

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

I would like to thank everyone for all their hard work this term. The engagement of students in their remote learning is fantastic and we continue to strive to ensure our students get the best educational experience possible during these challenging times. This would not be possible without the continued support of all our parents and carers, thank you! Our Key Stage 3 students will have received their novel as part of the Great St Gregory's Book Club this week and the English Department have fantastic plans on how to utilise these great reads within their lessons. Please encourage your child to keep their book safe and read it. I would like to thank Miss Culleton and the English Faculty for all their hard work in organising this. Happy reading.

We have so much to celebrate. Last week's House Day was a tremendous success, and I would like to congratulate Stein House who came first with 2010 points. Next term there will be lots of opportunities for the other houses to challenge this score and I am looking forward to awarding the House Cup at the end of the academic year to the house with the most points. Mr Robinson, Mrs Tidball and Mrs Hawkins did a fantastic job in creating such a wonderful experience and there are even more exciting days coming up next term.

I would like to thank parents and carers for their support this week when we had to halt live learning. Safer Internet Day was this week and I know online security was discussed and explained again in school. Thank you to the Anti Bullying Ambassadors for their thoughtful presentations on Wednesday. I would like to remind everyone that it is the responsibility of all of us to maintain our internet safety. Please take time to read Mr Foley's Online safety article included in this newsletter and sit down with your children and talk about this. Students have been reminded that they should not share login details, passwords and links—please reinforce this at home.

As we look forward to half term and the start of Lent we all need to take time to consider the three pillars of Lent - prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Today I recorded a video message for students and shared this thought with them. "Be a reflection of what you'd like to receive. If you want love, give love. If you want truth, be truthful. If you want respect, give respect. What you give out will return to you." With this in mind let us take time to stop and be mindful of everything we have to be grateful for. The family of St Gregory's continues to grow in strength, even though we are apart it is a pleasure and a blessing to be a member of this wonderful community.

Have a wonderful and well-deserved break next week.

Best wishes

A Cusack, Headmistress

Dates for Your Diary

Fri 12 Feb	End of Term 3
Thu 4 Mar	Whole School Wellbeing Day
Thu 4 Mar	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Thu 25 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening
Mon 22 Feb	Term 4 Begins
Thu 1 Apr	End of Term - 1.30 pm finish
Fri 2 Apr	Good Friday - School Closed

When we return: Week A

Wellbeing Day on 5 February

Congratulations to Stein House who were the winners.



Here are photos of a few of the winning bakes. A full write up of the day's events is on page 2 and 3.



Chaplaincy Thoughts for the Week

On Friday 5 February we took all students in Years 7-10 off timetable for a Wellbeing and House Day to give them valuable time away from screens and the opportunity to earn points for their house. After adapting so well to remote learning and live lessons once more, we wanted to give our young people a full day away from technology to connect with the world, themselves, with God and with others in their family or bubble. The day was split into six activities and students could pick five to fill their usual school timetable day. They were Be Kind, Press Pause, Be Creative, Be Active, Be Artistic and Love Learning.

For the Be Creative baking challenge, our very own master of the lemon drizzle cake, Mrs Tidball, judged the incredible selection of cakes and other treats. She took into account presentation, creativity and how well the finished product linked to the house theme. One of the downers of the day was that we could not taste the food, however, it was so lovely to hear how many students decided to take their treat next door to a neighbour or share with others in some way.

Mrs Tidball chose to award bonus points in three categories - 10, 20 and 30 points. A plethora of points were awarded in each, but a particular mention goes to those who were awarded 30 bonus points for their house:

Stein - Florence B, Lily P, Katie-Grace P, Paola J-V and Luna M

Francis - Ruby S

Romero - Ciera B

Bakhita - Milly C & Isobel N

The overall winners of this challenge were Stein house who gained an extra 100pts.

In the house challenge, Be Artistic, we were amazed at the creativity and expressive ways in which students linked their own personalities with the symbolism associated with their house saints. Bonus points for this category went to over 40 different students who each earned their house an additional 20 points. However, we did pick a top three which we could not choose between - they won an extra 100pts for their houses!

Stein - Paola J-V & James L

Francis - Ana S R



Next term we will start to look at how to put together four separate art installations based on the individuality of the jigsaw designs.



The third challenge of the day which we were awarding house points for was the Be Active challenge. Our

aim was to get as far up the country from Lands' End to John O'Groats as possible with each house having a virtual race. Unfortunately, no house managed to get above Hadrian's Wall or even into my beloved Lancashire! However, they did incredibly well and you can see from the graphic below that Romero and Bakhita were neck and neck with only 1km separating their efforts. The most important part of this challenge though, was about getting out and enjoying the outdoors. Therefore, we gave lots of bonus points for students who took pictures, pushed themselves in other ways, took puppies on training walks, another student walked to the shop for a neighbour and my personal favourite - one family went on a metal detector hunt!

Congratulations to these students for their endeavours on the day, earning maximum bonus points for their house:

Bakhita - Kendrix P & Alicja S

Romero - Tommy H-S & Alex M

Francis - Tallulah W, Josh H & Ruby S

Stein - James H

The other activities on the day were all about taking some time for themselves or giving to others. These things cannot be rated or judged by another person. Practising gratitude is a mindset which raises both your own spirits and those of another. We loved seeing some of the selfless giving which our young people undertook on the day, everything from making lunch for the family, giving away baked goods to a neighbour, taking someone else's dog for a walk and there were plenty of brews made for hard working adults! That really is a life skill to get in the habit of making a good tea or coffee! We did add some bonus points for going above and beyond, as well as true acts of kindness, eg we spotted one lovely student commenting on how amazing other people's creations were.

So many students let us know that the mindfulness tasks, yoga, meditation and letter or prayer writing were genuinely helpful activities for them - pressing pause and being kind are essential parts of life to be balanced with everything else. Self-reflection is a powerful tool for controlling one's own emotions, understanding yourself and others better and for forming a closer bond with God.

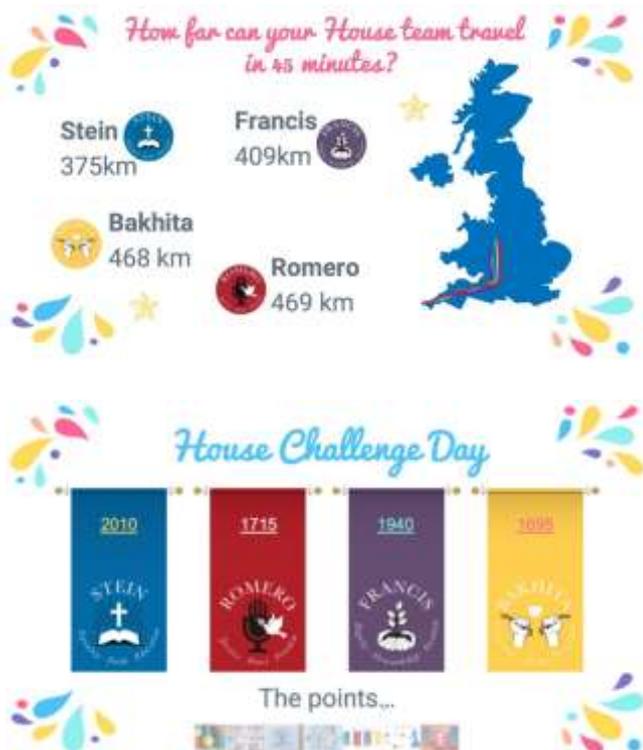
Here are a couple of comments that were sent to us by students and staff which attest to the fruitfulness of wellbeing days such as this:

"Thanks for organising a great day."

"Thank you for all the hard work and effort you and the team put into the wellbeing day. Having that day really boosted my mood. We had a really fun day and would love to do it more often."

"Can I just add my voice to the hundreds of parents who I am sure are saying what a wonderful idea today was. The suggestions on the sheet were great. My son really needed that. As the term has worn on, I can see his enthusiasm waning so today was a fantastic tonic. Thanks to everyone for suggesting and creating this wonderful day."

A HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO STEIN HOUSE WHO WERE THE WINNERS OF THE DAY WITH 2010 POINTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Francis came 2nd with 1940, Romero 3rd with 1715 and Bakhita 4th with 1695.

Lent in Lockdown - Ash Wednesday

During half term we begin the season of Lent, truly in a wilderness and desert experience! I'm sure many are asking the question about how we can begin the season in the usual ways without ashes or if we do go to a service what will happen. Strangely enough, we will go back to a more traditional way of marking ourselves in Churches, namely the ashes will be scattered on the top of your head. It seems to be English speaking countries that have adopted this idea of making a cross on your forehead with ashes, others tend to sprinkle. It actually fits better with the idea that when we put ashes upon ourselves it is as a sign of fasting, but in secret, and not making a show of it to everyone.

Upon our return to school we'll be encouraging our young people to take up a daily task that links to the three pillars of Lent – prayer, fasting and almsgiving. You may also wish to check out CAFOD's 'Walk for Water this Lent' campaign which hits the nail on the head during this Lent in a pandemic. We will be exploring how we as a school can get involved when we return on 22 February.



Ash Wednesday falls on Weds 17th Feb this year, in the middle of half term. It is a day when we fast and recall our dependency on God who created us. We recognise our weaknesses and use the day to reflect on how we can turn back to God. The outward expression of an ashed cross on our forehead would be a reminder all day of the words "Repent and believe the Good News" or "Remember you are dust and to dust you shall return". If you are going to be at home to begin Lent this year, here are a few ideas for marking the beginning of the season.



- 1 OIL** - use olive oil or a scented oil to make a cross upon your forehead. Oils are used for anointing at your baptism, confirmation and other sacraments, so you could use it in this way and take a moment to remember that we are dependant upon God.
- 2 PEN** - maybe use a washable pen to mark a cross on your head. There will be Ash Wednesday services available online so join in with one of those virtually, then scribe your cross at the appropriate time.
- 3 RECORD** - take some time in prayer and self reflection to record how you wish to mark Lent this year. You could also write down all the things you wish to rid yourself of, or all that you are sorry for then tear them apart as a symbol of God's loving forgiveness.

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. Any absence due to illness must be reported by parents/carers in the normal way. **The school day in school for next term has now changed and will be 8.30am to 2.30pm.**

Students in school need:

- Full School Uniform **Not PE kit**
- Packed lunch
- Plug in Headphones

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



WHO CAN TAKE PART?

CATEGORY 1 Entries from Year 7 and Year 8 Pupils

CATEGORY 2 Entries from Years 9, 10 and 11 Pupils

Learners of French, German and Spanish are welcome to take part in this competition

HOW CAN I TAKE PART?

Produce a music video or a video of a sketch in French or German or Spanish

The video must be between 3 – 5 minutes long
Pupils can work on their own or in groups
Teachers must ensure that appropriate language and clothing is used/worn in the video

HOW MANY PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED?

- Six prizes will be awarded – three in each category
- A £50 prize voucher will be awarded to the overall winner in both categories
- Two £25 prize vouchers will be awarded in each category - one for linguistic excellence another one for artistic expression
- All participants will receive a certificate of participation

DEADLINES 2021

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION OF ENTRIES: 19th March

DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF VIDEOS: 26th March

PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED: 27th March

REGISTRATION & CONSENT FORMS

- If you would like to enter this competition please let your language teacher know as soon as possible (19th of March is the registration deadline)
- Your teacher will help you to fill out the forms



Bath & NE Somerset

Signposting

Special Needs

Local Services

Childcare

Take a well-earned coffee break with SEND Partnership Service Parent Champions for information about what support is available from SEND Partnership Service and other local services that may be relevant to you

Meet us on Zoom

(no account required, just contact us to request a place, copy the link we'll send you into a web browser to join)

Friday 26th February 2021, 1.30-2.30pm

Monday 8th March 2021, 10.30-11.45am

Contact SEND Partnership Service:
Email send_partnershipservice@bathnes.gov.uk
Phone: 01225 394382

Bath & North East Somerset Council

Improve People's Lives



Support

Inclusion

Disabilities

Impartial Information

NHS
Bath and North East Somerset,
Swindon and Wiltshire
Clinical Commissioning Group

THE LANGUAGES CORNER

French:

On m'a dit que ...= I have been told/we have been told.

We have been told that it was a beautiful place.

On m'a dit que c'était un bel endroit.

I have been told that I would love it there.

On m'a dit que je m'y plairais.

German:

Little words, big difference
auf, offen = open
zu, geschlossen

Wann macht der Supermarkt auf?

When does the supermarket open?

Wann macht der Supermarkt zu?

When does the supermarket close?

Mandarin:

活到老, 学到老。(Huó dào lǎo, xué dào lǎo. 'live until old, study until old.) — **Live till you're old, and study till you're old.**

Spanish:

No esta el horno para bollos – it's not a good time (literally – this is not the oven for buns)

Art at St Gregory's



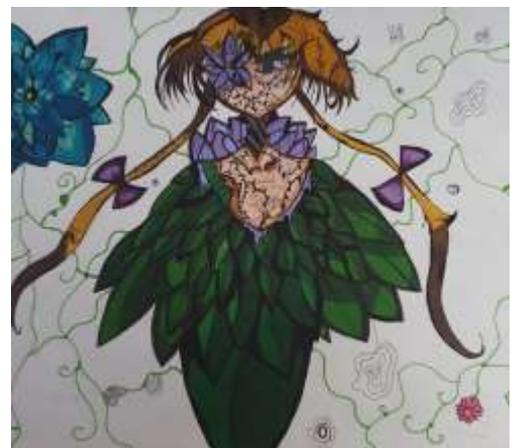
These beautiful wildlife pictures are by **Eve J** in Year 7, a very talented young artist.

Mrs Bowden, Head of Art

This is the art work of **Ciera B** in Year 8. Ciera works in a range of media including pencils, colour pencils, marker pens and paint. Her distinctive style and subject matter shows a strong illustrative influence and will doubtless inspire many other young artists to pick up their pencils and start drawing!

Well done Ciera and thank you for sharing your amazing art work with us.

Mrs Bowden, Head of Art





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:



St Augustine's, Downend



St Mary's, Bath



St John's, Bath



St Benedict's, Midsomer Norton

**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**



Dear Students, we hope you enjoyed last week's activities. This week we have attached an activity with an engineering link – make a spaghetti tower. Then there are two articles this week, one a link to a series of podcasts by David Attenborough for you to listen to – there are 40 of them. The other is about an annual star count that you can be involved with. Have a wonderful half term and send us the picture of your efforts—we would love to see them.

Science Team 

- Links of the week – <https://www.cpre.org.uk/what-we-care-about/nature-and-landscapes/dark-skies/star-count-2021/>
- <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sounds/brand/b00ylsr7>



- Practical of the Week - https://ads.dennisnet.co.uk/subs/2020/TWJ/MAR/28_SN20%20Spaghetti%20pyramid_v2.pdf

Relationship Education

Next term all students in Year 7-10 and Year 12, as part of their RE lessons, will be engaging in the Relationship and Sex Education programme. We will be using, as a resource, the programme written by Ten:Ten Life to the Full. This programme will teach Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) within the context of a Christian understanding of human sexuality rooted in the wisdom and teaching of the Catholic Church. All the lessons have been adapted so they can be used effectively for home learning.

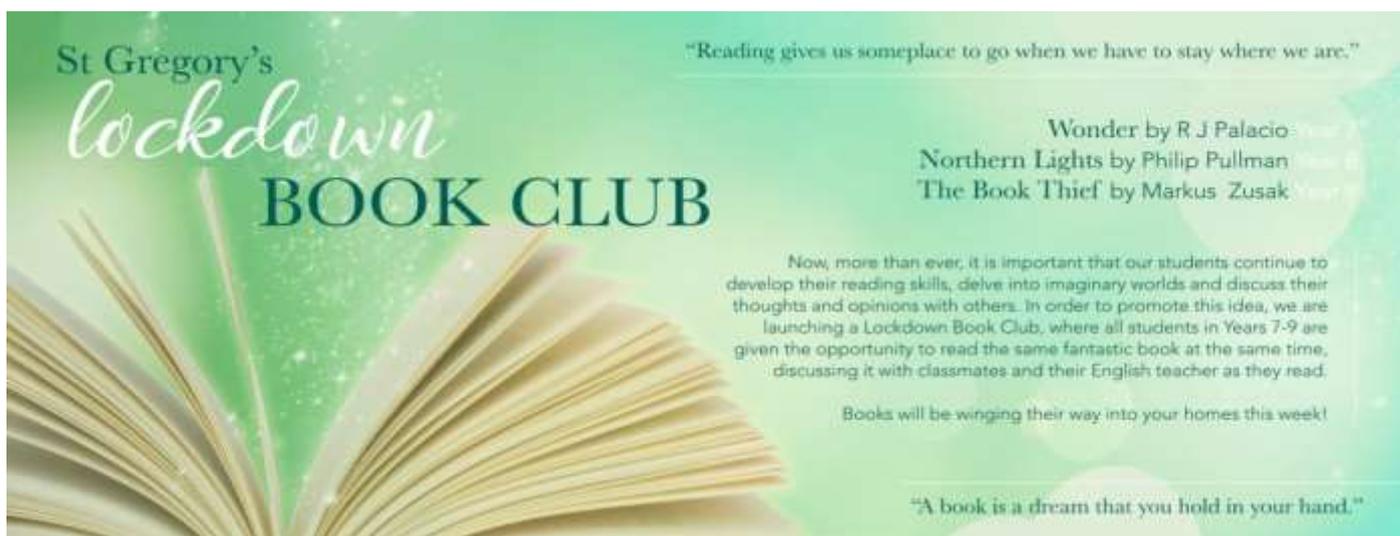
Students will be familiar with Ten:Ten and the format of media and discussion points as we have used their Cinema in Education programme for many years. RE staff will continue to set the work on Google Classrooms and guide students in live lessons through what they have to do. These lessons will commence during the week beginning 22 February. A student can access the course on a phone, tablet, laptop or desktop.

For more information on what your child will be studying please visit the Parent Portal.

<https://www.tentenresources.co.uk/parent-portal/>

- Username: opp-stgregs-2
- Password: rse-parent-brown

Ms Spindler, Head of RE



Monkton Combe School, Bath
In association with the London College of Creative Media
present

THE
LOCK ROCK
COMPETITION 2021

- Record your band's parts separately
- Put them together in a video
- Enter your video to Lock Rock
- Any song, any style, any school age!

FIRST PRIZE
a recording session for your band at the
London College of Creative Media!

Judged by a panel from LCCM
Contact your school's Music Department for further details

Please adhere to current coronavirus guidelines

Closing date - Sunday 7th March

Rules for the Lock Rock competition – February 2021

1. Any style of music will be accepted
2. The song can be an original or a cover
3. The video must contain a minimum of two people performing
4. Performers must be of school age
5. The video should be between two and three minutes in duration
6. The audio can be live takes or an edited recording
7. The audio must be recorded by the band
8. Commercial tracks and/or karaoke tracks will not be permissible
9. The video can be split screen style or something more edited and 'arty'
10. The judging will be based upon the quality and entertainment-value of the overall package, and not on the technical proficiency of the audio or video editing alone
11. All current coronavirus restrictions must be adhered to
12. Entries after 7 March 2021 will not be accepted
13. The judging panel's decision will be final
14. The prize of a recording session at LCCM will take place after the end of Coronavirus restrictions, at a time and date agreed between LCCM, the winning entries' school and the band.
15. The winners will be announced in April 2021

Online Safety from Mr Foley

As we near the end of the third term, I would like you all to still be vigilant regarding Online Safety. We are still living in uncertain times where the internet is still heavily relied upon for both entertainment and work. It is therefore still important to be safe and be aware of the many dangers and pitfalls the internet holds. St Gregory's community plays a major role in keeping everyone safe by informing you all about issues related to safety online.



Remember while online: -

- ◇ Explore together
- ◇ Provide regular reminders and breaks
- ◇ Talk about online safety little and often
- ◇ Help your child identify trusted adults and who can help them if they are worried
- ◇ Be non-judgemental
- ◇ Talk about how their online actions can affect others
- ◇ Parental controls
- ◇ Linked family phones
- ◇ Different platforms to maintain social contact
- ◇ Direct your child to age-appropriate information about relationships and sex

TikTok Update

Over the last year there have been videos floating around on TikTok that I am aware of that are not appropriate for anyone to watch. These videos are taken down and stopped by TikTok and The National Crime Agency also investigate and take action where needed. However, as with all videos, once they hit the public domain they are copied and can re-emerge through different accounts.

I would also like to draw to your attention to a TikTok user that has created multiple TikTok profiles and is linking these to inappropriate content. With this in mind, can we all, as a community, be vigilant and if you do come across the video and inappropriate content, report this directly to TikTok or use

the Click CEOP button on our website.

I thought it may be prudent for me to point you in a direction to where you can find information that will help you understand everything about TikTok. This is because there is a good chance your child is either using it already or asking to be allowed on it – but what exactly is it, and are there any risks you should be aware of? The following link will take you to the parent Info website dedicated to TikTok: **ParentInfo Information on safe usage and monitoring**

As parents and carers you play a key role in helping your child to stay safe online. However, as a parent myself, I am fully aware this can be really difficult and daunting to manage because our children know more than we do!

Therefore the following links, provide important information and guidance/advice regarding matters related to safe usage and monitoring: -

- * [ParentInfo](#)
- * [Saferinternet](#)
- * [Internet Matters](#)

We have produced a useful [guide](#) providing further details on what steps parents and carers can take to support their child during this period, together with a comprehensive list of online resources and tools to help keep your children safe online. There is also more information on our [school website](#).

If you have come across anything that seems wrong or not quite right then it is really important to report them to the relevant authorities – this includes the school but more importantly the police and the National Crime Agency.

This link button can be found on our website in our Online Safety section under the Parent Information Tab.



Mr Foley, Head of Computing



doodlemaths

Doodle Star Champions of the week:

<u>Year 7:</u>	<u>Lyvia G</u> (262 stars)
	Rachel L (138 stars)
	<u>Szymon K</u> (84 stars)
	Elliott P (60 stars)
<u>Year 8:</u>	Kieran H (60 stars)
	<u>Seb White</u> (60 stars)

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



ELECTRIFIED LINES ARE
ALWAYS ON.
SO ALWAYS
STAY OFF.

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