

Dear Parents, Carers, Students and Governors

As we embark on our Advent journey that will start this Sunday, we are facing a Christmas like no other. We now need to lead the way as previous generations have done to create a safe, caring and lovely Christmas for all of our children in times of adversity. Here in school we are planning to do exactly that.

Our Advent journey will focus on care and kindness and we can all come together as 'The Family of St Gregory's' to support each other and the wider community. It has been lovely to witness the students at Mr Robinson's Chaplaincy break and lunchtime clubs making Christmas cards and writing messages to be distributed to local care home residents. Mr Robinson has lots of lovely activities planned and the Christmas trees should be arriving on Monday.

Our Christmas Cribbs will be in Reception and in the Chapel; I love the tradition of the Christmas Crib - it is a simple and effective way to prepare for Christmas and a reminder of God's love for us that he sent his son to us. The first nativity scene was set up by St Francis of Assisi in 1223 in Greccio, Italy, and in 2018 Pope Francis went on pilgrimage to Greccio and said: "I wish to encourage the beautiful family tradition of preparing the Nativity scene in the days before Christmas, but also the custom of setting it up in the workplace, in schools, hospitals, prisons and town squares. It is my hope that this custom will never be lost and that, wherever it has fallen into disuse, it can be rediscovered and revived." This is a tradition we embrace to the full here at St Gregory's and If you would like to share pictures of your family cribbs via the newsletter this Advent that would be lovely.

I would also like to thank **Joni B** in Year 13 for her beautiful Christmas card design. This year we are not printing and sending a school Christmas card. As a community we are trying to reduce our carbon footprint and will be embracing e-card. The money we normally spend on printing will be donated to charity.

Continued...

Dates for Your Diary

Fri 27 Nov	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS
Fri 18 Dec	End of Term 2—1.30pm finish for students
Mon 4 Jan	INSET DAY—SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS
Tue 5 Jan	Y12 and Y13 study leave begins
Mon 11 Jan	Y12 and Y13 mock exams commence

Next Week: Week A

If you are off work because you have Coronavirus symptoms or are self-isolating or shielding

Tell your employer if you have Coronavirus symptoms or are self-isolating or shielding.

If you cannot work from home

You should work from home if you can. If you cannot work from home you might be able to get:

- Test and Trace Support Payment
- Statutory Sick Pay (SSP)
- New Style Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit
- Pension Credit

For further information on the above, please visit the Government advice page at :

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-what-to-do-if-youre-employed-and-cannot-work>



We will not be able to come together for our Carol Service in the usual way but Miss Townsend and Mr Robinson are working hard to create a virtual Carol Service for the last week of term.

I would like to remind everyone of our Hamper Campaign. We are working with the local community and local churches to reach out to families in need. Please try to donate and contact Mr Robinson if you have any questions.

Best wishes.

A Cusack, Headmistress

Welcome to School Gateway



We are now using School Gateway, an essential tool to keep you informed about what is going on at school. It keeps everything in one place, behind one login, so you can easily keep in touch.

Please download this app to your phone (it's free) as it will help us improve communication with parents.

The set-up process is simple and will take no more than a couple of minutes:

1. Search for "School Gateway" in the Apple App Store/ Google Play or on your phone go to www.schoolgateway.com/apple (Apple) or www.schoolgateway.com/android (Android).
2. Install the app and if you are asked then say yes to "Allow Push Notifications".
3. When you launch School Gateway for the first time, please select 'New User' and enter the email address and mobile telephone number you have registered with the school.
4. The system will send a PIN code to your phone; please enter this PIN code and the app will be activated for you.

As soon as you have got the system set-up, all of the text messages we send you will appear in the app; you will receive notifications/alerts as normal.

Nut Allergies



Please be aware that we have students and staff with serious nut allergies. We would therefore ask that you do not include nuts in packed lunches and snacks, eg chocolate and cereal bars.

Contact Details

If you have recently changed any of your contact details (telephone numbers, email addresses) please inform obrayc@st-gregorys.co.uk



Mrs O'Bray, Office Supervisor



Saint GREGORY'S
Bath

We are recruiting for talented and enthusiastic colleagues to join our supportive and friendly team.

Sixth Form Administrator

We are seeking an experienced administrator who is well-organised, efficient and professional.

This is a pivotal role over-seeing the administrative functions of our sixth form.

37 hours per week, term time only plus all INSETS and additional days during the summer holidays

Actual Salary: Grade 5 SCP 11-15, £19,436-21,038

Teaching Vacancies

We also have a number of exciting opportunities to join our teaching team including:

Teacher of Science (Biology)

Teacher of Chemistry (0.8 FTE Maternity Cover)

Teacher of RE, part time 0.5 FTE

For further information, please visit our website.

Visit www.st-gregorys.org.uk to apply

Saint Gregory's is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to the safeguarding and welfare of our students and expect all staff to share this commitment. An enhanced disclosure from the DBS is required for all successful applicants.



Copies are £10 each and contain 34 recipes, both sweet and savoury, and can be purchased through your Scopay account. If you do not have a Scopay account and would like to order, please let us know by completing the form linked below.
> Form: [The Great Saint Gregs Cookbook](#)

Please place your orders before **MONDAY 30 NOVEMBER** for a pre-Christmas delivery. Orders after this date will be subject to availability. The more we sell, the more money we make so please consider supporting and help us to raise lots of funds for student enrichment projects and activities later in the year!

E: ptfa@st-gregorys.org.uk



doodlemaths



Doodle Star Champions of the week:

Year 7: Jeremiah S (148 stars!)

Year 8: Kiera R (138 stars)

Year 9: Ellie-Mae R (82 stars)

Congratulations to these students for completing so many doodle stars this week. Well done!

Car Parking/Student Drop Off

Please do not drop off on the main site or at Odd Down Football Club. We are also aware that cars are stopping on double yellow lines around the entrance to Combe Hay Lane and on Sulis Manor Road at the beginning and end of the school day which is creating a hazard and putting students and other road users in danger.

Students can be dropped off at Odd Down Park and Ride or in neighbouring roads where it is safe and legal to do so. Thank you for your co-operation.



Christmas Lunch

Wednesday 9 December 2020

Only available by pre-ordering via the School Gateway App

Availability is limited so book quickly!

Last date for ordering is 1 December

Menu

Meat Roast, Sage & Onion Stuffing
and

Pig in Blanket

or

Quorn Fillet with Sage & Onion
Stuffing

or

Vegan Option

All served with

Roasted Potatoes, Carrots
and Gravy

Christmas Cookie for Desert

THE LANGUAGES CORNER

French:

Expression with subjunctive:

C'est dommage que(+ verb subjunctive) = it is a pity that

It is a pity that I don't live in London because there is such much more to do

C'est dommage que, je n'habite pas à Londres car il y a tellement plus de choses à faire.

Mandarin:

长城上人山人海
(chángchéng shàng rénshānrénhǎi) It's insanely crowded on the Great Wall.

German:

Useful reflexive verbs

sich unterstützen = to support

Mein bester Freund unterstützt mich immer.

My best friend (m) always supports me.

Meine beste Freundin hat mich immer unterstützt.

My best friend (f) has always supported me.

Spanish:

está como una cabra – he/ she is (nicely) crazy (like a goat)

Meat Free Friday

Please be mindful that, in line with Catholic tradition, the school caterers do not serve meat on Fridays.

Please remember to return any outstanding library books as soon as possible.



Mask Exemption

If a student is exempt from wearing a mask please could parents/carers email Mrs Stevenson, Medical Response Officer, on stevensonk@stgregorys.org.uk. Exempt students will be issued with a lanyard.



Please remember aerosol sprays are strictly forbidden in school.

Chaplaincy Thoughts for the Week

The month of November is all about remembering the greatest people in our lives, those who have left an indelible mark on our being and those who continue to inspire us each day. Throughout history the Church has been blessed with saints who gave up everything for their faith, who stood firm in the face of oppression and persecution, who removed themselves from society to devote every second of their life to God. Likewise, the Church has been blessed with saints who made a concerted effort to ensure food was shared more equally, who made mistakes but stood back up and redeemed themselves, and people who did their little bit of good in their life.

Pope Francis once said that "The Saints were not superhuman. They were people who loved God in their hearts, and who shared this joy with others". Look around you, look at the past nine months - how many people could we easily put into the category of loving God, loving their neighbour, and sharing in both the joy and struggles of others.

This time of year is perfect for bringing these qualities out of us. You will recall last year for the first time we put together huge hampers that we could deliver to the local community ourselves rather than the old shoeboxes. There are no words to describe the emotion and gratefulness of all those who received our thoughtful donations last year - when we delivered them there were some special moments. This appeal - bringing joy to others at the most special time of year, is a cause students, staff and the wider St Gregory's family tend to love getting involved with each year more than most others.

However, since last Christmas the world has been devastated by the effects of COVID-19. We are all so aware of how much impact the virus can have on life. Whether that's having your freedoms restricted, hobbies cancelled, holidays postponed. Many of us have personally experienced the pain of seeing loved

ones suffer, and even lost relatives to this virus. Then there is the financial impact of COVID-19. The number of jobs lost is still to be determined, the furlough scheme is keeping many people afloat but they are having to cut their cloth accordingly. The Chancellor yesterday said "*The economic emergency has just begun*" and predicted 2.6 million people due to be unemployed by next summer.

The reality of not being able to splash out on presents, food, decorations and all the niceties of Christmas is going to hit more people than ever. We want to spread a message of hope, love and joy to those who may find themselves struggling unexpectedly this Christmas, those who may be lonely due to travel restrictions stopping family and friends visiting, those who have very little family or struggle for other reasons.

Which is why we are encouraging each tutor group to use a box to create a Christmas hamper that is full of festive cheer, full of thought and kindness and care. It is for each tutor group to fill the hamper with gifts, decorations and snacks, appropriate for either a family with children, young person or couple or the elderly. We ask you to support your children in their endeavours where possible, but with no pressure to contribute. It is for the tutor group as a whole to contribute together through wrapping, writing a card, organisation or donating.

Finally, like last year if you would like to confidentially nominate someone to receive our hampers at Christmas please do get in touch by emailing either myself or the main school email address - robinsonm@st-gregorys.org.uk / stgregorys_sec@bathnes.gov.uk.

This November, in the month we remember those who have meant so much to us, let us be someone who means so much to another by our actions. 2020 needs to see that love for each other can overcome misery.

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain



Christmas Hamper Appeal 2020

1. Find a box & wrap it in Christmas paper
2. Decide who it's for: E.g. an older couple, family with young children or teenage children, single young person (18-24)
3. Fill the box with a variety of items that will help make Christmas special for the recipient(s)

You have until Weds 9th December & any hampers ready to go can be brought to the Chapel (labelled)

- Christmas & table Decorations
- Gifts
- Christmas Card
- Food such as boxes of chocolates, snacks, etc
- Vouchers
- Candles, mini trees, etc

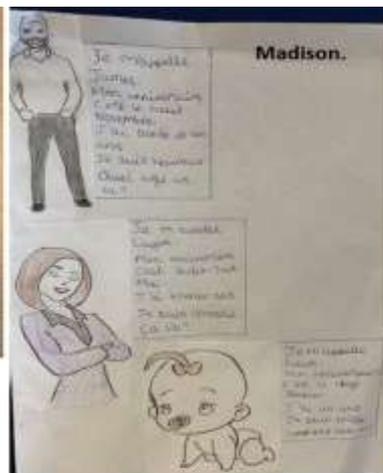
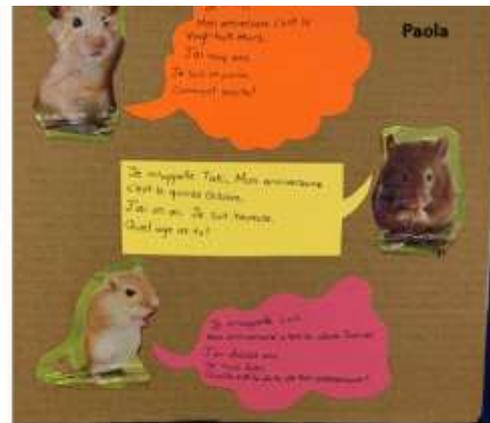
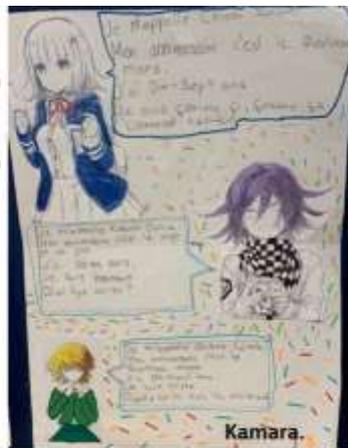
Year 10 Enterprise and Marketing Coursework



Despite the pandemic the Year 10 Enterprise and Marketing class still managed to bring to life their coursework with students performing taste trials in class. We recruited volunteers from a neighbouring Year 10 class to come in and try. Students, LSAs, teachers and even some A level students participated too Everyone kept a safe distance, as I provided the pizzas and the my Year 10 class stayed at a distance recording the feedback.

Mrs Corripio-Lopez , Head of Business

Le Français: Year 7 – Last few characters, very colourful and creative again.
"Quel travail fantastique les élèves!"
 Mrs Lemée Head of MFL



Foreign Language Christmas Card Competition

ANY LANGUAGES BUT ENGLISH

Year 7 to Year 9 – COME ON SOME OF YOU ARE GREAT ARTISTS!



Open now! Deadline: Monday 7 December 2020 - 17:00 – HAND TO MFL OFFICE OR A LANGUAGE TEACHER

This is a national competition open to schools in all regions in England

Learn about Christmas traditions in different countries by taking part in our Christmas Card Design Competition!

Routes into Languages West Midlands will be sending out Christmas e-cards to our contacts and would like to invite students from Reception to Year 9 from schools in England to participate in our Foreign Language Christmas Card Design Competition.

We would like the students to design a card which shows the Christmas traditions of another country. Pupils should research and design their card using, if they wish, a variety of materials.

Entries can be submitted in any foreign language – **NB entries containing English language will not be accepted.**

Each card should be **no larger than a sheet of A4 paper** and must be completed by hand, but any form of materials can be used – felt tips, paint, fabric etc. Judges will be looking for originality of illustration as well as accuracy of language and content.

The winning entries from Secondary will be used as our Christmas E-cards for 2020. The winner will receive a £20 Amazon voucher.

The winning entries may also be used on our social media and in publicity materials in future. We will only ever use the year group and school name of the winners in any publicity, **not** the name of the student.

Each entry MUST be clearly marked on the back with the pupil's first name, year group, teacher and school, as well as any necessary information about the language(s) chosen (i.e. if it is a less widely learned language) to facilitate judging.

Please note that entries cannot be returned, we advise making a scanned copy for pupils who wish to retain their work. In the event of insufficient entries of good quality, no prize will be awarded; the Judges' decision is final.

The deadline for submission of entries will be Monday 7 December 2020. Please note any entries submitted after this date will not be included and we are unable to extend the closing date for individual schools.



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YOUR
JOURNEY**



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Someone you know and can trust...



Your lunchtime drop-in has now changed.

Where can you find me?

A lunchtime drop-in 12.45 – 13.45 on **Fridays** in the meeting room.

make a difference



We're here to help
you help others



Each year the Catenian Bursary Fund makes awards totaling over £150,000 to young Catholics aged between 18 and 24 who volunteer to work on development projects and as helpers at HCPT and Diocesan pilgrimages.

Give your time and help those less fortunate than you. Let us help you to achieve your aims.

Want to know how you can help?
Make a difference at catenianbursary.com

Do something really wonderful for others and make a difference



For full details including eligibility criteria and info on how to apply, scan the code or visit our website



Are you

- 16 – 24?
- Catholic?
- Passionate about helping others?
- Planning a future voluntary project?
- Needing financial help?

Let us tick **the final box**



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make a **difference**

We're here to help you help others

With so much inequality and poverty in the world, why not give your time to help those in need.

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Give your time and help those less fortunate than you. Let us help you to achieve your aims.

Do something really wonderful for others and....

Make a difference!



Printed on recycled paper

Want to know more?

For full details including eligibility criteria and apply online scan the code or visit our website.



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BURSARY FUND

catenianbursary.com

make a **difference**

COVID-19 information

A quick guide for parents and carers



Please follow the advice in this guide. Only contact the school if your child is having a test and to let us know the result. Your school will not be able to advise beyond the information given here. **Please remember to only get tested if you have COVID-19 symptoms.**

YOU SHOULD BOOK A **TEST** IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

a high temperature

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature)

or a new continuous cough

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough it may be worse than usual)

or a loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child DOES NOT have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they or members of your household do not need to self-isolate.

Your child can attend school if fit to do so.

What to do if...	Action needed	When can my child return to school?
My child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Book a test for your child Whole household & support bubble to self-isolate Inform school immediately about test result 	If test is negative and child is well enough, symptom free for 48 hours and not advised to self-isolate by test and trace service
My child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Child to self-isolate for at least 10 days from when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) Inform school immediately about test results Whole household & support bubble to self-isolate for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) 	When child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone

What to do if...	Action needed	When can my child return to school?
<p>Somebody in my household & support bubble has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Household & support bubble member with symptoms to book a test Whole household & support bubble to self-isolate while waiting for test result Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>When household & support bubble member test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms and if child has not been advised to self isolate by test and trace services</p>
<p>Somebody in my household & support bubble has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Whole household & support bubble to self-isolate for 14 days from day when symptoms started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if they test negative during those 14 days Inform school immediately about test result 	<p>When they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without symptoms. They must self-isolate for 14 days even if they test negative during that time</p>
<p>NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Child to self-isolate for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) - even if they test negative during those 14 days Rest of household & support bubble does not need to self-isolate, unless they are also a 'close contact' 	<p>When they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without symptoms. They must self-isolate for 14 days even if they test negative during that time</p>
<p>Your child has been in contact with someone who has been identified as a 'close contact'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attend school as normal If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities 	<p>Attend school as normal</p>
<p>We / my child has travelled abroad and has to self-isolate.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school Whole household & support bubble to self-isolate for 14 days - even if they test negative during those 14 days <p>Travel reminders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not take unauthorised leave in term time Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel Provide information to school as per attendance policy 	<p>When the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
<p>We have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not send your child to school. Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team Child to shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted and shielding is paused again 	<p>When school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>