

St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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

Website: www.st-gregorys.co.uk

Email: office@st-gregorys.co.uk



Newsletter: March 2023 issue 2

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Easter holidays are here and I hope you have time to celebrate this season with friends and family. The children and staff have worked so hard this term! Can I, as always, thank the entire school community for your support and I must say it has been wonderful to see so many parents in school this last term.

At this time of year, we think about the suffering and death of Jesus. He lived his life with a message of compassion, of equality and of love for the poor. He died at the hands of injustice. Jesus is an example of the battle between good and evil; the battle of love and selfishness. This battle goes on inside of us too. As we move towards Holy Week, we pray that God may overcome evil in our world, that justice may overcome injustice, and that love will overcome selfishness in our own lives.



Wishing you all a very happy and Holy Easter.

Mrs Dunne

Safeguarding

If you have any safeguarding concerns, please speak to Mrs Dunne or Mrs Blackwood, who are our designated safeguarding leads. In their absence, Mrs Squares is our deputy designated safeguarding lead.

Music Festival

Our choir and Y1 children performed at this year's music festival. As I am sure you can imagine they were absolutely fabulous. Thank you to all our children who performed and particular thanks to Miss Lammonby, Miss Christie, Mrs Squares, Miss Nicholson and of course Mr Richardson who helped to make this event so special.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Congratulations to the Y4 children, who received the sacrament of reconciliation for the very first time this month. Thank you to Mrs Blackwood who has helped to prepare the children and also to Fr Keith for his ongoing support. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they continue their journey towards making their First Holy Communion.

Chadwick's Kitchen

After the Easter holidays, there will be a new menu available – this can be accessed on our school website or the Trust's website: bccet.org.uk/chadwicks-kitchen/

Your child will also receive a paper copy of the new menu to bring home.

Sports Day

You may have noticed that we have brought the date of Sports Day forward this year. We know that this is a day when families look forward to coming into school to share in the excitement and many of you were disappointed last year when this was cancelled. Hopefully bringing the date forward will afford us time to rearrange in the unlikely event we need to cancel again. Families are more than welcome to attend and SAPA have kindly offered to make refreshments available.

In the past Sports Day was also when SAPA would hold our Summer Fair, however, due to the timing this year, we will be having our Summer Fair on Friday 14th July.

Staff emails

We kindly request that all parents and carers consider the wellbeing of our staff when contacting them outside of school hours. Please note that our staff are not always able to reply immediately to emails and often due to teaching commitments may not see messages until the end of the school day. If you need to send an email to your child's class teacher, please email the school office: office@st-gregorys.co.uk

Coronation Day

We will be marking King Charles III's coronation on Friday 5th May 2023. There will be a celebration party lunch and children are welcome to come into school dressed in red, white and blue. If you do not usually stay for school lunch and would like to on this day, please inform Mrs Rochford so that we can order the correct number of lunch boxes.

Live Simply

You may have noticed that we now have a clothes bank on site. Fundraise and Recycle Limited is a north-east based family company, that specialise in the recycling of unwanted and unloved clothing and goods for collection and redistribution. We strongly believe that now, more than ever before, young people are interested in recycling and in the effect wastage has on the planet. The project will seek to engage school children and young people in recycling unwanted clothes, shoes and textiles whilst at the same time raising funds for your school. All of the good quality clothing which we receive is re-sold, re-used or recycled, helping to lessen the impact of waste on the environment. As a company, we act responsibly with all of the goods we collect and our dedicated, fully trained staff will ensure that no unnecessary waste goes to landfill.

School trips

We try to ensure that our children have a wide experience of the world around them. Staff arrange educational visits to enhance and enrich the curriculum and all classes are given the opportunity to attend many sporting competitions and festivals.

We ask for a voluntary contribution from parents toward these visits to cover entry and transport costs. As a school, we try to keep costs down for families and we do subsidise most visits. We understand that increases to the cost of living makes things more difficult for families and we have recently seen a decrease in voluntary contributions. Please be aware that while no child will be excluded from a trip or visit, the activity may not take place if insufficient contributions are made.

Consent for trips

Please can we ask that you give consent through ParentPay for any trips or visits. We do our best and try to send reminders but we do not always have the capacity in the office to chase up missing consents. We cannot take your child out of school without your consent and this may mean that your child would need to stay in school if we have not received consent.

Thank you in advance for your support.

SAPA

Thank you to everyone who has helped make our Easter raffle a success. We received an amazing amount of chocolate egg donations and we have raised £459.00 As usual a fantastic team effort!

Please sign up to [Easy Fundraising](#) for your online shopping – every time you spend online with a variety of retailers (including Amazon, Marks and Spencer and Argos), they will make a small donation to school. This helps support our school at no additional cost to you.

Attendance

Attendance remains a high priority in school. It is essential that children are in school every day where possible and also arrive on time for 8:55am, so they are settled in class and not missing any valuable learning time. We aim for all children to have at least 97% attendance. Please ensure your child is at school every day if possible, but if they are unwell please contact the school office to inform us.

Dates for your diary:

Please note that sometimes dates may be subject to change

31.3.23	End of Spring Term	
17.4.23	SCHOOL RE-OPENS FOR SUMMER TERM	
19.4.23	Y4 visit to Life Science Centre	
23.4.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 5 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
25.4.23	Y6 Everyone Worries session	
May 2023	KS1 SATs Test Period	
5.5.23	Coronation Day	
8.5.23	School Closed – Bank Holiday for coronation King Charles III	
9.5.23 – 12.5.23	Y6 SATs week	
18.5.23 @ 10:00 am	Y6 Mass at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
21.5.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 6 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
26.5.23	End of Half Term	
5.6.23	SCHOOL RE-OPENS AFTER HALF TERM	
11.6.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Session 7 at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
5 th -23 rd June 2023	Y4 Multiplication Tables Check	
12 th -16 th June 2023	Y1 Phonics Screening Week	
20.6.23	Y6 visit to Safetyworks, Newcastle	
24.6.23 @ 10:00 am	FHC Day at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
6.6.23	Sports Day	Parents welcome
2.7.23 @ 9:30 am	FHC Going Forth Mass at St. Gregory's Church	Parents welcome
3.7.23	Y6 Production tbc	
4.7.23	Y1 visit to Adventure Valley	
7.7.23	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING	
14.7.23 @ 1:30 PM	SAPA Summer Fair	Parents welcome
20.7.23	End of Summer Term	

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Your feedback, as always, is greatly appreciated. Please contact the school office office@st-gregorys.co.uk with any comments or suggestions of things we could improve. Thank you.