DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 23rd April
Staff Training Day

Wednesday 24th April
Start of Term

Tuesday 30th April
Y7/Y8 Maths Challenge
PCSO McAdams in Augustine Centre

Mon 29th April - Friday 3rd May
Y10 Examinations

Monday 6th May
Spring Bank Holiday
School Closed

Tues 7th May - Fri 10th May
Y10 Examinations continue

Wed 8th May - Thurs 9th May
GCSE Art Controlled examinations

Friday 10th May
Y11 Pre-Exam Mass 9.30 a.m.

Week Beginning 13th May
See website for details
Mental Health Week - Body Image

Thursday 23rd May
Y8 Vaccinations

Friday 24th May
End of Term

Monday 3rd June

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This term has been highly successful and busy for our school community. I am proud to be once again reflecting on the success and achievements of the pupils of St Gregory’s, enjoying many awards achieved both individually and collectively such as the retaining of our Platinum Anti-Bullying Award through our ‘Positive Footprint’ Campaign. Our girls have successfully represented the school in the Unilever ‘Girls in STEM’ competition and we have enjoyed sporting successes with our teams too.

There have been many significant events this term including an array of extracurricular activities and trips both nationally and abroad. The pupils have been busy supporting many charities and raising awareness of important social issues to create a better environment in which everyone can thrive.

In February we hosted a huge careers event with over 50 employers and colleges in attendance who were keen to attract the pupils of St Gregory’s to their colleges and organisations in years to come.

Our pupils were exposed to many opportunities, both academically and socially and they embrace these opportunities well.

In our recent inspection by the Archdiocese of Liverpool under Section 48 of the Education Act, which reviews the Catholic Life of the school and the quality of Religious Education the school was graded as Outstanding in every category. This is particularly pleasing for the school community because the report, which is available in full on our school website under the ‘About us/Philosophy and Ethos’ section, highlights how the pupils of our school embrace our ethos and are being developed as well rounded individuals.

We all work under the same ethos of ‘one family inspired to learn’ and parents of St Gregory’s continue to be a key strength in our continued development and I know I can rely on your support in relation to GCSE timetables, home revision and attendance at school intervention sessions over the holiday period for our Y11 pupils. I am particularly grateful to my staff who have remained dedicated and committed to ensuring every pupil is fully prepared for the summer examinations.

It is at this time of year that we prepare to celebrate Easter and reflect on a time of renewal. I hope that you and your families have a safe and restful holiday period and I look forward to a successful summer term.

Mr McGlinchey

CATHOLIC LIFE AND CHAPLAINCY

New Chapel Artwork Competition

Congratulations to the winners of our Chapel Artwork Competition, Kylie Cao (7 Teresa) and Tilly Connolly (8 More). Their designs have been sent to Liverpool Cathedral, as a basis for a bespoke tapestry, that is being made for our new Chapel. Thanks to all who entered!

Raising money for CAFOD and The Peace Foundation.

The Y7 and Y8 Chaplaincy teams hold a bake sale for CAFOD and the Peace Foundation. The Chaplaincy teams have met during this half term to talk about what we can do differently during Lent and following the ‘Give it up for CAFOD’ Appeal, we have managed to raise money for CAFOD through collections and other fundraising activities.

Reconciliation Services

Liverpool Archdiocese Youth Service ‘Animate’ visited school this term to provide Reconciliation services for our Y7, Y8 and Y9 pupils. These are a great opportunity for reflection during Lent and we were lucky enough to be joined by Fr Dave, Fr Austin and Canon Christopher, who were available for confessions throughout the day.

Remember: All pupils must be in school by 8.40 a.m. at the latest
The Drama Department would like to sincerely thank all colleagues who have supported our trips outside of the classroom this term. They could not go ahead without you.

Y10 GCSE Drama Residential: The Conway Centre, Menai

On Friday 8th March Y10 GCSE pupils travelled to the beautiful island of Anglesey for the weekend. Pupils however, were too busy being highly creative to step outside to enjoy the beautiful surroundings! Staff were very proud of how pupils engaged with each workshop and pupils are to be praised for their willingness to work so well with pupils from other schools. Sessions included: physical theatre, scripted drama, puppetry and movement. The Drama department have already booked St Gregory’s in for the same time next year, so if you are currently in Y9 and have opted for GCSE Drama...put the date in your diary!

GCSE Drama Theatre Visit ‘Noughts and Crosses’ by Malorie Blackman adapted by Pilot Theatre Company at The Lowry.

“Just remember, Callum when you’re floating up and up in your bubble, that bubbles have a habit of bursting. The higher you climb, the further you have to fall.” ‘Noughts and Crosses’

WORKING WITH OUR PARTNER PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Subject Workshops

This term, there have been workshops in Art (St Joseph’s and Sacred Heart), Food Technology (Sacred Heart), English (Sacred Heart), Mathematics (Sacred Heart and St Vincent’s) and Spanish (St Benedict’s).

Y5 pupils at Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School have enjoyed a series of maths workshops with Mrs Scott to help them to develop mathematical resilience and problem solving. The pupils showed great determination and demonstrated some excellent number skills. Well done to all pupils involved.

Question and Answer Sessions

We have visited several primary schools and enjoyed some lively, informative and challenging question and answer sessions with Y5 pupils. They will be continuing to work with our Primary Partners after the holidays. Thank you all for your warm welcome!

Mr McGlinchey and Mrs Dolphin

“Thank you for giving up your valuable time, answering our questions and thank you for coming to our school. We are very excited to join St Gregory’s.”

Katie Sullivan St. Paul of the Cross

‘Altru’ – Inspiring us all to be the best Theatre Makers!

The department were extremely fortunate to be offered a slot for GCSE pupils to watch ‘Squad Goals’ performed by Theatre in Education company ‘Altru’ – totally free of charge! The performance explored mental health issues from the perspective of five young characters and their differing experiences of depression, anxiety, suicide and self-harm. The style by which sensitive themes were communicated gave us all a lot to discuss and reflect upon. The icing on the cake however, was a Q & A at the end of the production which allowed pupils to find out more about the process of devising and creating original theatre. This is ahead of pupils embarking on creating their own original dramas ready to be performed at the beginning of July as part of their GCSE course.

Hilarious Physical Theatre for all! ‘The 39 Steps’ by John Buchan adapted by Patrick Barlow

Our last trip of this term involved over a 100 pupils from Y8 to Y11. We arrived in good time at The New Vic Theatre in Stoke to take our seats to watch this slap-stick melodrama unfold. Pupils were highly entertained by the four skilled actors playing well over fifty characters. This was a great way for pupils to engage and learn about their set text.

We wish our Y11’s all the best in their examination in May and hope this experience will support them with their written responses. Pleasingly, we had many positive comments about the behaviour and conduct of our pupils from members of the public who were in the audience.

Ms Chapell and Miss O’Connor

GCSE POD

The top users in each year group are: Andrew Fiddler and Joseph Milner (Y9), Thomas Houghton and Griffith Williams (Y10) and Isabella Kressel and Rione Williams (Y11).

Mr Jones

Suicide Awareness Campaign

Penketh Medical Centre/ Papyrus are holding a Suicide Awareness Campaign for young people on Tuesday 9th April within our GP surgery at Honiton Way Penketh. Anyone is welcome to attend for support, advice and general enquiries.

Liz Jones Public Health Champion / Medical Receptionist

Telephone 01925 725644

Don’t forget to bring your spare foreign currency to the LRC after the Holidays! Coins = books!
LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRE

World Book Day Celebrations  
March 7th, 2019
The Annual Team Quiz, on Wednesday March 6th, proved to be a great start to our World Book Day activities. It was a hotly contested competition with Mrs Salter’s Y8 team, ‘Super Salter Squad’ the worthy winners. The winners of the best team name was Miss Franklin’s team for ‘The Frankenstein’s’ and the best team mascot was ‘Oliver Twist’, Mr McLeod’s team.

On World Book Day, the LRC was transformed into the world of Mary Poppins by P.L. Travers with themed activities and the ever popular cake stall. All money raised will buy books for the LRC.

The winners of the competitions are:
**Guess the spoonfuls of sugar in the jar:**  
Kian Dusic 7 Kolbe
**WBD Quiz:**  
Ellie Hadwin 7 Kolbe
**Guess the Name of the Penguin:**  
Miss Clare
**Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious:**  
Nicole Tolo 7 Julian with over 60 words!

Match the teachers with their Powerful book choice:  
Wiktor Wijtala 9 Campion with over 60 matches!

It was an enjoyable day shining the spotlight on the rewards of reading for pleasure.

In other news,
**LRC Competition winners:**  
**Film and TV Activities**  
Ava Larkin-Williams 7 Plessington
Charlotte Hudd 9 Campion

**A Midsummer Night’s Dream Quiz**  
Eleanor Coutts 7 Fisher

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who took part.

Mrs Mason/Mrs Huckerby

EMOTIONAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

CSE Awareness Day
To mark CSE Awareness Day, all pupils were shown an award-winning film created by school children highlighting the importance of staying safe. Parents/carers were also sent a leaflet about the wider issue of plastic. The best posters will be given to our Eco-Team and displayed around the school to help raise awareness.

The winner was Erika Moulds (7 More) for her poster entitled ‘Don’t cause a Commotion in our Ocean’.

Runners up were Ellie Hadwin (7 Kolbe) and Chloee Brandwood (7 Winefride).

Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who took part.

Ms Bond

No Smoking Day – 13th March, 2019
A team of Youth Health Champions spent the day raising awareness of the dangers of smoking. All pupils watched a presentation during form time and there were information stands in the canteen at lunchtime. The team also held a cake sale raising £118 for the Roy Castle Lung Cancer Foundation.

**Kooth**
Jude Leng from Kooth came into school to speak with all Year Groups about the support they can access via the internet and details explaining how to contact counsellors and other forms of support.

**Staff Wellbeing Twilight Session**
This term, all staff attended a session to look at our vision as a school going forward, plans for the next academic year to improve work/life balance and to simply engage in team based activities to know each other better.

Congratulations to the winners of the team quiz and thank you to the PFA for their continued support, in particular Ade Cunliffe, for hosting the event and to all staff who provided wellbeing prizes and the buffet.

ART COMPETITION
This term the Art Department ran a competition for Y7 pupils to create a poster that makes us think about ‘plastic pollution’ and its effects on the ocean or the wider issue of plastic. The best posters will be given to our Eco-Team and displayed around the school to help raise awareness.

Well done to everyone who took part.

Ms Bond

CONGRATULATIONS

Well done to our pupils who were eligible for our Spring Draw Rewards. These are the pupils with consistently Outstanding/Good attitudes to their learning and excellent attendance records. Certificates were awarded and names generated on our ‘random selector’ meant ten pupils in each Year Group received an Easter egg.

We are very proud of you all as SEAL Ambassadors for our School.

The Pastoral Team

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Mrs Mason/Mrs Huckerby
In February, our annual Careers Event took place in the Sports Hall. The day long event was attended by an extensive variety of colleges, businesses and training providers from which our pupils were able to gather a range of information about their future options.

It was wonderful to see so many former pupils representing their colleges and places of work and offering guidance about further education and careers!

Well done to everyone who took part and thank you to everyone who attended.

Remember to check the website and our Careers Noticeboard for up-to-date information and advice about your future options.

Miss McLenaghan (Careers Leader)

Be Nice Bus pays a visit!

On Wednesday March 20th, we were thrilled to welcome the ‘Be Nice Bus’ as part of the Princess Diana Anti-bullying Campaign. Y8 pupils had the opportunity to learn more about valuable Anti-Bullying work and learn skills to support their training to become ‘Anti Bullying’ Peer Mentors.

There were sessions about cyberbullying and online safety and a guest appearance from SELMA.

FOOTBALL TRIP TO MADRID

Thirty-one Y8 and Y9 boys attended a football visit to Madrid during February half term. The visit included training sessions at Ciudad Real Madrid, stadium tours of the Santiago Bernabeu and Wanda Metropolitano, matches against Madrid based opposition, visits to Madrid City Centre and attending Real Madrid's 2-1 defeat to Girona. The boys were superbly behaved and a great time was had by all. Special mentions to Joe Millington for entertaining the crowds and to Mr Swaine and Mr Johnson for giving up their time to allow the visit to go ahead!

Mr Egan

“I really enjoyed all the discussions we had and all the interactive things we did.” Sofia Gore 8F

“We were honoured to be awarded Positive Footprint awards after delivering our sessions. Incredible work done by your Anti Bullying team!”

BACK OF THE NET

Rugby

The Y8 team have been playing in the North West Shield competition. They topped their group winning both their games. This led to a quarter final against Cowley. The game was played on a wet and windy day and St Gregory’s started well taking the lead with an early try. Some handling errors meant that Cowley had a lot of the ball and, despite a spirited effort in defence, they could not keep Cowley out. The boys have played well this season and with further training they will continue to improve.

Well done to everyone who has played!

Football

In football we are in the process of completing the league fixtures. The Y7 team have had an excellent season and through the leadership of Mr Wiles, have won all bar one game. This will hopefully see them make the final. The Y8’s have had a mixed year with management changes not helping them. A big thanks to Mr Johnson and Mr Giles for leading them this half term. Y9’s have again excelled and have won all bar one game; Mr Egan will be hoping to make another appearance on finals day. Mrs Cotter-Day and Nathan have led the Y10 team in their weekly training sessions helping them to a great win against Great Sankey.

Y10 Football Team

Well done to all pupils who have been involved in games this season. A huge thanks to staff who have given up their time to manage teams.

Mr Egan

Mr Wiles

SAFEGUARDING

DSL is Mrs Howard-Rigby (Pastoral Deputy Head Teacher) Safeguarding Governor is Mr. Roger Harrison.

Warrington Duty and Assessment Team: 01925 443400
(Working Hours)/01925 444400 (Out of Hours)

NSPCC 0808 800 5000

ChildLine: 0800 1111

Cheshire Constabulary: 101

Samaritans 08457 909090

The Safeguarding Newsletter Spring 2019 is now available on the school website