

# St. Gregory's News



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

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Facebook: [@stgregorysrcschool](https://www.facebook.com/stgregorysrcschool)

December 2020

## Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for helping us to keep everyone as safe as possible and observing social distancing measures when dropping off and picking up your children.

This term is always one of my favourites and while we cannot celebrate 'Christmas' in the way we usually would we do have some plans in place to ensure that the spirit of Christmas is well and truly alive for all of the children.

God bless,  
Mrs Dunne



## Advent Prayers

Last Sunday we celebrated the first Sunday in Advent. During the season of Advent children will be saying prayers in class bubbles. As we journey towards Christmas we will of course be remembering all the names of your loved ones on our Christmas stars.

## Christmas Cards

This year the children are invited to sign a class card instead of bringing in individual cards for friends. We hope that the money families save on buying packs of cards may be given as a donation to CAFOD.

As a school we did take part in a competition to design the Mayor's Christmas card and although we did not win, we were delighted to hear that one of our entries won a runners up prize – well done to Niamh in Year 3!

## Christmas Fair

SAPA have been working tirelessly to organise our spectacular Christmas Fair. Raffle tickets were sent out last week and have started coming back into school already. If you need any more tickets then please contact the school office. We are still taking donations for our Christmas Fair so if you have anything suitable then please drop off to the school office.

## Christmas Parties

Children will be celebrating in their bubbles this year. We ask that children come to school in their party clothes – the children will still be playing outside so a warm coat and suitable shoes need to be worn. If you can, please send a voluntary contribution of £1 towards the children's party tea.

## Christmas Dinner

If you usually bring a packed lunch and want to have a Christmas lunch, then please inform Mrs Rochford in the office as soon as possible.



## Governor Update

I am delighted to inform you that Louise Hassen is our new parent governor, Nadia McSheffrey and Andrew Peel are our new foundation governors and Mrs Blackwood is our new staff governor. We would like to thank all our school governors for the work they do to support everyone at St. Gregory's.

## Uniform

Due to classrooms having windows open for ventilation it can be cold in school. Please encourage your child to wear a vest/t-shirt under their uniform especially as the weather becomes cooler. Children should come to school in their PE kit on the days they have PE. All children should be wearing their school sweatshirt or cardigan along with jogging bottoms and outdoor trainers. Our children always look exceptionally smart in their uniforms, but we have noticed that on PE days some children are wearing their own hoodies and sweatshirts rather than their school sweatshirts or cardigans.



## End of the School Day

The morning drop off routine works very well and the end of day continues to be a success. As we are now used to this new normal, we believe we can get all classes out of school before 3.40pm. Therefore next term Years 3 and 4 will leave school at 3.30pm and Years 5 and 6 will be ready to leave as soon as the corridor clears. Thank you once again for your continued support at this challenging time.



## Reading Challenge

A huge thank you to you for ensuring the success of the recent Book Fair. To build on this success, we will be encouraging all our children to complete a Christmas reading challenge. Children will be given small tasks to complete both at home and in school. The Christmas reading challenge record card can be returned in January and children will be awarded a Christmas reading challenge certificate for their hard work and effort.

## Social Media

Our new school Facebook page is a great source of information that highlights some of the fantastic work that goes on in our school. Please note, if you need to get in touch with school or pass on a message then please contact the school office as normal. We are unable to reply to private messages sent through Facebook.



## Admissions for school places for September 2021

You will find our admissions policy on our school website and as we are unable to invite parents into school at this time, we have a short slideshow to show you our fabulous Reception class. If you know any parents of children who are due to start school in September 2020 please pass this information on to them. Please note the **closing date** for primary applications is **4.30pm on 15th January 2021**. For more information see [www.southtyneside.gov.uk](http://www.southtyneside.gov.uk)

## Dates for your Diary:

11.12.20	SAPA Christmas Fair for children	17.12.20	Christmas Lunch and Christmas Jumper Day
14.12.20	EY, Y1 & Y2 Christmas Party	18.12.20	End of Term
15.12.20	Y3 & Y4 Christmas Party	4.1.21	School Closed – Staff training
16.12.20	Y5 & Y6 Christmas Party	5.1.21	Children back to school