

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

As Term 1 closes I think it is a perfect opportunity to reflect on all of the positive things that have happened over the last few weeks. In assemblies this week our Heads of Year have asked students to focus on our four key principles - respect, responsibility, aspiration and virtue - and make links with the wider world by posing the question: What problems do we see around us that need healing? Students were invited to look inwards, and outwards, at what is going on for them right now in their personal or academic life as well as the suffering of others across the world.

Heads of Year also focused on the incredible number of House points each year has collected, as well as individual top performers. Congratulations to all those students, as well as those with 100% attendance this term. There is a very real correlation between attendance and attainment: quite simply, the more you are in school the better your results are going to be. We value 100% attendance just as much as we value other House points and rewards.

Yes, there is undoubted hardship and trauma when we consider world events but as the days shorten, let us be reminded of the need to find light and hope in darkness. This week there is evidence of much light and hope here at school. First, I attended a Camino Chaplaincy Day which was hosted by Downside School. **Freya, Johanna** and **Ollie**, our Year 10 Chaplains, worked with other secondary students from Downside and Prior Park to train some of our feeder primary schools' chaplaincy teams. The day began with a beautiful Mass in Downside's spectacular abbey followed by student-led workshops. Thank you to Mr Robinson for accompanying the students in their mission to put their faith into action.

Dates for Your Diary

Fri 20 Oct	Inset Day—SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS End of Term 1
Mon 30 Oct	Term 2 Begins
Thu 2 Nov	Y11 Tutor Evening 4-7 pm in person
Thu 9 Nov	Y10 Tutor Evening 4-7 pm in person
Tue 21 Nov	Y9&11 individual photos; Y11&13 group photos
Mon 27 Nov	Y11 mock exams begin

When We Return: Week A

It was also a joy to hand out 38 certificates to Year 10 in assembly this week; these certificates were awarded to students for completing their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Award. What an incredible achievement and congratulations to all these students for their commitment and for participating in this important scheme. I hope to see many progress to Silver and even Gold!

The final word has to be a huge thank you to all students, staff, parents, carers and governors for your incredible support in helping to shape St Gregory's into a community where Christ flourishes in each interaction and in the big and little moments every day. We know it takes a village to raise a child; it is so important to work collaboratively in order for us to fulfil our mission for every child to flourish in a safe, happy and enriching environment.

Have a wonderful, peaceful and safe half-term. Take time to watch the skies change and the leaves turn golden. May you find moments of prayer and meditation. God bless.

Mrs Melissa George (BA Hons, MA, PGCE)
Headteacher

Chaplaincy thoughts for the week...

Camino Chaplaincy Training Day & Mass

On Wednesday students from the Chaplaincy teams of many of our partner primary schools gathered at Downside School for a day of reflection and training for their roles in the year ahead. We began the day in the magnificent splendour of the Abbey, celebrating Mass together as one community on the Feast Day of St Luke. Fr Michael, priest Chaplain of Downside, encouraged all the young people to heed the message of St Luke who wrote so much about healing, reconciliation and harmony between people.

In the afternoon some of the older experienced students of Prior Park, Downside and St Gregory's helped the lay Chaplains lead workshops for the enthusiastic primary chaplaincy teams. The topics covered Mission and Service, Lectio Divina and we at St Gregory's led a workshop on Prayer Spaces. It was a pleasure to see the older students share so much knowledge, commitment to chaplaincy and encouragement with the upcoming pupils who hopefully one day will take the lead themselves.

Amongst the great complexity of violence in the middle east right now, as always there are so many innocent victims. Livelihoods destroyed, homes flattened, families separated. We continue to pray for a peaceful resolution to the conflict, just as we do with all violence in our world. I would like to share an extract from this, a reflection entitled '**It's Time**' from an International inter-Church advocacy initiative for peace in Israel called the Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum. It captures so much of the root causes, side effects, continued barriers and effects of the conflict.

It's time for Palestine.

It's time for Palestinians and Israelis to share a just peace.

It's time to respect human lives in the land called holy.

It's time for healing to begin in wounded souls.

It's time to end more than 60 years of conflict, oppression and fear.

It's time for freedom from occupation.

It's time for equal rights.

It's time to stop discrimination, segregation and restrictions on movement.

It's time for those who put up walls and fences to build them on their own property.

It's time to stop bulldozing one community's homes and building homes for the other community on land that is not theirs.

It's time for Israeli citizens to have security and secure borders agreed with their neighbours.

It's time for those who represent the Palestinian people to all be involved in making peace.

It's time for people who have been refugees for more than 60 years to regain their rights and a permanent home.

It's time to assist settlers in the Occupied Palestinian

Chaplaincy Timetable

Mon Break – Shared Prayer
Lunch – Arts & crafts

Tue Break – Mass Setup
P3 – All Saints Day Vigil Mass
Lunch – Meditation

Wed Break – Mass Prep
P3 - All Saints Day Mass
Lunch – Mass clear up
- 'Chosen' Student Christian Group

Thu Break – Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament
Lunch – Arts & crafts

Fri Break – Shared Prayer
Lunch – Games

Territories to make their home in Israel.
It's time for self-determination.

It's time to be revolted by violence against civilians and for civilians on both sides to be safe.

It's time for both sides to release their prisoners and give those justly accused a fair trial.

It's time to reunite the people of Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

It's time for all parties to obey international humanitarian and human rights law.

It's time to share Jerusalem as the capital of two nations and a city holy to three religions.

It's time for Muslim, Jewish and Christian communities to be free to visit their holy sites.

It's time in Palestine as in Israel for olive trees to flourish and grow old.

It's time to honour all who have suffered, Palestinians and Israelis.

It's time to learn from past wrongs.

It's time to understand pent-up anger and begin to set things right.

It's time for those with blood on their hands to acknowledge what they have done.

It's time to seek forgiveness between communities and to repair a broken land together.

It's time to move forward as human beings who are all made in the image of God.

All who are able to speak truth to power must speak it.

All who would break the silence surrounding injustice must break it.

All who have something to give for peace must give it.

For Palestine, for Israel and for a troubled world,
It's time for peace.

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain

Online Safety from Mr Foley

Technology is hugely valuable for education, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and family. However it's important we all consider, how we can help keep young people safer online.

St Gregory's community plays a major role in keeping everyone safe by informing you all about issues related to safety online. Remember, the following steps you can take to help keep your child safer online:

8 steps to support your child to be safer online

Explore together: Ask your child to show you their favourite websites and apps and what they do on them. Listen, show interest and encourage them to teach you the basics of the site or app.

Chat about online safety little and often: Talk to them about how to stay safe on new services, and in general. Ask if anything ever worries them while they are online. Make sure they know that if they ever feel worried, they can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust.

Help your child identify trusted adults who can help them if they are worried: This includes you and other adults at home, as well as adults from wider family, school or other support services. Encourage them to write a list of their trusted adults.

Be non-judgemental: Explain that you would never blame them for anything that might happen online, and you will always give them calm, loving support.

Talk about how their online actions can affect others: As your child engages with others online, remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share. If they are considering sharing a photo/video of somebody else, they should always ask permission first.

Parental controls: Make use of the parental controls available on your home broadband and any internet enabled device in your home. You **can find out more about how to use parental controls by visiting your broadband provider's website.**

Direct your child to age appropriate information about relationships and sex. **It's natural for young people to look for information on relationships and sex online. It's important to understand this and talk to your child in a positive way.** CEOP Education, Brook and The Mix provide age appropriate information you can signpost your child to.

Make sure they know about CEOP. Young people can report a concern about grooming or sexual abuse to CEOP at www.ceop.police.uk/safety-centre/

You could also read the advice the [UK Safer Internet](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/) Centre provide.

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: -

[Internet Matters](#)
[Parent Zone](#)

If you have come across anything that seems wrong and not 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 - CEOP Safety Centre:

Young people can report concerns about child sexual abuse and exploitation to CEOP by visiting www.ceop.police.uk/safetycentre.

All reports are assessed and responded to by CEOP's specialist Child Protection Advisors. If a police response is necessary, this will be conducted in partnership with local police forces

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



Report Remove: is a free tool that allows children to report nude or sexual images and videos of themselves that they think might have been shared online, to see if they can be removed from the internet.

Childline: is a free, private and confidential (unless child is at risk of being harmed or harming others) service where CYP can talk about anything to a trained counsellor, online or on the phone.



NSPCC's Report Abuse in Education helpline is a new helpline, commissioned by the Department for Education in response to Ofsted's, Everybody's Invited, Report. The helpline offers support and guidance to CYP and professionals working with CYP in Education and parents and carers who have experienced or witnessed sexual harassment or abuse in schools. Call 0800 136 663 or email help@nspcc.org.uk.

Marie Collins Foundation: MCF provides a range of services, support and resources for children and young people, and their families who have been affected by online child sexual abuse.

Stop It Now: Stop It Now is run by the Lucy Faithfull Foundation. Adults can call if they are worried about an adult or a child or young person's sexual behaviour. They can call 0808 1000 900 or use their live chat function.

There is more information on our [school website](#).



At every level of your science learning journey, from Acids and Alkali in Year 7, to the pH scale in Year 10 and Buffers at A level, you will come across the word 'acid', here is a little article to explain what the word means.



As for our practical this week, here are some Halloween themed experiments you can do over the half term

- Article of the week – <https://www.snexplores.org/article/scientists-say-acid>



- Practical of the Week – <https://www.sciencebuddies.org/blog/halloween-stem>

The Science Team



D of E Bronze 2022 - 23

Massive congratulations to the 38 students who were presented with their Bronze Certificates by Mrs George at the Year 10 assembly this morning. They have all worked consistently to complete their Volunteering, Physical, Skill and Expedition sections. They have completed a wide range of activities which have included helping at church, working in a charity shop, litter picking, coaching a sport, learning an instrument, cooking and crocheting.

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

Doodle Maths / Doodle Tables Champion of the Week

Year 7:	Ben H	Lily L
	Nell C	Rebecca R
Year 8:	Katie P	Freddie E
Year 9:	Gerin G	

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

KS3 Maths Competition Winners

Congratulations to these students for their wonderful entries into the KS3 Maths competitions.

They will each win £5 amazon gift voucher

The winners are:

Year 7 Winner: William D

Year 7 Runner up: Hellen K

Year 8 Winner: Isabella G

Year 8 Runner up: Hanna W



Music Clubs

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Tutor: Contemporary Vocal Group BAND	Break: Flute Salad Lunch: Symphony Orchestra After School: School Production Band	Tutor: Contemporary Vocal Group (all) Lunch: Brass Band	Tutor: Senior Choir (Y9+) String Sinfonia	Tutor: Lower School Voices (Y7-Y8)



Why join?

Exclusive trips, concerts and more!

Energy Drinks

It is known that the consumption of energy drinks can cause difficulties with concentration, problems with sleep and anxiety and therefore cause poor performance at school. We would therefore ask that students do not consume energy drinks before school or bring energy drinks into school.

Miss Ackling, Medical Response Officer

St Gregory's Breakfast Club

Open every day

Time: 08:15 — 08:30

Cost: Free

Who: Open to all students



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.

ROAD SAFETY

**BE BRIGHT
BE SEEN
BE SAFE**

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.

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.

Performing Arts Enrichment Timetable

Term 2 2023

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

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) by the 29 September 2023 to enter and receive more information and support.

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.



Saint GREGORY'S
Bath

After School Sports Clubs - Terms 1&2

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
After School (3.15-4.15pm)	Year 7&8 Bath City Football ASTRO 	Year 7 NETBALL COURTS 	Year 8&9 NETBALL COURTS 	Year 10&11 HOCKEY ASTRO 	Year 7,8&9 GIRLS FOOTBALL ASTRO 
	FISH TRAMPOLINING Year 7-13 GYM 	Year 10&11 RUGBY FIELD 	Year 7 RUGBY FIELD  Year 7/8/9 GIRLS RUGBY ASTRO	Year 8&9 RUGBY FIELD 	

- Please sign up via School Cloud - clubs and events
- Please meet at the changing rooms, must have PE kit and appropriate footwear
- Sports Clubs start on Monday 11 September
- Please note Trampolining & Bath City Football club are paid clubs

