

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we are now in our final term for Year 13 students; it feels simultaneously like the longest and shortest two years that I can remember and I am sure many of you feel the same way. With so much focus on Term 5 assessments and TAGs we have not forgotten the importance of celebrating our young people, perhaps this year more than any other, before they leave us to move on to various opportunities at University and in apprenticeships and employment. We will be sharing more details soon but we will be marking the end of A levels in a manner befitting the significance of the achievement for all.

We will be working with our Y12 cohort soon on considering their aspirations and plans for after A levels. Bespoke and individualised support will be being offered to every student to help them consider what they would most like to work towards over the coming year. To matters more prosaic, Y12 exams will go ahead in June as calendared. These are an opportunity for students to show their continued acquisitions of the skills required at A level, inspiring confidence in staff that they are ready for the increased demand of Y13 study from September. Staff will share details to aid students preparation soon however all should begin to factor revision into their weekly plans to ensure that they are able to show themselves at their very best.

Finally, I am excited to say that we will be opening applications for Y12 students to join our student senior team next week. Students will be invited to submit a letter of application outlining both why they think they are a good candidate for a place on the team but also sharing their goals and targets should they be successful. We are looking for candidates who are passionate about the school and sixth form and eager to work towards making the experience of all students even better. Details will be shared with students on Tuesday 27 April.

As the weather continues to improve and we enjoy greater freedom as a society, I wish all of our community a lovely weekend.

**Mrs Lucy Staves, Director of Sixth Form**

## Dates for your Diary

### April

Mon 19 April	Start of Term 5 - Week B
Fri 30 April	Inset Day - School closed for Students

### May

Mon 3 May	Bank Holiday - School closed
Fri 28 May	End of Term 5 Y13 Official Leaving date

### June

Mon 7 June	Start of Term 6 - Week B
Mon 21 June	Exams Week - Y12

### APRIL

**Earth Day - 22 April:** The Earth Day Network works around the world to work towards changing things for the better when it comes to: Climate Action, Science and Education, People and Communities, Conservation and Restoration and Plastic and Pollution.



**St George's Day - 23 April:** St George's Day in England remembers St George, England's Patron Saint. The anniversary of his death, which is on 23 April, is seen as England's national day. According to legend, he was a soldier in the Roman army who killed a dragon and saved a princess.



### MAY

**No Mow May:** For the whole month of May don't mow your lawn! "Changing your mowing routine and allowing plants to flower can create enough nectar for ten times more bees and other pollinators. You're also more likely to spot a greater variety of flowers popping up in your garden."

## Chaplaincy Thoughts

For the sports fans amongst us, you will have struggled to get away from talk of the European Super League in the past week. The venture, nothing but a money grabbing power trip with the intention of making the rich richer and pretending the poor matter, has thankfully been binned after a reality check. With regards to the English clubs who signed up to be a part of this breakaway 'elite' competition, the clubs were constantly referred to as the 'So called big 6', veiled and beautifully passive aggressive in description. The irony was that many of these big 6 clubs had struggled to dominate and qualify in the top positions in recent years.



Moving away from sport, many of you will have heard of the G7 – comprising seven of the big global super rich countries of the world (UK, USA, Canada, Japan, France, Germany & Italy). They come together annually to look at how to address some of the worlds biggest challenges and use their collective might to influence everything from climate to economy, security and healthcare. Hot on the agenda should be how the world recovers from a global pandemic, and will be a chance for repairing of relationships with the US after the damage of Donald Trump. When their annual Summits are held here in the UK, it is an opportunity for the people of our country to lobby leaders and encourage them to use their seat at the table for good.

The last time the G7 Summit was held in the UK was 2013 and this year is the first time since 2019 that the leaders have gathered in person. It is being held at Carbis Bay, Cornwall from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June. Boris Johnson says that the summit can “*build back better from the coronavirus pandemic and create a greener, more prosperous future*”.

If you feel passionate about any of the issues that will be discussed at the summit, about politics or making your voice heard, then charities are giving you ways of getting your message across. CAFOD is ‘*urging G7 leaders to support the poorest nations by cancelling all debt payments owed by low-income countries so that those countries have the money they need to recover and rebuild from the pandemic.*’. They have petitions available on their website [cafod.org.uk](https://www.cafod.org.uk).

Action Aid ([actionaid.org.uk](https://www.actionaid.org.uk)) are pushing for the UK to take a lead on trade and women’s rights in the wake of Brexit and new trade relations. Save the children are encouraging a plan

called *crack the crises* for future response to global pandemics, climate and ensuring that children and their children can be safe ([savethechildren.org.uk](https://www.savethechildren.org.uk)).



16 years ago I jumped on an overnight Megabus from Preston to Edinburgh with just a rucksack to take part in the ‘*Make poverty history*’ campaign to ensure the G8 Summit in Scotland heard our voices. I took part in rallies, serenaded Bob Geldof (a whole story in itself!) and somehow blagged my way into the huge concert at Murrayfield. It’s one of the most vivid recollections I have from my teenage years. I believe it’s because it meant so much, it had a real purpose for others. Fans made their voices heard and stopped the creation of the selfish European Super League, in 2005 the UK made it’s voice heard and got 8 huge promises from the G8 which have made massive strides. If you care, make your voice heard this year.

**Matt Robinson | Lay Chaplain**

## Mental Health Awareness Week



Hosted by the Mental Health Foundation, Mental Health Awareness Week will take place from 10-16 May 2021. The theme is “Nature”. For more information go to:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week/why-nature>



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

# Anti-bullying Ambassadors



## Anti-Bullying Ambassador Update

Before Easter our Anti-Bullying Ambassadors were hard at work. 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.

Last term 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**

"Hello, we are the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors. We are a group of Y7-Y12s all hoping to make a difference in our school community. We all have our own story and want change to happen! Being Y12 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<sup>th</sup> 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 from this we looked at what it meant to be an up-stander, 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)**

"The thing is," said the boy "I haven't really done anything."  
"You are not what you do," said the horse...  
"...You're a friend, which is a priceless thing." x

# PROGRESSION

## Free Apprenticeship & University Webinars



We understand that attending an open day is a significant part of a student's decision when it comes to choosing their options. Whilst we still cannot welcome students to our campus at this time, we are delighted to invite them to join our open morning on **Saturday 8 May 10am-12pm** via Zoom.

During this two hour session, principal Dr Janet Rose and vice principal Mandy Donaldson, will provide a comprehensive live tour of Norland, giving students the chance to explore our campus and see where our TEF Gold-rated degree and integrated diploma training takes place.

The second half of the morning will feature a live Q&A session, where students will have the opportunity to meet our friendly team and ask staff and students all those important questions about studying at Norland.

Ctrl & Click on the link:

Book now

## R W Barnes Bursary Grant

The R W Barnes Bursary Fund has been set up to offer financial assistance to undergraduate students going/ currently at university studying Maths, Physics or Engineering courses at certain UK universities and subject to certain criteria and exceptions

Students must be following an undergraduate degree programme in which at least 60% of the course material is in one or more of the following subjects: Mathematics, Physics, Engineering (Aeronautical, Electrical, Electronics or Mechanical), Astronomy, or Oceanography.

Grants of up to **£2500** are available.

Guidelines and application form can be found on our website (link below). Closing date 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 1.00 pm.

<https://quartetcf.org.uk/grant-programmes/r-w-barnes-bursary/>



### Webinar Wednesdays

will be returning with three webinars led by university experts, you can sign up and find out more [here](#).

Following the government's recent guidance we are very pleased to announce the **UK University & Apprenticeship Search Fair** at **Ashton Gate Stadium** will take place on **Wednesday 7th July**.

Please see further [details here](#).

This will be a great opportunity for students to gain face to face higher education and careers advice.

We have a high number of exhibitors already signed up to the fair who are keen to meet students and teachers in person.



## StudentStream - Just Launched



Search, spot and stream videos to help you make the right university choices.

[StudentStream](#) brings together video content featuring vital advice and expert knowledge from universities across the UK in one place. This brand new website has just been launched, with new content is being added every single day.

Whether you need help and advice regarding UCAS personal statements, choosing courses, student finance, uni campus tours, open days or interview advice, [StudentStream](#) has it all. Ctrl and click on button below:

TAKE A LOOK

## Opportunities

### Duke of Edinburgh: Gold Award

Before Easter, our Year 12 pupils have had an introduction to their Gold DofE Award. A letter will be sent home today with full details of this exciting opportunity.

Doing [#DofE](#) is a great chance for your child to broaden their horizons, discover new interests, have fun, boost their mental and physical health, gain essential skills and achieve a highly respected Award that can enhance their CV and job interviews.

DofE programmes can be done safely and in line with social distancing and Government guidelines – with all the usual benefits, experiences and memories.

Please complete the expression of interest form attached to the letter before Monday 26th April.



Miss E McCarthy  
Teacher of Girls' PE | DofE Co Ordinator

## Sixth Form Bursary

### 16—19 Bursary Fund

In Sixth Form there is a Bursary fund available to help students pay for Text Books, Stationary and IT, Transport and course equipment. The fund is limited and is discretionary and means-tested for eligibility but does NOT affect the calculation of any other benefits you may be receiving such as Universal credit. If you think you might qualify and have to buy bus fares, uniform or books, **retain your receipts**. If your application is approved by the School Governors these costs can be reimbursed.

Forms and further information can be obtained confidentially from Mrs Kinch, LRC.

## Free Suit Hire

For anyone who might have a job interview coming up and is in need of a suit, the following may be of interest:

**H&M Branches are offering suit hire for 24 hours - FREE OF CHARGE!**

The ONE/SECOND/SUIT initiative enables customers to book a single-breasted navy blue jacket with matching trousers, a white shirt, navy blue tie and red handkerchief for free.

Customers can reserve the suit online and get it delivered to their door in a garment bag. After wearing it, they must return the suit to a store, where H&M will arrange washing and dry-cleaning. All delivery charges are free.

Late returns will incur a charge of £50, which will be donated to charity; and any major damage to the suit will have to be paid for, with the full cost of the suit coming in at £116.94.

The high-street retailer cites research that claims potential employers take just a single second to assess a candidate based on first impressions, describing the scheme as a "conscious decision".



### 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.





Creating an environment that nurtures student's mental health and wellbeing is a key priority for us at Saint Gregory's.

To help us do this we have been gifted by Downside School a subscription to a 'Wellbeing Hub' developed by child and adolescent psychotherapist and wellbeing expert, Alicia Drummond.

The Wellbeing Hub is a live and interactive online portal for all staff, parents and students. We believe it will be an invaluable source of training, resources and support for our whole school community.

**Parents and carers will benefit from:**

- All parents and carers receive free access to a Parents' section of the Hub, providing training, weekly updated resources, Careers Advice articles and webinars as well as Inspiring Futures Podcasts, Q&A Library, access to specialists and access to discounted parenting webinars and more.
- Access to "Spark" an area of the Students' Hub in which they can find positivity, inspiration and good news.
- Full information on the Parents' Hub is detailed [here](#).

**Student Hub:**

Our students are being given access to The Hub, with resources tailored specifically to support them with their mental health and wellbeing. This Hub includes:

- Answers** - a huge bank of Q&As on pretty much every topic
- Top Tips** - films, blogs and tip sheets on all manner of themes
- Spark** - an area to find positivity, inspiration, good news and more.
- Futures** - Careers Advice and Inspiring Futures Podcasts
- Help Zone** - with links to specialist organisations

**IMPORTANT: Access to the Wellbeing Hub is strictly limited to the families and staff members of Saint Gregory's. Sharing the link outside of this private portal is strictly prohibited as detailed in Clause 6.1 of the Teen Tips terms and conditions, which you will be asked to agree to when you register.**

**Please follow these steps to get on board:**

- 1) Click on '[Register Here](#)'
- 2) Register yourself using your **school email address** (your access will be removed if you use a personal email address)
- 3) Save the Wellbeing Hub to your phone's home screen – so you can easily find it when you need it.

**Ensure you are receiving Wellbeing Hub updates:** It is really important that you receive the weekly Wellbeing Hub content updates from Teen Tips every Monday morning. To avoid them going to spam/junk, we recommend you:

Add [info@teentips.co.uk](mailto:info@teentips.co.uk) and [hub@teentips.co.uk](mailto:hub@teentips.co.uk) to your contacts  
Mark [info@teentips.co.uk](mailto:info@teentips.co.uk) and [hub@teentips.co.uk](mailto:hub@teentips.co.uk) as 'safe senders'

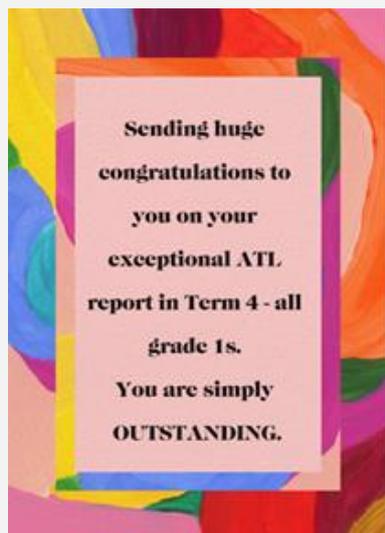
If you have any specific queries about access please contact the team at [hub@teentips.co.uk](mailto:hub@teentips.co.uk)

We are so pleased to be able to provide this enhanced level of pastoral support and we hope you find the Wellbeing Hub beneficial.

*Mrs S Tuke*  
Assistant Headteacher

*Mrs Z Jenkins*  
Family Support Officer

# Congratulations



A paperless post well done card has been sent to the following students for achieving all grade 1's for their attitude to learning in their snapshot for Term 4. This is a fantastic achievement!

Nancy A	Kate E
Kyla B	Jasmine E
Emily S	Charlie C
Sophie H	Katie O-S
Maeve P	Sarah P
Haydn M	Joni B
Mia V	Katie-Rose W
Mindy C	Bert N
Sophie F	Tom W
Ewan H	Phoebe K
Maia O	Edward S
Ellie P	Hamish T
Freya D	Henry B-R
Katie I	Jessica C
Laura W	Grace R B
Aleksandra W	Oliver L
Yaseen A	Beth C
Ella B	Olivia T

# Exam Success

Many congratulations to Jess S, Y13 who passed her Grade 8 Singing Exam with Distinction.

A fantastic achievement!

Well done!



# 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

# Useful Links

<https://www.ucas.com/undergraduate/student-life/study-skills-guides> - UCAS has produced some information on essential study skills.

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/leaflets/> - help if you don't know which degree to choose.

<https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/nursing-the-application-of-bioscience-psychology-and-sociology> - an online course - Introduction to Nursing

## 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