



SaintGREGORY'S
Bath

Newsletter

www.st-gregorys.org.uk

A weekly newsletter for Parents, Carers, Students, Governors and Staff

22 January 2021

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

I am delighted to announce our Virtual Travel Diary Competition is live with some wonderful prizes. Tutors have launched this competition this week and you will see the full details in this week's newsletter. This is a perfect enrichment activity for students to engage with and I would like to thank Mr Leaman for creating such a fantastic resource that can facilitate travelling the world. We are really looking forward to judging the entries as I know they will be of an exceptional standard.

Following feedback, please note the change in time to tutor time. From Monday tutor time will start at 9am and end at 9.15am to allow 15 minutes preparation time before Lesson 1 starts at 9.30am.

I would like to thank the families that have already donated IT equipment to school—please see Mr Cross' message in this newsletter and contact him if you are able to support this initiative, it is very much appreciated.

Holocaust Memorial Day is on Wednesday 27 January and Bath and North East Somerset Council and Bath Interfaith Group are holding a commemoration at 6pm. This will be followed by our own St Gregory's Holocaust Memorial Service that will be streamed live at 7pm on the school website. "Be the light in the Darkness" is a powerful theme asking us to consider different kinds of darkness that are prevalent in our world today and how we can be the light with acts of solidarity, resistance and by the challenging of misinformation. As an historian and educator, I feel it is important to educate and remember the past, so we can create a better future. I still vividly remember the impact of visiting the Sachsenhausen Concentration Camp near Berlin with a number of my Year 11 students. The shock of entering the camp at the end of a suburban road and the fact it was overlooked by local buildings generated lots of questions. We all learnt and gained from the experience; the enormity of what had happened there was evident and keenly felt by all. An important reminder of the suffering imposed on millions by a totalitarian regime that utilised hate, denial, intolerance, division and misinformation to persecute. We will be marking Holocaust Memorial Day in school through tutor time and lessons and I would like to thank Mr Robinson for his thoughts in this week's newsletter and would urge you all to read and share them.

I would like to share the prayer written by Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis, Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby, and Senior Imam, Qari Asim, last year for Holocaust Memorial Day and ask that we pray together as the family of St Gregory's so that love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil.

Loving God, we come to you with heavy hearts, remembering the six million Jewish souls murdered during the Holocaust. In the horrors of that history, when so many groups were targeted because of their identity, and in genocides which followed, we recognise destructive prejudices that drive people apart.

Forgive us when we give space to fear, negativity and hatred of others, simply because they are different from us.

In the light of God, we see everyone as equally precious manifestations of the Divine, and can know the courage to face the darkness.

Through our prayers and actions, help us to stand together with those who are suffering, so that light may banish all darkness, love will prevail over hate and good will triumph over evil. Amen

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes
A Cusack, Headmistress

Dates for Your Diary

Thu 28 Jan	Y9 Virtual Options Evening
Fri 12 Feb	End of Term 3

Next week: **Week B**

NEW TUTOR TIME— Please be aware that from Monday 25 January tutor time will be from 9.00 am - 9:15 am.

Lesson 1 will begin at 9.30 am as normal.

A full lesson timetable is available on page 3.

VIRTUAL TRAVEL DIARY COMPETITION

Each year Saint Gregory's organise over 110 visits to sites both local and international. Although trips and experiences unfortunately cannot happen right now, we can still explore the wider world together and develop our understanding of different cultures.

We invite you to write a travel diary detailing your virtual journey to any place or destination you like. Tell us about what you discovered! You can present this in any format - recorded video, presentation, report, poster, postcards. Give us as much detail as possible and show off your understanding of somewhere different and exciting. There are some amazing prizes to be won for the best entries!

Mr Leaman, Educational Visits Co-ordinator

Rules:

1. Only open to students currently studying at Saint Gregory's, Bath between Year 7 and Year 13.
2. Entries must be sent to leamanm@st-gregorys.org.uk or posted to the school by Monday 22 February.
3. Entries must be clearly marked with your name, tutor group and a contact phone number/email address.



Prizes:

- 1st Prize - National Trust Family Membership for one year (worth £126)
- 2nd Prize - Sony Digital Camera (worth £75)
- 3rd Prize - Attenborough's Planet Box Set DVD (worth £50)
- 4th Prize - Seven Worlds, One Planet DVD (worth £10)



Looking for inspiration? Start by exploring our virtual tour of the world!

Travel The World From Your Computer



<https://www.st-gregorys.org.uk/2021/01/travel-the-world-from-your-computer/>

Laptops



If you have a laptop that you no longer use, we would like to hear from you!

During lockdown, lessons are conducted online, but not everyone has access to a laptop. If you have one that you no longer need and can donate it to help a St Gregory's student learn from home, we would like to hear from you.

Please contact Gerry Cross by email:

crossg@st-gregorys.org.uk

An Opportunity to Have Your Say on Examinations

The Department of Education DfE and Ofqual have launched a consultation on the awarding of GCSE, AS and A Level Grades in Summer 2021.

The links to the consultation are here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/consultation-on-how-gcse-as-and-a-level-grades-should-be-awarded-in-summer-2021>

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953000/6743-](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953000/6743-1_GCSE_AS_and_A_level_grades_should_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf)

[1 GCSE AS and A level grades should be awarded in summer 2021.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/953000/6743-1_GCSE_AS_and_A_level_grades_should_be_awarded_in_summer_2021.pdf)

Please read and respond to the consultation with your views.

The consultation is due to end on Friday 29 January at 23:45.

Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives



**HOLOCAUST
MEMORIAL
DAY 27/1**



Bath and North East Somerset Council, in partnership with **Bath Interfaith Group** invite you to join us for our 2021

Holocaust Memorial Day Commemoration

Wednesday 27 January 2021 from 6pm – 7pm (via Zoom).

'Be the light in the darkness'

The event will be hosted by Council Leader, Councillor Dine Romero. Special guests will include Yoav Ben-Shlomo who will talk about his father and read from a short account he wrote about the desperation and help he experienced whilst hiding with his own father to escape Nazi persecution. Music will be provided by Ninotchka.



To register for the event please visit https://bathnes.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_XOqTeSrmRdKzkaucsXLVtg

The event will also be recorded and available afterwards on the Council's You Tube Channel. (<https://www.youtube.com/user/BathnesCouncil;>)

The Week Junior



The SEND Department has recently activated a subscription to 'The Week Junior' current affairs magazine. During this period of lockdown, The Week Junior has offered access to its digital subscription for all students at St Gregory's. Please see the information below with details about how to access:

What you need to do:

- Download the app on your iOS or Android device by searching "The Week Junior" in the iOS App Store or Google Play
- If you had already downloaded the app, please ensure you are viewing using the latest version
- To log into the app, select the three dots in the top right corner, select 'Account', select 'Voucher codes' and enter your voucher code TWJ3552VWX. This code is unique to St Gregory's.
- The digital edition can also be accessed online - to view in your browser at magazine.theweekjunior.co.uk.
- To log in, select the head icon, select 'have you got a voucher code?' and enter the code WJ3552VWX

Mrs A Morriss, SENCo



doodlemaths



Doodle Star Champions of the week:

- Year 7:** Cody S (95 stars)
Gale L (186 stars)
Szymon K (110 stars)
Jemima A (191 stars)
- Year 8:** Henry D (195 stars)
Lucia L (84 stars)
- Year 9:** Sasha C

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



Indian
Partner
School



Saint Gregory's partner school in Kolkata, India, is M C Kejriwal Vidyapeeth.

They would like to share with us their Annual School Hope Concert, created by their students, which can be found on the following YouTube link - <https://youtu.be/NhpiTLh3ktl>

This provides fascinating insight into their culture and language, and supports our students in their global learning, developing an understanding and appreciation of diversity.

It has been interesting to learn that the school in India has not yet been able to re-open since the lockdown first occurred last March 2020, with all of their learning still currently taking place online.

At the start of the New Year 2021, I am sure that you will enjoy watching their Annual School Hope Concert.

The website of the partner school may be viewed on the following link - www.mckv.edu.in

Miss Medcroft, International Co-ordinator

**Year 9 Parents' Evening Catch up and Options
Evening is now available for bookings
Thursday 28 January**

1. Core subjects have five minute appointments from 2.30pm – 3.30pm **for those parent/carers who have been unable to contact a member of staff after the technical issues last week.**
2. Only one science appointment is needed per student.
3. Option subjects have 10 minute appointments from 4.00pm – 6.00pm.

<https://saintgregorysbath.schoolcloud.co.uk>

THE LANGUAGES CORNER

French:

A couper le souffle = to take your breath away/ breath taking)
I spent some breath taking holidays

J'ai passé des vacances **À couper le soufflé**

The bungalow had a breath taking view on the lake

Le bungalow avait une vue sur le lac **a coupé le souffle**

Mandarin:

君子之交淡如水。
(Jūnzǐ zhī jiāo dàn rú shuǐ 'gentleman's friendship bland like water') —
A gentleman's friendship is insipid as water.

German:

Little words, big difference
jemand = someone / anyone
niemand = no one
Ist da jemand? = Is anyone there?
Es war niemand da. = No one was there.

Spanish:

Más vale tarde que nunca – better late than never

Revised Times of the School Day

Students are now following a revised timetable of teacher-led lessons both in school and remotely for the lockdown period. We will endeavour for the majority of lessons to be 'live' via Google Classroom, according to the normal timetabled lessons for that day. Any absence due to illness must be reported by parents/carers in the normal way. NB: From Monday January 25 Tutor Time is 9:00 am—9:15 am.

Time	Activity
9.00am - 9.15am	Daily online tutor session
9.15am - 9.30am	Break
9.30am - 10.15am	Lesson 1
10.15am - 10.30am	Break
10.30am - 11.15am	Lesson 2
11.15am - 11.30am	Break
11.30am - 12.15pm	Lesson 3
12.15pm - 12.30pm	Break
12.30pm - 1.15pm	Lesson 4
1.15pm - 1.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm - 2.30pm	Lesson 5

RE on Instagram

If you want to keep up with information and support from the Religious Studies department be sure to follow our Instagram account, stgregorysre.

Art at St Gregory's



Art using unusual materials by Zulaika S, Year 8.



A rocky beach with the sea coming in waves and then the ocean using unusual materials by Alex M, Year 8



Modern collage by Jet T, Year 9 inspired by pop art.



A Picture inspired by pop art by Cristiano G, Year 9



Dear Students, hope you enjoyed last week's activities. This week I have attached a link on how to make a kite and an article from the BBC about how they are now counting elephants from space.

The Science Team 

Article of the week – <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-55737086>



Practical of the Week - <https://ads.dennisnet.co.uk/subs/2020/TWJ/MAR/Kite.pdf>

Chaplaincy Thoughts for the Week

Holocaust Memorial Day 2021: Be the light in the Darkness

Holocaust Memorial Service, Wednesday 27 at 7pm streamed on the school website.

The theme for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) 2021 is **Be the light in the darkness**. It encourages everyone to reflect on the depths humanity can sink to, but also the ways individuals and communities resisted that darkness to 'be the light' before, during and after genocide. Be the light in the darkness is an affirmation and a call to action for everyone marking HMD. This theme asks us to consider different kinds of 'darkness', for example:

- identity based persecution
- misinformation
- denial of justice

as well as different ways of 'being the light':

- resistance
- acts of solidarity
- rescue and illuminating mistruths

Increasing levels of denial, division and misinformation in today's world mean we must remain vigilant against hatred and identity-based hostility. Rapid technological developments, a turbulent political climate and world events beyond our control can leave us feeling helpless and insignificant. The utterly unprecedented times through which we are living currently are showing the very best of which humanity is capable but also - in some of the abuse and conspiracy theories being spread on social media - the much darker side of our world as well. We can all stand in solidarity. We can choose to be the light in the darkness in a variety of ways and places – at home, in public, and online.

As we look towards HMD 2021, the world is dealing with the global pandemic of Covid-19. It is a time of great change and uncertainty for us all. Many are experiencing anxiety with the separation from family and friends; and some are taking an authoritarian approach and condemn others' behaviour. As we have noted, there is a proliferation of conspiracy theories about the pandemic, with minority groups targeted in many instances.

Yet this is also a time when so many people are bringing light to their neighbours and communities. Within days, 750,000 people signed up to volunteer for the NHS. In every corner of the country, mutual aid community groups, charities and neighbourhoods have joined together to provide help to their neighbours and communities - a beacon of hope in dark times. Holocaust Memorial Day enables us to remember – for a purpose. It gives us a responsibility to work for a safer, better, future for everyone. Everyone can step up and use their talents to tackle prejudice, discrimination and intolerance wherever we encounter them.

On Wednesday 27 January at 7pm we will join with millions of others to reflect and remember those affected by genocides. Streamed from our school Chapel, staff and students will lead a service of remembrance and we invite you to join us from your homes. We invite you to bring

along a tealight or any form of candle you may have. The link to the event will be on the school website next week.

Performing Arts pick me up in lockdown

Providing a breath of fresh air amongst the most volatile of politic backgrounds over in the USA, on Tuesday evening the much loved Brit, James Corden, hit the headlines with his hilarious parody version of 'One more day' from Les Mis. Yesterday it was the second most popular video in the UK on YouTube (Joe Wicks PE was top!). If you haven't yet seen it, Corden drafts in an array of actors to mock Trump headlines and supporters, dancing around the office binning anything that relates to the infamous ex-president. I must admit I thought it was somewhat brave considering the audience of *The Late Late Show* cannot consist of only Democrat supporters. The final credits allude to how hard the theatre industry has been hit by the global pandemic. The show mentions that they will be donating to a Broadway emergency assistance fund and encourages viewers to do the same.

Over here in the UK, only last week some leading film writers such as Danny Boyle, Steve McQueen, Sam Mendes and other prominent figures put their name on a letter to the Chancellor calling on the government to support the cinema industry. The plea was another desperate and stark warning about the effect on the arts which is struggling so much. Personally, I'm so impatient to see the new James Bond film which has been delayed several times now!

As you know, performing arts is a vital part of our school and instrumental in helping young people flourish. Both the staff and students have missed out on entertaining us with school productions, and I'm sure many parents are keen to enjoy performances where young people wow us with their acting, vocal and musical abilities.

I recently stumbled upon an article celebrating an American Catholic theatre troupe who had used the pandemic to be creative and are producing lockdown themed radio dramas. They are called **The Merry Beggars** and are a 'not for profit' organisation based in New York. They've promised to deliver a new play every month during 2021. So what is the big deal with them you may ask? Other than the positive effect on the mental health of actors who may currently be unable to work as much, there is something endearing about a theatre company trying to give actors projects they can reconcile with their faith. The radio dramas they've produced so far are littered with a comforting blend of humour and reality, alongside themes of faith such as forgiveness, love and spiritual wellbeing – it's almost like evangelisation by stealth.

Each play is short, between 10 and 15 minutes long, and easy to listen to on Spotify, Apple and all other places for podcasts. Search for **The Quarantine Plays** when you find **The Merry Beggars** or go to their website www.themerrybeggars.com (which also contains resources for aspiring actors, a blog and other useful info).

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain





Holocaust Memorial Day 2021: Be the light in the darkness

Join us online for a memorial service at www.st-gregorys.org.uk

Weds 27th January 2021, 7pm



Diocesan Prayer Link for Schools



During this uncertain time prayer is more important than ever. All of the schools of the Diocese need our prayers and so each week we shall pray for different, specific schools and all who work and learn in them.

This week we pray for:



Christ the King Primary School
Bristol



St Pius X Primary School
Bristol



Holy Cross Primary School
Bristol

**Holy Spirit,
be with the students of these schools we pray for this week.
Bless them, their teachers and all who work at the school.
Give strength and grace to their growth, wisdom and
understanding to their search for knowledge and
strength to continue to learn despite the difficulties.**

**Thank you, Lord for the gifts that they all bring to
their community.
May everyone connected with the school remain safe and well.
Amen**

ASD Support Service

Courses for Parents 2020-21

Date and time	Course	Leader	Description
January 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th- February 2nd, 9th (am)	CYGNET Core	Laura Chard	CYGNET Programme: Supporting Parents of Autistic Children aged 4 - 18
January 7th 10.00am- 12.30pm	ASD Strategies in the Home for Younger Children	Hannah Hobbs and Hayley Brimble	Understanding how ASD strategies can be implemented to support younger children in their home environment
February 3rd 9.30am- 11.30am	Social Scripts	Becca Tranter	Exploring how social scripts can be used to reduce anxiety surrounding new situations and experiences
February 12th 9.30am -12.30pm	CYGNET Sexual Wellbeing	Hannah Hobbs	Supporting parents to understand sexual wellbeing for autistic children
March 2nd 9.00am - Noon	Understanding Girls	Laura Chard	Supporting parents to understand how to support girls on the autism spectrum
March 4th 3.30pm - 5.30pm	ASD Strategies in the Home for Teenagers	Conrad Hein Hartmann and Carol Jones	Understanding how ASD strategies can be implemented to support teenagers in their home environment
March 5th 9.30am - 12.30pm	CYGNET Relationships	Hannah Hobbs	Supporting parents to understand how to develop relationships for autistic children

To further information or to book onto any of these courses,

please contact: asdss@fossewayschool.com



ASD Support Service



Telephone helpline

01761 412198 Ext 2

Every Wednesday 9am—12noon

HOW TO ACCESS GOGGLE CLASSROOM FROM AN XBOX AND PS4



1. Turn on PS4
2. Use your controller to scroll to the far right of the bar with games to *Library*
3. Select *Library* application
4. Within the library use the search bar to type in *Internet*
5. Select the *Internet Browser* app
6. Start Internet Browser and press the triangle button on the controller to search
7. Once on the internet, type in the search box *Google Classroom* and select the first link that comes up:
Classroom: manage teaching and learning Google for Education - link below'
<https://edu.google.com/product/s/classroom>
8. Select *Go to Classroom*. Then log in using student email and password.



1. Go to Home Menu
2. Select *My Games and Apps*
3. Scroll down to Apps
4. Go to *Microsoft Edge* application
5. Type in a search for *Google Classroom*
6. Select *Go to Classroom*
7. You will need to log in using your student email address and password.



DID YOU KNOW?...

If you have an iPhone or iPad you actually have a scanner! Parents, if you are planning to scan any work to your teachers or teachers if you are scanning work to your students you can use the 'Notes App'.

Open a new note, press the camera button, the option to scan document will pop up. Once the document is scanned you can email it easier than a photo, plus you can add notes to the scanned doc. [#themoreyouknow](#)



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