

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

This week saw the launch of our assembly programme where I outlined my expectations on how we build up our community. I told each year group three stories. The first is a story students know well: the Parable of the Sower. I explained that this story is a perfect way to start the year because it reminds us what happens when we are receptive to God's words. Sometimes we close our ears and hearts to God and we don't fully flourish, like the seeds which fell on rough and rocky soil. When at other times we open our hearts and listen, we grow and thrive just like the seeds that fell on good earth. This is a story of hope: we are encouraged to make positive changes and become closer to God.

The second story is also one which is familiar to most of our students and, like the Parable of the Sower, is a message of hope. I showed them a very famous picture of Stephen Lawrence, the 18-year old A Level student who was killed in a racially motivated attack in 1993. I didn't however focus so much on Stephen but on his younger brother Stuart. Stuart Lawrence was about to sit his GCSEs when his brother was murdered. I explained that this was a defining moment for him. Understandably, he didn't do well in his exams and some may say he failed. I don't believe in failure. Fail, for me, is simply the **First Attempt In Learning!** Everyone has the opportunity to have a second chance or another go at something.

Stuart Lawrence went back to college, completed his education and taught for many years in secondary schools before recently writing a book for all young people everywhere. I read an extract from *Finding Your Voice: Silence is Not an Option* which contains the powerfully positive message that we are our own superhero. Stuart argues that having good manners and being kind are the greatest superpowers of all and I couldn't agree more. This fits perfectly with our St Gregory's four key principles – respect, responsibility, aspiration and virtue. He also states that young people shouldn't compare themselves to anyone else and talks directly to all teenagers when he says: 'you have

### Dates for Your Diary

Wed 20 Sep	'Meet the Head' Coffee Morning 9.30-10.30am
Thu 21 Sep	'Meet the Head' Parents Evening 6-7pm
26 & 27 Sep	Open Morning 9.15-10.45am
Thu 28 Sep	Open Evening 6-8.30pm
Tue 3 Oct	New Sixth Open Evening 6-8.30pm

### Next Week: Week A

something to offer that nobody else can. Be confident in your superpowers and use them to do good things in the world.' At St Gregory's we aspire for all our students to grow into confident, caring and compassionate people who will be agents of change. Copies of Stuart Lawrence's book, *Finding Your Voice: Silence is Not an Option*, will be available in the Reading Room for students to borrow. If they only read one book this year (and I hope they will read many more) then it should be this one: it could be transformative!

The final story I shared was a potted history of my background and I told students I am most looking forward to getting to know all about their hobbies, interests, hopes and dreams. What makes our community so special is that each child is known and loved for who they are. This week, I have had the pleasure of getting to know some of our Year 11 Prefects very well through their aspiration to secure one of the two coveted Senior Prefect roles. Each student confidently articulated what they love about the St Gregory's community and the word that came up time and time again was 'family'. We also came together as a community this week at our beautiful start of the term Masses where we welcomed Father Bill and Father Tibor to celebrate the Eucharist with us. Next week we have two 'Meet the Head' sessions; please RSVP here if you haven't already ([Google Form](#)).

I wish you all a wonderful weekend filled with grace and joy.

Mrs M George, Headteacher

## Chaplaincy thoughts for the week...

### Parents and Family Prayer Gathering – Tuesday 10 Oct, 8.00 am

In the recent parent survey it came across that many parents and carers would appreciate strengthening the bond of the school's faith life with home, specifically ways in which parents and carers can feel included. Therefore, we would like to start a regular prayer gathering, inviting yourselves to join Mrs George and myself in our school Chapel to pray together for the intentions of one another and our school community. The first one will be held on Tuesday 10 October at 8.00 am, lasting approximately 15-20 minutes. We look forward to welcoming many of you and being able to pray as one in our school Chapel.

### Opening Mass of the School Year

It has been wonderful to officially begin our new school year together gathered around the altar of the Lord on Thursday and Friday of this week. In preparation for Mass, tutor groups took part in a reflection that asked them, 'How can God's grace work through you this year?'. The thoughts and prayers of so many young people were united

## Chaplaincy Timetable

Mon	Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Artwork
Tue	7E & 7G Retreats (Sulis Manor)
Wed	7O & 7R Retreats (Sulis Manor)
Thu	7S & 7Y Retreats (Sulis Manor)
Fri	Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Artwork

together as they formed the basis for praying for one another during our intercessions. On Thursday Fr Tibor joined us and spoke to the students and staff about how we can take lessons from our patron, St Gregory the Great. We were blessed with some new musicians and singers joining our new Head of Music, Mrs Sterlini, who brought a fresh vibrancy to our celebrations. On Friday, Fr Bill celebrated Mass for the other half of the school and reflected on our theme as a school 'The Year of Grace' and the example of our Blessed Lady on the feast day of Our Lady of Sorrows, the patronal feast of Fr Bill's order, the Servites.

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain

### Baton Twirling World Championships Fundraising

Please look out for Maddie and Callie's fundraising efforts over the next few weeks around the school to help them fund their transport to the World Championships.

Mrs Tuke, Deputy Headteacher



*Maddie & Callie, at the IBTF World Baton Twirling Championships in August.*

### Water Bottles



Please remember to bring in a named water bottle (for water only) which can be refilled in the Bistro area at appropriate times. NB You may also like to think of this if you have a long journey home.



Saint GREGORY'S  
Bath

### Open Mornings

26 and 27 September 2023, 9.15am – 10.45am

### Open Evening

Thursday 28 September 2023, 6.00pm – 8.30pm



**Doodle Maths / Doodle Tables Champion of the Week**

<b>Year 7:</b>	Maci L (248 stars)	Devlyn P (160 stars)
	Christno S (211 stars)	Leno S (120 stars)
<b>Year 8:</b>	Jay B (131 stars)	Zac C (118 stars)
	Katie P (78 stars)	
<b>Year 9:</b>	Jacob G (63 stars)	Oakley F (67 stars)

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



## D of E Bronze & Silver Groups 2022 - 23

Well done to all those students who have already completed their Awards. The first badges and certificates will be presented at the end of Term 1.

If your child has not completed their Award yet please encourage them to keep going. Once they have completed each section they need to ask their assessor for a written report which can either be done online or written into the relevant page in their welcome book which they then upload. Your child can show you their progress on their edofe app.

Please let us know if your child needs any help completing their Award.

Mr Boutland Smith and Mrs Stack

## 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.

## Shine Night Walk Bristol 2023

On 15 September, Bristol's streets are ours. Stride by stride we will soak up the city's lights and get closer to beating cancer.



### Bristol 10k 2023

20:00 - Lloyds Amphitheatre

15 September 2023 £17.49



Ms Spindler and former colleague, Mrs Tidball, are taking part in this evening's 'Shine Night Walk' to raise money for Cancer Research. If anyone would like to sponsor them their justgiving page, links are below:

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/rachels-giving-page-4766>

<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/jos-giving-page-3263>

## Free Concert Tickets - Bath Philharmonia

We are delighted to share that students and families of St Gregory's are eligible for free tickets to Bath Philharmonia's upcoming concerts. These concerts are family-friendly and include appearances from world-renowned musicians such as Peter Donohoe (piano) and Nicola Benedetti (violin).



For more information and booking, please follow the link below:

[https://www.bathphil.co.uk/bathphilforfree?](https://www.bathphil.co.uk/bathphilforfree?utm_source=schools_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bp43_schools)

[utm\\_source=schools\\_email&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=bp43\\_schools](https://www.bathphil.co.uk/bathphilforfree?utm_source=schools_email&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=bp43_schools)

Mrs Sterlini, Head of Music

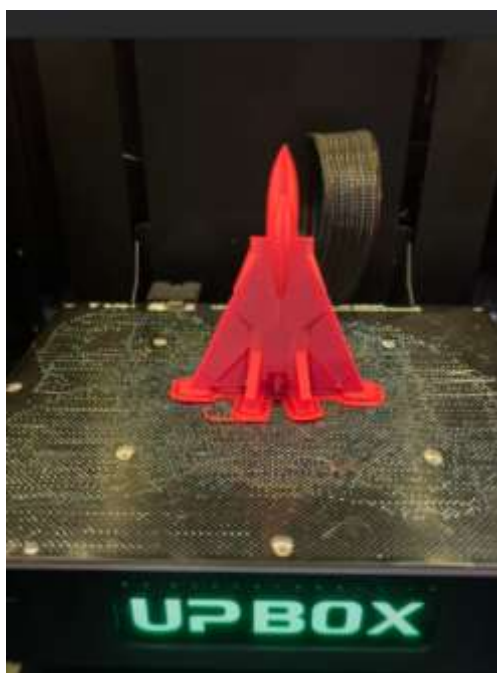


## Design and Technology Update

We are thrilled to share some exciting news about the latest developments in our Design and Technology (DT) department here at Saint Gregory's. As we embark on a new academic year, we are stepping into a new era of creativity, innovation, and hands-on learning, and we couldn't be more excited to involve your children in this journey.

### Introducing Our State-of-the-Art DT Equipment:

Our DT department has undergone a transformation over the past year and we have invested in cutting-edge equipment to enhance the learning experience for your children. Here are some highlights of our new additions:



**3D Printers:** We have acquired top-of-the-line 3D printers that will allow students to bring their design ideas to life in a tangible form. From prototypes to intricate models, these printers will open up a world of possibilities for our students. We would like to thank Prior Park School for donating these. These have already been used by our students in the last summer term.



**Laser Cutters:** Our new laser cutting machines will enable students to create precise and intricate designs on various materials, fostering a deeper understanding of craftsmanship and design aesthetics.

**Digital Design Stations:** We have revamped our design stations with the latest software for CAD (Computer-Aided Design) and CAM (Computer-Aided Manufacturing). This will provide students with hands-on experience in designing and simulating projects before they build them.

**Enamelling Kiln:** This is our next purchase that will enable our students to engage in metal work and jewellery skills as they explore new materials.



**Benefits for Your Child:** Our commitment to providing state-of-the-art equipment in the DT department offers numerous benefits to your child:

**Hands-On Learning:** These tools will enable students to work on real-world projects, encouraging them to apply theoretical knowledge to practical situations.

**Creativity and Problem-Solving:** With access to advanced technology, students will have the freedom to explore their creativity and develop problem-solving skills through hands-on projects.

**Career Preparation:** Exposure to industry-standard equipment will prepare our students for future careers in design, engineering, and technology-related fields.



**Increased Engagement:** The excitement generated by these new additions will boost student engagement and enthusiasm for DT classes.

We can't wait to see the incredible projects that your children will create using our new equipment. The possibilities are endless, and we are confident that this investment will

help them thrive academically and personally. We are very excited to have our first cohort of GCSE students starting in Year 10 this year! They will be taught by the wonderful Miss Wright. The first GCSE DT group in nearly ten years at Saint Gregory's!

Thank you to our Saint Gregory's families for supporting all our fundraising activities to provide the best equipment and materials and making Saint Gregory's a hub of excellence in education.





# Welcome back to the Parallel Universe

Be challenged, get curious, do maths. Stretch your brain every week.

**Dear Parents and Students,**

This is a quick note to recommend a website that offers students a chance to complete some extra maths each week, building on the work done in the classroom.

The Parallel Universe [www.parallel.org.uk](http://www.parallel.org.uk) is completely free and offers a **weekly maths problem sheet**, known as a Parallelogram.

We think this is a great opportunity for keen maths students to stretch themselves and explore mathematical concepts beyond the classroom. This is also ideal for students who want to go on to study science or engineering.

Each Thursday at 3pm students will have access to a new set of online mathematical challenges (a Parallelogram) tailored to their age. There is a separate Parallelogram for Year 7, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 and Year 11 students. It should take just 15 to 30 minutes to complete each Parallelogram. As soon as students hit the SUBMIT button, their Parallelogram will be marked, so they will be able to see their score and the full solutions. Their work will also be saved and we as teachers at school will be able to see their progress. House points will be awarded regularly to those who complete parallelograms.

The Parallel Universe is the brainchild of Dr Simon Singh MBE, whose book about Fermat's Last Theorem was the first maths book to become a No. 1 bestseller in the UK. He will be delivering many of the maths circles and he has created all of the Parallelograms.

Students or parents can find out more or create a free account by visiting [parallel.org.uk](http://parallel.org.uk). Please use students **school email addresses** when signing up and enter the teacher code **qunyi0** when prompted.

Yours Sincerely,

**Dear Miss Davies, Head of Maths**

**parallel**  
by Simon Singh



## Talking Teens

The Connecting Families team are holding another Talking Teens course based at Radstock Children's Centre which will run every Thursday evening from 21 September—19 October 2023.

If you are interested, please contact the Connecting Families Team:

**Postal Address:** Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG

**Tel:** 01225 396931

**Email:** [Connecting\\_Families@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Connecting_Families@bathnes.gov.uk)

## Parking

May I please remind parents and carers of the dangers of parking on the double yellow lines outside of school. Please do not park illegally as you are endangering the lives of our students, as well as creating difficulties for our bus companies trying to navigate the school and local area. There is ample parking at the Odd Down Park and Ride and I would ask that anyone collecting a child from Saint Gregory's utilise this facility and ask their child to make the very short walk there for their collection and safety.

## RE Text Books/ Revision Guides

If you have any RE text books or revision guides that you no longer need please consider bringing them in to school to be reissued.



Ms Spindler, Head of RE

# Performing Arts Enrichment Timetable

## Term 1 - 2023

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Tutor Time 8.30am - 9am</b>				
<b>Contemporary Vocal Group (Band)</b> Ensemble Pod with Mrs Sterlini	<b>Year 7 Singing</b> DRST with Mrs Sterlini	<b>Senior Choir (Y9+)</b> DRST with Mrs Green	<b>Contemporary Vocal Group</b> DRST with Mrs Sterlini	<b>Lower School Voices (Y7-8)</b> DRST with Mrs Sterlini
			<b>String Sinfonia</b> MUS with Mrs Smith	
<b>Break Time 11.10am - 11.25am</b>				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	<b>Flute Salad</b> Ensemble Pod with Mrs Holden			
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Lunch time 1.30pm - 2.05pm</b>				
<b>Guitar Ensemble</b> Ensemble Pod with (Guitar Teacher)	<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast</b> DRST with Miss Tate & Mrs Richards	<b>Brass Band</b> MUS with Mrs Avison	<b>Junior Dance company</b> DAST with Susanah	<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast</b> MUS with Mrs Richards & Mrs Sterlini
<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast Dance Team</b> DAST with Mrs Pearson	<b>Symphony Orchestra</b> DAST with Mrs Sterlini	<b>Senior Dance company</b> DAST with Mrs Pearson	<b>GCSE Dance Written support</b> DAST with Mrs Pearson	<b>Year 7 Drama Club</b> DAST with Maddie & Sammy
<b>GCSE Music Composition</b> MUS with Mrs Sterlini	<b>GCSE Music Composition</b> MUS with Edgar	<b>GCSE Drama Written support</b> DRST with Mrs Richards & Miss Tate	<b>GCSE &amp; A level Drama Practical support</b> DRST with Mrs Richards	<b>Tech Club</b> DRST with Mr Psirides & Austin
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>After school 3.10pm - 4.30pm</b>				
	<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast Band</b> DAST with Mrs Sterlini	<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast</b> HALL with Mrs Pearson, Miss Tate, Mrs Sterlini & Mrs Richards	<b>Beauty &amp; The Beast</b> HALL with Mrs Pearson, Miss Tate, Mrs Sterlini & Mrs Richards	<b>GCSE &amp; A level Drama support</b> DRST/DAST with Mr Psirides & Mrs Richards
	<b>GCSE &amp; A level Drama Practical support</b> DRST with Mrs Richards & Miss Tate			

### **Beauty & The Beast – Whole school Performance important dates:**

**Audition week: 11.9.23-15.9.23** (information for Auditions can be found on Google Classroom)

**Sunday rehearsals: 14 January and 21 January 10am - 4.30pm**

**School production week: Monday 22 – Saturday 27 January**

**Evening performances: Thursday 25 January, Friday 26 January and Saturday 27 January at 7pm**

### St Gregory's Breakfast Club

Open every day

**Time:** 08:15 — 08:30

**Cost:** Free

**Who:** Open to all students



### Food Service Assistant Vacancy

Permanent Position

Term Time Only

11.00 am—2.30 pm

### Kitchen Assistant Vacancy

Casual Worker

Term Time Only

Contact Mrs Millard, Catering Manager, on 01225 832827 for more information.

## SEND Homework Club for students with SEND

Monday to Thursday each week

Immediately after Lesson 5, until 4pm

Students should come straight to the Study Room in the Inclusion Department at the end of the school day.

Sessions can be booked through the school Gateway via parents evening/school cloud <https://saintgregorysbath.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

(Maximum of two sessions per week)

**NB: If your child is unable to attend, please cancel your booking as places are limited.**

# The Great Debate 2024!



Are you in Y10-13 and want to get involved in the Historical Association Great Debate?

### The rules:

1. The competition is open to students who will be in Years 10 and 13 in the academic year September 2023 to July 2024.
2. Entrants will have to create a 5 minute speech on the set question:

**Which historical place or person from your local area deserves greater recognition?**

3. Students must demonstrate research as well as historical arguments.
5. If selected, students will attend the local heats at Bristol University on the 16 November.

### Interested?

Please email Mrs. Sarbatta ([Sarbattak@st-gregorys.org.uk](mailto:Sarbattak@st-gregorys.org.uk)) by the 29 September 2023 to enter and receive more information and support.





## LEAP is a free programme for families of children and young people who are above a healthy weight\*

1-1 face to face support for 5-10 year olds and a combination of face to face & virtual support for 11-17 year olds\*

Receive a **FREE 3-MONTH leisure centre pass** upon completion for the child and nominated adult\*\*

Topics covered:

- Healthy food and drink swaps
- Physical activity/active play
- Impact of screen time
- Food choices

To book a place or find out more contact the Community Wellbeing Hub:

t: 0300 247 0050

e: BATHNES.thehub@hcrgrcaregroup.com



## FREE five week cookery course for parents/carers and children

Join a group session to discover how to make easy, healthy budget friendly recipes in person or online

- Free recipe book and NEW video recipe links
- Support with meal planning and budgeting
- Encouraging children to eat balanced meals
- Ingredients provided or funded with £30 voucher

### Upcoming start dates (one session per week):

- Mon 18th Sept- Mon 16th Oct, Saltford Hall, 4:30-6pm.
- Wed 20th Sept- Wed 18th Oct, Mulberry Park Primary School, 3.30-5pm.
- Thurs 21st Sept - Thurs 19th Oct, Westfield Primary School, 4-5.30pm.
- Tues 3rd Oct- Tues 7th Nov (no session 24th Oct), online via Teams, 5-6pm.

Contact the Community Wellbeing Hub to book on  
Tel: 0300 247 0050 Email: BATHNES.thehub@hcrgrcaregroup.com

## Live Well B&NES & B&NES Parent Carer Forum host a SEND Local Offer Information Event

Brunswick Room (ground floor), Guildhall,  
High Street, Bath BA1 5AW.  
Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 10:00am - 12:00pm.

No need to book, just come along anytime between 10am to 12noon.  
The Guildhall is accessible to all and has accessible toilets.  
Park & Ride and a variety of bus routes available -  
visit [www.journeyplanner.travelwest.info/](http://www.journeyplanner.travelwest.info/) to plan your route.

Drop-in session for parent carers and anyone supporting a child or young person with a Special Educational Need and/or Disability. Meet services, groups and organisations supporting young people with SEND.

Tea & coffee provided and a separate quiet space.  
No one-to-one or private appointments available at this event (please speak to the provider to arrange this at a separate time).



## BATH CITY FOOTBALL CLUB COMMUNITY DAY PAY WHAT YOU LIKE!



## BATH CITY v DOVER ATHLETIC

SATURDAY 23RD SEPTEMBER - 3PM KICK OFF



SCAN ME

PAY AS LITTLE OR AS MUCH AS YOU WANT ON THE GATE OR BOOK EARLY ONLINE

[www.bathcityfc.com/tickets](http://www.bathcityfc.com/tickets) OR Pay on the Gate



UNIVERSITY AUTISM TRANSITION SCHOOL (UTAS)

ARE YOU AUTISTIC?  
STARTING UNIVERSITY IN AUTUMN 2023?

UTAS is a free event, to support autistic students (diagnosed and self-diagnosed) beginning education at any UK university in autumn 2023.

The event will consist of two sessions: 20th of September 2023 and in December 2023. Sessions can either be attended online or in person.

For more information visit:  
<https://t.ly/C4mP>

EMAIL:  
[AUTISMSUMMERSCHOOL@BATH.AC.UK](mailto:AUTISMSUMMERSCHOOL@BATH.AC.UK)




skills CONNECT Training & Jobs Fairs Employment & Skills POD

Come along to these FREE events to find out how we can support your employment journey and meet local employers and organisations

Thursday 21st September	Monday 2nd October	Tuesday 24th October
Bath Central Library	Keynsham Library	Midsomer Norton Library
10am-2pm	10am-2pm	10am-2pm
FREE	FREE	FREE

WEST OF ENGLAND Combined Authority

Bath & North East Somerset Council Improving People's Lives

ACHIEVE IN B&NES

The Employment and Skills Pod is funded and managed by the West of England Combined Authority. led by Mayor Mayor Dan Norris, and delivered by Bath and North East Somerset Council in partnership with Skills Connect.

Save the date

SAT 30 SEPTEMBER

**Free family cycle training**

SUITABLE FOR ALL LEVELS

PLUS: FREE BIKE CHECK UPS + LOAN KIDS BIKES

ORGANISED BY **Radical mums bath**

FUNDED BY **Bath & West Community Energy Fund**

SAT 30 SEPT, 1PM - 3PM  
ODD DOWN CYCLE TRACK

BOOKING FROM EARLY SEPT




Bath & North East Somerset Council Improving People's Lives

B&NES Parent Carer Forum

sendias bathnes

**EMOTIONALLY BASED SCHOOL AVOIDANCE**

**Parent workshop & discussion**  
(with B&NES Parent Carer Forum and B&NES Educational Psychologists)

- Are you the parent/ carer of a young person who is currently experiencing EBSA?
- Over 2 sessions you will gain a greater understanding of EBSA, the support available & meet others with similar challenges.

For further information and to book a place please email [info@banespcf.co.uk](mailto:info@banespcf.co.uk)

DATES: 12th and 19th October

TIME: 6pm - 8pm

VENUE: The Keynsham Community Space  
5 Temple Street, Keynsham, BS31 1HA

Free for parents to attend.

Information for young people and parents/carers

Starting September 2023

Homework Club at The Hub

Do you live in Combe Down?  
Are you 11 years or older?

Introductory session at The Hub  
Wednesday 13th September 3.30-5pm

Social meeting.  
FREE refreshments.  
Meet the adults.  
Discuss help you need.  
Come yourself.  
Bring your parents/carers.  
Find out more and sign up.

Second session at The Hub  
Wednesday 20th September 3.30-5pm

Then every Wednesday at  
The Hub during term time

Contact The Hub with requests and suggestions at [enquiries@mphub.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@mphub.co.uk)

Use the phrase Homework Club in the email subject line.  
Phone 01225 436869 for more information.  
The Hub, Mulberry Park, Mulberry Way, Combe Down, Bath, BA2 5BU

