

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

As always it has been another incredibly busy week at school. We are delighted that all students are back, engaged and enjoying learning; a school is not a school without children.

I am delighted to announce we have completed all our lateral flow tests required by the Government. Consenting families are now being issued with testing kits and I would like to thank all the staff and volunteers involved in this very challenging operation. My I remind parents and carers that it is now the families' responsibility to test and notify us of positive results. I hope you have found my recent letter on home testing helpful and if you have any concerns or queries please email our dedicated COVID email: [covid@st-gregorys.org.uk](mailto:covid@st-gregorys.org.uk).

Students have also been completing travel surveys in tutor time this week so we can continue to work closely with the bus companies to resolve issues that have arisen since our return to school.

A number of parents and carers have expressed concerns about purchasing uniform because Trutex Uniform Shop is currently closed due to the current lockdown restrictions, so the PTFA have stepped in to run a second hand 'Pop up' uniform shop on Saturday 27 March. If you are interested in attending you must book via the parents' evening system <https://saintgregorysbath.schoolcloud.co.uk/>. Please support the uniform shop as it fits in with our 'green' agenda. If you would like to donate uniform for the shop please make sure items are washed and ironed. They can be handed in at Reception.

I would like to congratulate our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors and Mrs Hawkins-Brown for completing their training with 'The Diana Award' this week.

As always we are doing everything we can for the wellbeing and educational experience of our students and thank parents and carers for their continued support.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes  
A Cusack, Headmistress

**Dates for Your Diary**

Wed 24 Mar	Y8 MEP Club Cancelled
Thu 25 Mar	Year 13 Parents' Evening
Thu 1 Apr	End of Term - 1.30 pm finish
Fri 2 Apr	Good Friday - School Closed

**Next week: Week A**

**COVID Testing Team**



We have had an amazing team of volunteers conducting the COVID testing over the last two weeks.

They have been in really early every day, often worked without breaks and never complained when a lunch break was not possible. By the end of this week we will have carried out over 3000 tests.

Our team have been fantastic and kind to all of our students and we can not thank them enough for their work. They have been in full protective wear but there has always been a smile behind the mask.

They have met anxiety and fear with reassurance and empathy.

I would like to say a massive thank you to the whole team.

Mrs Cleveland, Assistant Headteacher

## The Great St Gregory's Springwatch!

On our last House Day we launched our Springwatch Photography competition. Unfortunately, the weather was awful – so the light for photos was poor.

We would like to extend the competition to allow more of you to get some lovely photos and take part.

- Take a photo showing spring wildlife or a beautiful spring view
- Send them to [tiddballj@st-gregorys.org.uk](mailto:tiddballj@st-gregorys.org.uk)
- If you have already submitted a photo in Google Classroom there is no need to re-send
- The best 12 will be used to make a St Gregory's Springwatch calendar
- There will also be three prizes up for grabs – a £25 voucher for the winner and two runner up prizes of £10 vouchers.



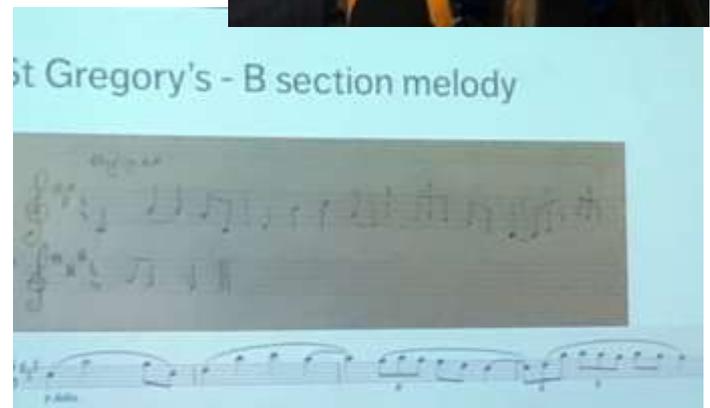
The closing date for the competition is the end of the Easter holiday. I can't wait to see all your photos – get outside and enjoy some green time!

Mrs Tidball, Director of Studies

## The Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra

On Thursday the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra performed a concert of the GCSE set works across the different syllabi. Students from Year 9 - 11 watched the concert which went out to all schools in the Bath and North East Somerset area. The second part of the concert involved a live composition exercise. Students in Year 11 composed a melody that was chosen to be featured in this section. Their melody was described as 'beautiful and expressive' and was arranged for a range of instruments as part of the concert.

We took away some brilliant compositional techniques to use in compositions.



# POP-UP *preloved!* SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

## SATURDAY 27 MARCH

9-12AM - **BY APPOINTMENT ONLY** - MADE VIA SCHOOL BOOKING SYSTEM  
TO BE HELD IN **THE BOND PAVILLION.**

At 9am on Saturday 27th March we will be opening the inaugural Saint Greg's pop-up uniform shop! Please watch out for information coming soon on how to book via the school booking system - pre-booking is necessary we will be allocating time slots to allow for social distancing. It's such a fantastic initiative to allow all the uniforms that our children are growing out of at a crazy rate, to fulfill their intended lifespan!

If you have uniform you'd like to donate to the sale, please send it to school - **washed and ironed** - with your child and it can be popped into a container in reception. Please remove name tags. All proceeds from the sale will be going back into the school for upcoming projects.

Saint Gregory's Bath  
**PTFA**  
Parents, Teachers & Friends Association



## Chaplaincy Thoughts for the Week

"See! The winter is past; the rains are over and gone. Flowers appear on the earth; the season of singing has come, the cooing of doves is heard in our land."

(Song of Songs 2:11-12)

How very true this quote is from the rarely read book of the bible 'Song of Songs'. As we gaze outside, daffodils are beginning to smile back at us, buds are beginning to sprout on the gangly branches and the whistling and singing of wildlife is becoming more prevalent. During the last couple of weeks of lockdown those of us in the lower school keyworker bubble planted a whole host of seeds ready for the coming spring. Students planted a mixture of vegetables

that soon we will be able to move over to our greenhouse and allotment area next to the Gateway building.

Continuing with this little project, lots of students have been coming up on to the stage and Chapel to take part in break and lunchtime chaplaincy activities. This week we began by constructing plant pots to house our array of vegetables as they begin to grow. Once they were put together students began painting them with beautiful spring imagery which you can see in some of the pictures. Next up students will be helping pot the vegetables before they are moved over to the greenhouse and with a bit of luck our food tech department can use any of the produce that grows later in the year.

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain





**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 Gilda's, Yeovil



St Joseph & St Theresa, Wells



St Joseph's, Bridgwater

**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

## THE LANGUAGES CORNER

### French:

**une matière ( a subject at school ) and un sujet ( a topic )**

*I have 13 subjects at school and my favourite subject is French*

*J'ai 13 matières à l'école et ma matière préférée est le français. The subject/topic of the debate is : Education*

**Le sujet** du débat est: education.

### Mandarin:

家和万事兴。(Jiāhé wànshìxīng. 'family harmonious everything prospers') — **If a family is harmonious everything will go well.**

### German:

Little words, big difference

früh = early

spät = late

Ich bin früh ins Bett gegangen.

= I went to bed early.

Ich bin spät aufgestanden. = I

got up late.

### Spanish:

Estoy como agua para chocolate – I'm very angry (literally, I'm like boiling water ready to make hot chocolate).

## Travel News



First bus are providing the following additional journeys at peak times.

- Service 41 - additional journeys from Ambury, Bath Centre dep 08:28 to Odd Down Park & Ride arr 08:38, and a journey from Odd Down Park and Ride dep 15:14 to Ambury, Bath Centre arr 15:24 .
- Service 42 - additional journeys from Royal United Hospital dep 07:58 to Odd Down Park and Ride arr 08:18, and a journey from Odd Down Park and Ride dep 15:14 to Royal United Hospital arr 15:34 .
- Service 172 - additional journeys from Bath Bus Station to Mendip Gardens during the morning and afternoon for school start and finish times.

Students are reminded to observe the social distancing spacing on the buses. Students are required to put their masks on prior to boarding the bus, and to wear the mask throughout the journey, in line with government guidance. Students may wish to bring their own personal small bottle of hand sanitiser to clean their hands before boarding transport, and again on disembarking.

Miss Medcroft, Transport Co-ordinator

Poem of the week - chosen by some Year 10 students:

### The Road Not Taken - by Robert Frost

Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,  
And sorry I could not travel both  
And be one traveller, long I stood  
And looked down one as far as I could  
To where it bent in the undergrowth;  
Then took the other, as just as fair,  
And having perhaps the better claim,  
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;  
Though as for that the passing there  
Had worn them really about the same,  
And both that morning equally lay  
In leaves no step had trodden black.  
Oh, I kept the first for another day!  
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,  
I doubted if I should ever come back.  
I shall be telling this with a sigh  
Somewhere ages and ages hence:  
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—  
I took the one less travelled by,  
And that has made all the difference.

Year 10 and 11 students are looking at unseen poetry in English. This poem by Robert Frost is an example of the poetry.

The English Faculty

### Scopay Online Payment System

Please note that there is an issue with the App; parents and carers are advised to log in using the website **not** the App until this is rectified.

We are also aware that the process transaction file is not showing details of purchases, only costs and hope to rectify this as soon as possible.

The Finance Team

### Masks

Masks are recommended for all indoor spaces at school, including classrooms where social distancing cannot be maintained.

#### Not Effective



Gaiter, scarf, or bandana



Face shield without mask



Masks with vents or valves

#### Effective



Mask with 2 or more layers



Covers your mouth & nose completely



Fits snugly without gaps

## 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.

## Sports Clubs Timetable



### Netball and Football

#### Week 2 - 22.03.21

Tuesday - Year 10

Wednesday - Year 11

Thursday - Year 7

#### Week3 - 29.03.21

Tuesday - Year 8

Wednesday - Year 9

All sports clubs will run from 3.15 - 4.15pm. You must book a place on School Cloud to attend (this is the same as the Parents' Evening booking system).

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

On the day of your club please wait on the Piazza until your PE teacher arrives.

### Interested in Music lessons?



We have a fantastic team of peripatetic music teachers and offer lessons during the school day.

If you are interested in learning an instrument, please email:

[music@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:music@bathnes.gov.uk)

### Anti-Bullying Ambassador Update

Our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors have been hard at work this term. As well as our updated Anti-Bullying Policy going out for parental consultation, it was also disseminated to our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors who then fed back their thoughts and ideas in order to shape the final policy.

This week also brought the exciting event that was our first official Anti-Bullying Ambassador training session. Please see below for a report on this important training from two of our Year 12 ambassadors. Students have had some incredible ideas, so watch this space for new initiatives.

Sally Hawkins-Brown - PSHE Lead

### Anti-Bullying Ambassadors Training Report

Hello, we are the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. We are a group of Year 7-12s all hoping to make a difference in our school community. We all have our own story and want change to happen! Being Year 12 we have been all through school, learning about bullying. However, in our personal opinion, there is so much more that could have been and can be done and this is why having younger years actively involved in this was important! We all had a vague idea of how to approach bullying but we needed training to ensure we could help our school community in the best way possible. This is where 'The Diana Award' came into play.

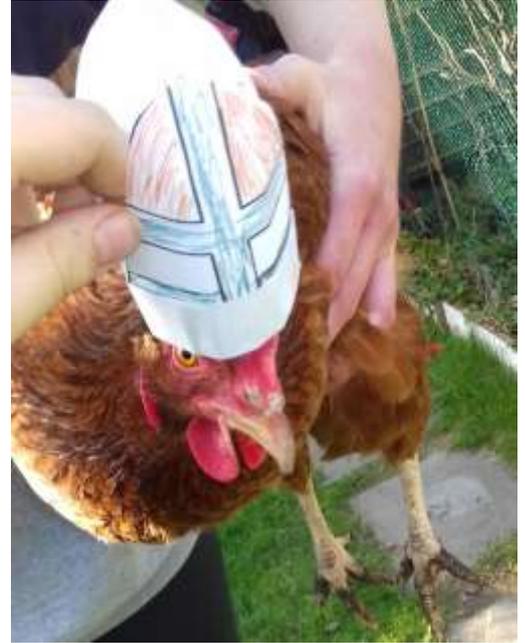
On Wednesday 17 March, the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors met at Sulis Manor for training from The Diana Award. The morning was divided into two halves. For the first half we sat in our bubbles to join the online training and discussed

bullying, the importance of the training and what we can do to help. It was an interactive session and everyone participated by asking questions and putting forward their ideas. We also learnt about the importance of speaking up and the history of The Diana Award. In the second half we looked at the three types of bullying - verbal, indirect and physical, how to differentiate between them and how they can have an impact on an individual. Following on from this we looked at what it meant to be an upstander, rather than a bystander, when it comes to bullying and how to help someone whilst keeping yourself safe. We looked at multiple scenarios and how to prevent them from recurring, as well as looking into important bullying statistics. We looked at different celebrities who have been bullied and then went onto how we can prevent it and campaigning ideas looking at ideas we can bring into school and how to roll them out as well as breaking down ways to tackle bullying within different year groups. To end the session, we looked at SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bonded) targets to ensure we had a better understanding on how to roll out different schemes to help further prevent bullying and for support of those who are being bullied.

It was a fabulous day and we all left the session buzzing with ideas and we can't wait to start putting our ideas out there and making an inclusive, safe and honest school community with our refreshed, deepened understanding on bullying and fresh ideas. No matter whether you are Year 7 or Year 13, we are here for you and we can't wait to hear from you all and help where we can! Keep an eye out for more details!

By Nicole T and Kyla B (Year 12 Anti-Bullying Ambassadors)

Miss Hollywood's Year 7s enjoyed celebrating Saint Patrick's day a little differently this year by creating Saint Patrick's day hats for their pets .



### Congratulations to...

Joey H, 110 has received his UKMT results from the Hamilton Olympiad (Maths) last year.

He managed to achieve a Merit which puts him in the top 25% of candidates. He has already been placed in the top 600 candidates nationally to qualify for the Olympiad, achieving a Gold certificate (and 'Best in School') for the third consecutive year.

In January he was awarded a government assisted scholarship to be a Specialist Musician at Wells Cathedral School from September, and he has also been accepted onto the Specialist Mathematics programme with an honorary maths scholarship. Well done Joey!



Dear Students, here is this week's instalment of a Slice of Science. It includes an article about Acids and Alkalis, which you learn about in Year 7. The practical is a nice little one about light and refraction.



The Science Team

Article of the week - <https://www.sciencenewsforstudents.org/article/lets-learn-about-acids-and-bases>



Practical of the Week - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9n362snGUdw>

### Car Parking/Student Drop Off Notice

Please be mindful that as the school car park has been cleared for the safety of the students gathering in their bubbles before school, parents and carers are asked **not** to drop off at the main site or from Odd Down Football Club as parking for staff is very limited. Students can be dropped off at Odd Down Park and Ride.



### Year 7 Drama Club

Venue: Drama Studio

Date Commencing: Tuesday 24

March - **Every other Tuesday**

Time: 3.00pm - 3.45pm

### Year 8 Drama Club

Venue: Drama Studio

Date Commencing: Tuesday 16

March - **Every other Tuesday**

Time: 3.00pm - 3.45pm

