

Dear Parents and Carers,

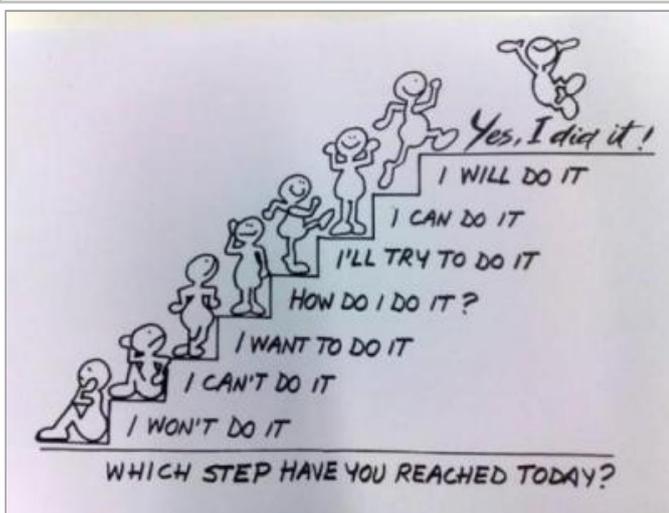
There has been a general sense of relief this week; as we enter the final term, some normality is returning. Without wishing to be a pessimist, I would however remind all members of the school community to enjoy the relaxing of restrictions but to continue to take precautions; sanitising and washing hands carefully, engaging with the LFT and wearing masks as advised. If we all remain cautiously optimistic I hope that soon we will not have a sense of normality but actual normality.

This week the fantastic Live N Learn joined us for the day and offered Year 12 students some crucial tips and strategies to support them as they prepare for their exams. Please make sure you have checked the exam timetable included in this newsletter. Students are only expected on site during the exam fortnight for their exams. The LRC and Café remain open as spaces to revise on site from 8.30am-4pm.

We have now appointed our Sixth Form Senior Team and I am incredibly excited by all the plans and ideas they have for both the sixth form and whole school. I look forward to sharing their triumphs with you over the coming weeks and into the new academic year.

As students approach to Y12 exams, I encourage all to remember the lesson that Live N Learn offered: There are 168 hours in a week. Success relies on making each hour count. Prioritise what matters, make time to protect your wellbeing and work out what releases your stress container. Use your 168 hours to make yourself proud.

Mrs Lucy Staves, Director of Sixth Form



Dates for your Diary

June

Mon 21 June	Exams Fortnight - Y12
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July

Sat 17 July	Y13 Prom
Wed 21 July	End of Term 6 - 1.30 pm finish

August

Tues 10 August	A Level Results Day
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JUNE

1 - 30 June LGBT Pride Month 2021

LGBT Pride is a month-long global celebration of the LGBTQ+ community. It is also used to raise awareness of LGBTQ+ issues and advocate for equal rights.



7 - 13 June Carers Week Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much needed support.

15 June - Global Wind Day

Global Wind Day is a worldwide event that occurs annually on 15 June. It is a day for discovering wind energy, its power and the possibilities it holds to reshape our energy systems, decarbonise our economies and boost jobs and growth.



21 June - Summer Solstice (Longest Day)

The summer solstice, otherwise known as the longest day of the year, falls on June 21, marking the return of brighter evenings. The UK will enjoy 16 hours and 38 minutes of daylight. The sun will rise at 4.52am and set at 9.26pm.

The solstice officially marks the beginning of the astronomical summer, which ends when [the autumn equinox falls on September 22](#). Day and night will be at almost equal length on this day, as the sun crosses the celestial equator and moves southward into the northern hemisphere.

Chaplaincy Thoughts



(Mount Recyclemore by Joe Rush)

Above you can see this visually stunning and powerful sculpture entitled 'Mount Recyclemore' by the sculptor Joe Rush based on the famous *Mount Rushmore*. His creation aims to highlight the sheer volume of electronic devices which go into landfill but either have lots of shelf life left in them or can be recycled as easily as thrown into landfill sites. The artwork has been created using discarded scrap metal, phones, circuit boards, computers and more. The company, *Music Magpie*, which recycles old electronics and sells them on, commissioned Joe to create this sculpture as a way of getting across the message. Joe says "It needs to be repairable or made to last longer because the stuff is going into landfill...The key message is 'talk to each other' and let's sort this mess out,". Joe has erected his creation in a prominent position across from the Carbis Bay Hotel where the G7 leaders are being hosted.

Electronic waste often contains dangerous chemicals that can become environmental hazards when incinerated or dumped in a landfill. The United Nations and International Telecommunication Union estimate that 53.6 million metric tons of e-waste were produced in 2019, an all-time high. Four of the G-7 nations — the United States, Japan, Germany and Britain — rank as the top producers of electronic waste, say Music Magpie.

Use your voice to send a message to our own Prime Minister about how important these issues are to you. CAFOD have a petition currently - <https://action.cafod.org.uk/page/73304/petition/1>. In the words of the now famous climate activist, Greta Thunberg, "*No one is too small to make a difference.*"

Matt Robinson | Lay Chaplain

"THERE IS NO SUCH
THING AS 'AWAY', WHEN
WE THROW ANYTHING
AWAY IT MUST GO
SOMEWHERE."

Annie Leonard



THE DUKE OF
EDINBURGH'S AWARD

**Gold DofE Award -
Year 12**

Payment Reminder

Final reminder for anybody wanting to sign up for Gold DofE - Expedition to take place during Enrichment week.

Please make payment online using the school payment system before Friday, 18 June 2021.

Miss E McCarthy - DofE Co-Ordinator

PROGRESSION

Free Apprenticeship & University Webinars



Year 12 - Accountancy and Finance Masterclass
(Tuesday, 15 June 2021 - 4.15 pm to 5.15 pm)

<https://www.channeltalent.co.uk/event/accountancy-finance-analytical-skills-interpreting-numbers-a-skills-insight-university-masterclass/>

In this Accountancy & Finance workshop, Ana Marques, Accounting Professor at the Norwich Business School (UEA), will lead an interactive and practical skills and insight masterclass for students, exploring techniques and approaches related to analytical skills and interpreting numbers.

Numbers are essential for accounting and finance, as they are used to represent companies' operations, financial position, performance and its profitability. All of this will be covered in this session.

The events are designed so that a group of students can take part from a classroom or students and teachers can take part as individuals, either from school or from home. This means that sessions will continue irrespective of possible school closures.

As a live, participative event, this session will not be recorded but slides and other resources will be shared after the event, where available.

Booking a Place: This is free for schools and colleges. If you would like to take part in this event, please register your interest using the link to the registration form below:

[REGISTER HERE](#)

GCHQ STEM and Cybersecurity Work Experience Day (online)

Tuesday, 6 July 2021 10.00 am to 12.30 pm

<https://uptree.co/events/gchq/2222116541/>

Who should attend:

- Students in **Year 12 or Year 13**
- Students who are interested in finding out more about a career in cybersecurity, technology or more generally STEM.
- Students in the South West or around the Cheltenham area.

Overview

The internet is a part of everybody's lives. But while it benefits millions of people, it also increases the threats we all face. GCHQ's mission is to keep Britain safe. They bring intelligence and technology together to counter increasingly sophisticated threats across the U.K. GCHQ intelligence helps keep our forces safe, prevents terrorism and crime and protects against cyber attack.

If this sounds interesting, or you'd like to know more about a career in STEM or cybersecurity, then join GCHQ for this interactive online work experience event!

Next steps:

- Register for this **interactive** online session via your Uptree account - there are only **30 spaces** available, so register early to increase your chances of being selected. Priority will be given to those students who meet the criteria.

Year 12-13 Begin Your Future Festival 28 June—2 July

An opportunity for a Virtual Event helping you with your university search: So much is possible when you make the right decisions for your future. It all starts with the right preparation. Join this week-long online festival.

Together, we'll learn how to research and choose a university, understand the benefits of studying, explore key dates in the calendar, UCAS applications, the support available, living away from home and/or budgeting — with special talks for **parents and supporters** covering all the important decision-making stages. If you are interested, sign up using this link: <https://port.ac.uk/begin-your-future>

Feel free to message Mrs Parker if you have any questions.



University of
BRISTOL

Please see below for some fantastic resources from the University of Bristol to help Year 12 students explore their next steps, including valuable advice from current students.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLFZ6Q-G4wIXDP840mWySs8vQktoNRNica>.

Y13 Leavers Celebrations

On their final day at school, the Year 13s were invited to a Celebratory Vintage Afternoon tea where they were treated to a lovely afternoon tea, no-alcohol prosecco and no-alcohol gin cocktail. After speeches by Tutors and Mrs Lucy Staves, Director of Sixth Form and Mr Ben Ackland, Deputy Head of Sixth Form, awards were presented by Joni B and Polly L to their fellow students who had been nominated for a variety of fun awards. Finally, a little keepsake was issued to each student in recognition of being a lockdown leaver 2021!

A massive thank you to the **PTFA** for their very kind and generous donation towards the cost of the celebrations as it meant we were able to give the Y13s a memorable send-off.



Congratulations!

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed our student senior team for 2021-22. Places on the team were hotly contested and students had to submit a letter of application and attend an interview before decisions were made about appointments. I am incredibly excited to see the impact these young people will have on our school community over the next year; they are exceptional young leaders and I know that they will enrich both the sixth form and wider school community immeasurably.

Co-chair: Jack C and Emily S
Vice Chairs: Mindy C and Maeve P
Well being reps: Nancy A and Nicole T
Academic reps: Mindy C, Maeve P and Sophie H
Pastoral reps: Kyla B and Matt O
Sixth Form reps: Sam B and Mali F
Enrichment rep: Bea W

Mrs S - Director of Sixth Form



The whole school mufti day that took place on Thursday, 27 May raised an amazing total of £1,266 for the Ben Saunders Foundation. The Ben Saunders Foundation (BSF) was created by Ben to raise funds to support children and young adults with cancer within the UK. They look to offer support to



Thank you...

To everyone who supported or donated to this week's Multi Day in honour of the Ben Saunders Foundation. The total raised so far is a staggering £1,266!

families to help with their difficult challenges ahead. The Foundation is always looking to expand support so please do visit the website and get in touch to see what you can do to bring about positive change. A huge thank you to everyone.

Theatre Studies

On the evening of Monday, 24 May Mrs Staves, Year 12 students and drama staff were privileged to celebrate the remarkable abilities of our Year 13 Theatre Studies students who performed their final A Level monologue and duologue pieces.

It was wonderful to be back in a live performance space seeing quality live performances after this turbulent year. It was a fitting end to the course and a reminder of all that is good about the performing arts – range, commitment and flair. This was a real reflection of what these group of students have given to the school from a performing arts perspective over the last 7 years – through school productions, concerts and other events they have been ambassadors for all that is good about St Gregory's and the perfect role models for our younger students – their kindness, humility, passion and care has shone through in all that they have contributed. They have set a high bench mark for all to follow.

We wish them our love and respect and know that they will be successful.

Well Done and Thank you to Katie-Rose, Phoebe, James, Grace, Jess, Lara and Harry .

Mr Psirides and Mrs Richards



General

Euro Sweepstake

The Sixth Form students are engaging with Euro 2020 by running a sweepstake.

For an entry fee of £2.00 the winnings will be split between the holder of the winning team name and The Ben Saunders Foundation.

A little bit of light hearted relief and entertainment plus the benefit of raising more money for such a worthwhile cause.



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

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.



Your Online Mental Wellbeing Community

Kooth.com is a free, safe and anonymous wellbeing support and advice site for young people aged between 11 – 18 years in B&NES.

It is accessible from any internet enabled device.



HANDS



FACE



SPACE

SCOPAY Issues

Our online payment system provider is currently experiencing an issue with the SCOPAY app being used on Apple devices such as iPhones.

Their development team is investigating the issue and will be in contact as soon as the problem has been resolved.

In the meantime they are advising users to make payments via the SCOPAY website www.scopay.com