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 2 Autumn 2 Acting Headteacher: E.Shaughnessy Tuesday 8th October 2024

Upcoming Diary Dates

Tuesday 8th October 2024 9.30am Maths Café -Parents Welcome Y1 and Y2

Thursday10th October 2024 9.30am EYFS Phonics Meeting for parents (Reception)

Thursday 10th October 2024 10.10am Healthy Minds Assembly

Thursday 10th October 2024 10am Y6 @ Mass –St. Gregory's Church

Friday 11th October 2024 9.10am Pastoral House Group – St. Gregory's Way Value -Respect

Monday 14th October 2024 Y5 Visit to Jarrow Hall – all day

Acting Headteacher's Message

Dear families,

What a busy few weeks it has been! Some of our children have taken part in a mini Great North Run event 'Fit for the Finish', explored Black History month, taken part in Roald Dahl day activities as well as participating in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. This academic year is certainly going to be busy! A huge thank you for the wonderful turn out at the Maths curriculum cafes over the last few weeks too; I have been trying to get into as many as possible to say hello to you all. I hope that they have been helpful to you and you have a deeper understanding of the maths curriculum expectations and how you can support them at home.

With every good wish,

Miss E. Shaughnessy

Staffing News

We would like to congratulate Miss. Nicholson who recently got married. We wish Mr. and Mrs. Jones a lifetime of happiness.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Miss. Cross who left us to pursue a career in the community teaching adults. We hope that you will join us in wishing her all the best for the future. We are currently in the process of recruiting a Teaching Assistant to work in our Reception class.

Pupil Leadership Roles

After some amazing speeches and some tough decisions, we appointed our Head Boy and Head Girl for 2024. Our congratulations go to Annabelle and Bodhi in Y6 who have been selected to take on the roles. They were both appointed following a democratic voting system which involved writing and delivering speeches to staff and pupils. The pupils in each class then voted who they would like to represent the school. It was a tough decision as all of the candidates did their best! The position of Head Boy and Head Girl is an extremely important one and we know they will do a fantastic job!

We have also elected our Y6 'House Captains' Charlie, Erin, Oliva and Alayna who will

lead our Pastoral House group meetings this term. These pupils, alongside our Head Boy and Head Girl will meet regularly with Miss. Shaughnessy where they will plan activities for the whole school to be involved in and act as a voice, feeding information back to their peers in pastoral house group meetings.

Holy Rosary

Catholics around the world dedicate the month of October to the Most Holy Rosary, primarily because the Feast of Our Lady of the Holy Rosary is celebrated each year on 7th October. Our Head Boy, Head Girl an House Captains led a beautiful Celebration of the Word to mark this special Feast Day on Monday. During the month of October, we will be inviting the children to join us each day as we pray the Rosary together and reflect on each of the mysteries. We invite you to do the same and take part in The Rosary Challenge (link). If you do take part, we would love to celebrate this in school so please do share any photographs or prayers!

Mass at St. Gregory's Church

Pupils from Year 2 to Year 6 will attend Mass during autumn term at St. Gregory's church. This will be on a weekly rota basis starting on Thursday 9th October at 10am with our Year 6 class. All families are welcome to join us. Please consent on Arbor for your child to attend. If you can accompany us on the walk to church please let your child's class teacher know.

Contacting school

As a reminder, if you want to contact staff in school, please do so via the parent email only:

tgj-parentenquiries@bccet.org.uk

If you have sent a message to your child's teacher and have not had a reply, please resend this via the parent email address above. Thank you!

Harvest Festival Donations

This year we are asking for donations of food to support our local food bank- The Key Project. Please send any donations of tinned, dried or non-perishable foods into school from 9th October. We will be accepting donations daily until 21st October.



We look forward to welcoming you into school to our EYFS & Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Harvest Celebration of the Word services in the next few weeks. Please see dates attached. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Football Teams

Congratulations to our boys and girls who made the football teams: Match Day fixtures and Football News will be shared in a separate bulletin soon!

Asda Rewards cash pot for schools

As you may have seen on social media, Asda have launched a new initiative to raise money for schools. If you log onto your Asda Rewards app, you can nominate St. Gregory's and raise money for our school at no cost to yourself. School will receive £1 for every person who signs up, plus 0.5% of qualifying purchases made before 30/11/2024! Please consider signing up and recruiting family/friends to help us raise as much money as we can before the deadline!

St. Gregory's Standard

This term, we introduced our 'St. Gregory's Standards' to our pupils, this explains what we expect of our pupils every day in their work. Information on this is available on our website -St-Gregorys-Standard

Use of play equipment



For health and safety reasons, can parents ensure that their children do not use or climb on the play equipment before school and at the end of the school day.

Whole School Attendance

We are so proud of the overall attendance of pupils at St. Gregory's. We are so passionate that all children attend school every single day, as attendance is so vitally important to children's success at school.

Although we aim for 100% attendance, each year we set a target of at least 97% attendance. If your child has over 5 days of absence across the whole school year, then they will not achieve this target. You can make the biggest impact on your child's attendance, and we appreciate your help in trying to achieve this.

In line with Government guidance, the policy is that leave of absence during term time will only granted in the most exceptional circumstances. We take a firm stance in not authorising holidays during term time due to the impact that this has on pupils' education. Please see the attached document regarding the changes to school attendance regulations for 2024/5.

If you have any worries or concerns about your child's attendance, please contact the school office and we can support you.

Please see below for last week's class attendance:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
99.23%	94%	100%	92%	91%	99.23%	94%

Congratulations to Year 2 who achieved perfect attendance last week! They get an extra play session in the MUGA. Well done!

	Packed lunches A reminder that we are a NUT FREE school; we do have children in school with nut allergies and we need to protect them. If 'nuts' are part of the ingredients then the items cannot be in school. We are a healthy school and as such, we encourage healthy packed lunches. Please be mindful of the number of sweet products in your child's packed lunch.