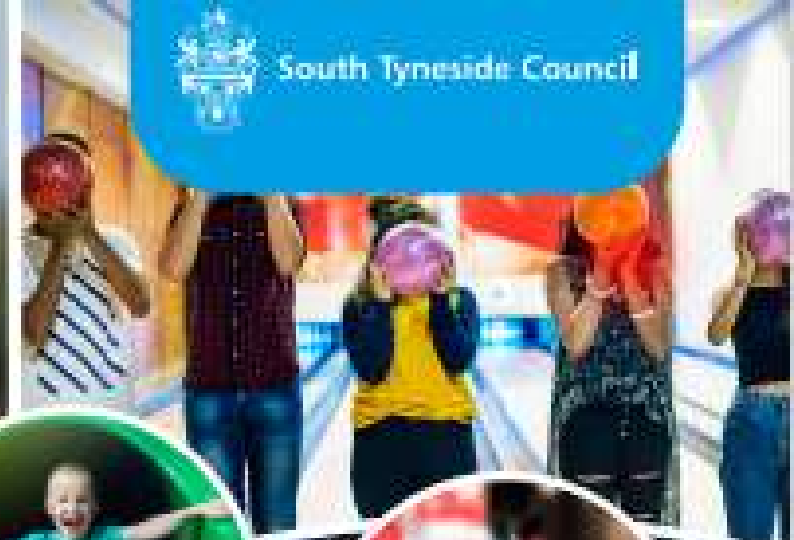
Learn more:

*[www.internetmatters.org/
parental-controls/](http://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/)*





South Tyneside Council



Holiday Activities + Food



**MONDAY 22ND DECEMBER
UNTIL SUNDAY 4TH JANUARY 2026**

For young people aged 5-16 years (18 SEND) and
in receipt of benefit related free school meals.

For more information and eligibility please call

0191 424 0118, email haf@southtyneside.gov.uk

or visit www.southtyneside.gov.uk/holidayclub

Bookings will start to open from
Wednesday 19th November from 3.30pm

**TO BOOK
SCAN ME**



Partnership



Department
for Education



SEND
LOCAL OFFER



FIRST CONTACT CLINICAL
ENABLING HEALTHY CHANGE



Sleep Safe, Dream Big Project

Did you know that 30,000–40,000 children don't have a bed of their own?

Could a family you work with benefit from extra support?

How to identify families in need of support

- Does each child in the household have a bed?
- Are beds suitable for the child's age?
- Is each bed in good condition (no sagging, no dampness or infestation)?
- Is there enough space for safe sleep?

What can we support with?

We will complete a healthy homes assessment and if the need is identified we will provide an age appropriate bed with mattress and bedding.

How to access the project:

☎ 0191 4329838 and ask for a healthy homes assessment.

@ Email us at fcc.lifestyle@nhs.net

HELP EVERY CHILD DREAM BIG!