St Gregory's Catholic Primary School



WEEKLY NEWSLETTER 2.10.26

Headteacher message:

Hello! Hope everyone's had a good week ...

Can't believe we are at week 5 already - the summer seems like quite a while ago now!

Y3 did brilliantly at **Mass** this week, reading and singing really well. Thanks to those parents who were able to make it along (Y2 next week - Wednesday 10.15).

We had our special annual **Buddy Assembly** this morning, welcoming our new starters officially into the school as they start their journey towards greatness! Thanks to all those who were able to attend.

In the pages that follow are copies of our **Mission Statement, Curriculum Intent Statement and Guide to Greatness.** They are 3 big pillars upon which we base a lot of things here at school. Every now and again it's good to ask people's opinions about them. If you have **any suggestions** about what you like or think might need altering at all, please feel free to **drop me a dojo** message - your voice on these things counts for a lot so we can help our children **flourish together**.

Have a great weekend.



If you would like to read the Parish's newsletter, please follow this link:
https://www.stgregoryspreston.org.uk/newsletter/

MISSION STATEMENT

Loving all, like Jesus, we flourish together

At St Gregory's we do our very best to welcome everyone into our school community with kindness and respect. We follow Jesus's example of loving everyone equally whilst also showing the Gospel Values of compassion, forgiveness and peace.

We try to help others, stand up for those who need our support (in life and online) and be always ready to forgive, even though these things are sometimes really hard to do!

We have loads of opportunities to discover and practise the unique talents that God has given us. This helps us to grow in our minds, in our hearts and in our relationships with others so we can be the very best versions of ourselves, now and in the future.

We try to make strong friendships with everyone we meet, both near and far; and we always aim to work as one big team and never leave anyone out, just like Jesus taught us.

CURRICULUM INTENT STATEMENT (1)

At St Gregory's, the curriculum our children experience enables us to live out our Mission Slogan: Loving all, like Jesus, we flourish together. We aim to enable all our children to flourish, regardless of background or disposition by offering a rich and informed curriculum packed with opportunities for all our children to experience 'life to the full' (John 10:10).

Taking the National Curriculum as our basis, with the fundamental life skills of Reading, Writing and Maths at the heart, woven throughout our curriculum are opportunities for our children to develop The Seven Skills of the Steward – attributes and attitudes which we believe are essential so as to enable our children to thrive both today and in the world of the future:

Team-working † Problem-solving † Creativity † Peace-making
Empathy † Resilience † Gratitude

We believe that this powerful combination will enable our children to perform well at end points in their relevant stages of education (for example at the end of EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2), as well as allowing them to enjoy successfully playing their part in helping to make our wonderful world an even better place and make 'Thy Kingdom come'.

Our curriculum - monitored closely by our curriculum and subject area leaders - is sequenced so as to enable current learning to be founded upon prior development of relevant knowledge, skills and understanding. We have also built into our curriculum a multitude of ways to help make our children's experiences meaningful, memorable and motivating, with children's endeavours building towards purposeful end points. To help with this, in particular, we aim to apply our English and Maths skills across the curriculum so as to provide regular, relevant opportunities to demonstrate thorough understanding in a variety of contexts. Our Reading Policy is firmly focused on enabling all our children to develop their love of reading and their reading ability in age and stage-appropriate ways – an essential factor in ensuring success across the curriculum.

CURRICULUM INTENT STATEMENT (2)

We aim to utilise our links within the community to provide the very best ‘linked-up’, relevant learning experiences for all our children, for example by working closely with our local parish and also with visits from local figures such as imams; councillors; police and the fire brigade. Informed by the voices of those across our school community, our curriculum has been designed to reflect the needs of the children at our particular school.

Currently, we are especially focusing on:

- really cementing the core skills of Literacy, especially with our children for whom English is an additional language and for those in receipt of the Pupil Premium Funding
- further-enhancing our Pastoral Provision to respond to the present need within the community
- providing an even wider variety of life experiences which lead to good Cultural Capital by further- increasing our extra-curricular activities, visits and visitors

Any gaps in the children’s understanding of our curriculum are addressed in a timely manner in a wide variety of ways. Amongst other things, these include: facilitating any necessary Educational Health Care Plans or access to Special Education Need Support; ensuring an effective strategy is in place for the use of Pupil Premium funding; making sure quality first teaching is in place consistently across the school; systematic targeting of specific children who may have ‘fallen behind’ with relevant interventions put in place; in-depth analysis of all pupil performance at termly pupil progress meetings; ensuring an open-minded culture amongst all staff is in evidence across the school so we are always willing to continuously improve our practice in order to get only the very best outcomes for the children in our care.

Our curriculum is reviewed frequently by a range of stakeholders, the results of which are then fed back into the educational experiences in which our children partake – all the while mindful of how we can best ensure all the children at St Gregory’s flourish continuously.

The Guide To Greatness

1. We treat everyone and everything with respect

2. We are excellent examples to others

3. We listen carefully and we follow instructions

4. We always do our best (even when it gets tough!)

5. We use kind hands, words and deeds

Any feedback about any of this is much appreciated! Thanks 👍

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PRIORITIES 2026&27

For anyone who is interested, here are the main areas we are looking to make even better this year. Lots of things are happening to bring this about but these are the main titles. If you would like to know more about this, just ask at the office. 👍

1. To ensure that all safeguarding procedures are in good effect so all children are 'well-safeguarded and set up to succeed'

2. To ensure that all children are 'flourishing' regardless of background or disposition

3. To further-develop curriculum provision and standards of teaching, learning and achievement happening across the school, particularly in relation to targeted areas (e.g. methods of assessment, Maths, Phonics and ensuring 'Strong Foundations' for all)

4. To further-develop the efficacy of our Attendance and Behaviour Policies so as to increase good attendance for all and keep improving the positive culture of our school

5. To further-develop the Personal Development and well-being offer for all members of our community so all children have opportunities to 'flourish'

6. To continue to further-develop our EYFS provision to ensure Strong Foundations for all

7. To continue to further-develop Leadership and Management efficacy across all areas so as to ensure success in all other identified priority areas

BALANCED MEAL



Please can we remind parents of children who bring packed lunches to school that children should be eating a **balanced meal at lunchtimes**.

Whilst we accept that some children can be ‘picky eaters’ and that some sweet things do still have a place in a child’s lunchbox, increasingly we are seeing more and more children bringing very ‘unbalanced’ lunches in which are often filled solely with things like biscuits, crisps, sweet things and chocolate etc.

As the experts would tell us, this isn’t good for children’s physical development and it also isn’t good for their concentration levels in the afternoon and sometimes even their ability to behave well.

Below are some hyperlinks to suggest a few ways maybe we could start making tweaks to what’s inside our children’s lunchboxes so every child can receive the right fuel to grow up big, strong and great!

https://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/

https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/school-lunch-recipes

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z4fmd6f

Little reminder about children bringing grapes into school ...



Whole grapes are a severe choking hazard for young children because their size, shape, and smooth skin can completely block a child's airway.

Safe Cutting Guidelines

- Always cut lengthwise: Slice grapes down the middle from stem to base, never widthwise.
- Cutting them widthwise leaves a piece that is still the same round shape and size as a child's airway.
- Quarter them: For infants, toddlers, and young children, cut each lengthwise half into quarters.
- Remove seeds: Take out any large seeds before serving.

Age Recommendations

- Under 5 years old: Continue cutting grapes into quarters for children until they are at least 4 to 5 years old.
- **When in doubt: Keep cutting them up. An older child should only eat whole grapes if they can sit calmly, chew thoroughly, and not get distracted.**

Safe Eating Environment

- Supervise closely: Always stay within reach and watch children while they eat.
- Encourage sitting: Do not let children run, play, or talk excitedly while eating grapes.

We take part in Operation Encompass



At St Gregory's we fully support the work of Operation Encompass to help break the cycle of Domestic Abuse.

The Operation Encompass lead at St Gregory's is Mr M. Quigley (and Mrs G. Wright / Mrs S. Nightingale in his absence)

For further information on this matter see:
https://www.operationencompass.org/

Upcoming Dates

5 MON	
6 TUE	
7 WED	Year 2 Mass (10.15am)
8 THU	Rock Steady (9.00am)
9 FRI	Hello Yellow Day

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Masses (10.15am)	**7th October Year 2** **14th October Year 1**
Wednesday 14th October	**Year 6 & Reception Buddy Walk**
Thursday 15th October	**Parents Evening (1.30pm - 7.00pm)**
Thursday 22nd October	**Class Photos**
Friday 23rd October	**School Closes for Half Term (3.15pm)**





OCTOBER DISCO

Thursday 22nd October 2026

KS1: 4.30–5.30 (doors open from 4.15pm)

KS2: 6.00–7.00 (doors open from 5.45pm)

Tickets are £4.00. This includes a DJ, cake, drinks and a party bag to take home (NO cash is needed on the night).

Tickets will be available from Monday 5th October 2026 (please bring cash to give to the class teacher).



WEEKLY ATTENDANCE



RECEPTION	95.89%
YEAR 1	96.50%
YEAR 2	99.00%
YEAR 3	96.79%
YEAR 4	98.33%
YEAR 5	98.06%
YEAR 6	94.67%
WHOLE SCHOOL	97.05%



ATTENDANCE OF THE WEEK:

Year : 2!

WEEKLY AWARDS	SPELLING SHED	MATHS SHED
Key Stage 1	Ammarah	Haris
Lower Key Stage 2	Liya	Zain
Upper Key Stage 2	Dina	Ayleen

WEEKLY AWARDS – EXCELLENT EXAMPLE



Reception	Ubayd
Year 1	Muhammad Ali
Year 2	Greatness
Year 3	Haiyla
Year 4	Weronika
Year 5	Tommy
Year 6	Aaminah

WEEKLY AWARDS – SUPERSKILL



Reception	CJ for showing resilience in handwriting.
Year 1	Elleanor for showing great resilience this week.
Year 2	Rosie for always being a peacemaker!
Year 3	Gabby for great team work in PE this week!
Year 4	Liya for wonderful creativity when making a crochet mat.
Year 5	Hope for excellent team-working and empathy skills both in class and on the playground.
Year 6	Maks for great problem-solivng skills in Maths,

WEEKLY AWARDS – BEST BOOK



Reception	Khunais for a beautiful watercolour painting.
Year 1	Ollie for trying hard in his independent write.
Year 2	Maddie for an amazing letter to Mr Quigley sharing how we can be good Stewards in school.
Year 3	Yusuf for great English work in his English book this week!
Year 4	Ali for trying really hard with his English writing this week!
Year 5	Erin for a fantastic biography about Alfred the Great in history.
Year 6	Usayd for a great diary entry in English.

OUR YOUNG SCHOOL LEADERS








ESHAL



AALIYAH



AHMED



USAYD

SCHOOL COUNCIL

OUR NEW SCHOOL COUNCIL REPS:



Y1: Miley and Rosiina

Y2: Rosie and Harris

Y3: Freddie and Lottie

Y4: Zain and Darcy

Y5: Fatima and Amelia

Y6: Franklin, Bella and Franek

We are recruiting!

PART-TIME CLASS TEACHER (KEY STAGE 1)



We are looking for a dedicated, knowledgeable professional who is committed to getting only the best for the children in their care.

The post is for 2 days per week in the first instance, until the end of the academic year 2026/27, based in Y1. Ideally the days to be worked would be Thursday and Friday each week

CLEANER

We are seeking to appoint a committed cleaner to join our happy school. The post is permanent subject to completion of a satisfactory probation period.

The post is 12.5 hours per week Monday to Friday working 2:30pm to 5:00pm each day plus 2 weeks in the holidays.



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND AN APPLICATION PACK

Please visit our website: www.stgregorysps.co.uk
or contact the school office on 01772 795415 to book a visit.

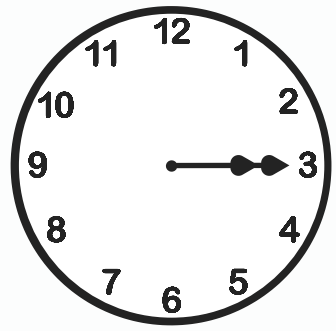
APPOINTMENTS

We kindly ask that, where possible, dental and other appointments are arranged outside of school hours to help minimise learning time missed.

If an appointment is later in the morning, please still send your child to school as normal. They can then be collected from school at the time of the appointment.

Please remember to message the school office via Dojo with any appointment details.

LATE COLLECTION



We understand that traffic can sometimes make it difficult to get to school right on time for the 3:15pm pickup.

However, any child who is not collected by 3:20pm will be taken to the After School Club (collect from front of hall door on Blackpool Road).

If children are not collected by 3:25pm, the session charge will apply.

BREAKFAST CLUB & AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT TO SECURE YOUR CHILD'S PLACE AT ST GREGORY'S BREAKFAST CLUB, BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN ADVANCE.



Breakfast club runs from 7:45am - 8:45am (£3.50 per session) & After school club runs from 3:15pm - 5:15pm (£7 per session). A range of fun activities is on offer along with a variety of healthy drinks and snacks.

Please get in touch if you plan to use the tax-free childcare service or Universal Credit. We will send over instructions regarding the payment option on Parent Pay.

Should you have any questions or need assistance with bookings or payments, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.