

Newsletter

www.st-gregorys.org.uk

A weekly newsletter for Parents, Carers, Students, Governors and Staff

24 November 2023

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

What is the best thing about being young? That was the question Mr Robinson and I posed to all year groups this week in an assembly on Youth Sunday which falls on 26 November, also Christ the King Sunday. The New York Times conducted a recent survey and the top five things teenagers enjoy about being young are:

- 1. they get to have fun and adventure
- 2. they have freedom and independence without too much responsibility
- 3. they don't yet have to face the pressures of adulthood
- 4. they get to spend time with friends
- 5. they are learning and growing and there are endless possibilities of who they will become

The last point is the most exciting in my mind: being young is a special time when you are on the brink of adulthood and you can become whatever it is you want to be. At St Gregory's, we really believe our students will discover their vocation and become voice and love hearing from our young people in excellent this way. agents change through the opportunities we provide both inside and outside the classroom.

Our relentless focus on instilling respect and manners in our students is vital so that they take their place in the world as kind, compassionate, gentle and outward-looking citizens. I reminded all students of the importance of wearing their uniform with pride and having manners, not just inside we have robust systems in place to manage this. As school but outside school as well - on the buses, in a Catholic school, we place great importance on shops, on the streets and whenever they are forgiveness and reconciliation; when we make making their way to and from St Gregory's. I also reminded them to say thank you to the people who important to know that you will not be defined by care for them each and every day - sometimes this your transgressions and can start again. gets overlooked.

Mr Robinson and I also met with the Senate this week (our version of a school council) and our senators were buzzing with energy and ideas to

Dates for Your Diary

Mon 27 Nov	Y11 mock exams begin
Tue 5 Dec	Parent Prayer 8am in the school Chapel
Wed 6 Dec	Christmas Lunch/Christmas Dress-up Day
Thu 7 Dec	Y13 Parents' Evening 4-7pm
Thu 14 Dec	Carol Service at St John's Church—6pm
Fri 15 Dec	End of Term2—Students finish at 13:30

Next Week: A

enhance our school even further. We discussed Christmas Hamper boxes, Enrichment Week and general things they love about the school and some things they wish to be improved. They will take these discussion points back to their tutor groups so that everyone can input ideas. We value student

Christ the King Sunday and World Youth Sunday are a time to remember that our young people are the world's hope; I am very proud of all the many young people at St Greg's who get it right each and every day, even when no-one is looking. That's true integrity and what makes our family such a special place to be. And when students do get things wrong mistakes it's important to own them but it is equally

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

Chaplaincy thoughts for the week...

World Youth Sunday - Today we logged on and joined thousands of young people participating in the World Youth Funday activities streamed live online at break and lunch. Youth Sunday on the Feast of Christ the King is an annual celebration of young people and their importance for the present and future. Let us join with the global Church and pray for them all this coming weekend. This reflection is from the opening of World Youth Day in the summer addressed to of young people signifying importance of every one of us being called by name.

You are not here by accident. The Lord has called you, not only in these days, but from the very beginning of your days.

He called you by name.

Let us listen to the word of God that called us by name. Try to imagine these three words written in large letters. Then consider that they were written within you, on your hearts, as if setting the direction of your lives, the meaning of who you are: you have been

called by name.

Each of us is called by name. You, you and you, all of us here, myself included: all of us have been called by name. Not impersonally, but by name. Think of this:

Jesus called me by name.

His words are inscribed in our hearts, and we come to realize that they are written in the hearts of every one of us, as a kind of title that tells people who we are, who you are.

You have been called by name.

World Youth Copy Welcome Carermony Address of 16th Holliness Parague Educatio VII, Lisbon, Partugal, Westnesdoy, 2 August 2023 fluil Test https://www.valcom.vol/content/homosocu/en/boswis/ 2012/joutsion/occuments/portogatio-gray-2022/ners

St Gregory's students craft stall at SsPeter and Paul Christmas Fayre - Many of our regular Chaplaincy students have been working hard on creating eco-friendly wrapping paper, gift bags and tags to sell at the Christmas fayre after the Sunday 10am Mass. Please come along and support our students and the parish. Fr Bill informs us that there will be a tombola, stalls, raffle and much more.

Here's a sneak peak at some of the gift bags.



Chaplaincy Timetable

Mon Break – Shared Prayer Lunch –Arts & crafts

Tue Break – Lectio Lunch - Arts & crafts

Wed Lunch - 'Chosen' Student Christian Group

Thu Break – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Lunch – Meditation

Fri Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Games

Carol Service 2023 - Our annual Carol Service with St John's RC Primary will take place on Thurs 14 December at St John The Evangelist RC Church. Families are invited to join us before the service in the parish hall for mulled wine and mince pies from 5pm. The Carol Service will begin at 6pm. Please be aware that there is no parking available at St John's and the Church have requested people utilise the many nearby car parks and Park & Rides.

Kintbury Retreats 23/24

Year 8: Friday 1 – Sunday 3 March 2024 Year 9: Thursday 9 – Sunday 12 May 2024 Year 10: Thursday 7 – Sunday 10 March 2024

Letters have been emailed home with full details of how to apply for a place. The Year 8 retreat is a shorter experience with just our school in attendance and costs £110, whereas the Year 9 & 10 retreats are the full Kintbury experience alongside other schools and over four days. These two are both £225 at the moment (although we will try to reduce this if we can get a reduction in transport costs at a later date).

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain

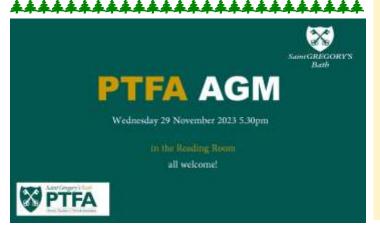
CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Wednesday 6 December 2023

Traditional Christmas lunch

(with vegetarian option) and dessert - £3.75

Pay on the day—Please remember to make sure your child has money on their school catering account. If your child has a limit on their daily spending you may need to suspend it for the day so that they have the funds to pay.



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.

Notre correspondence avec un collège en France



They are now waiting for their letters of reply. Well done Year 9!

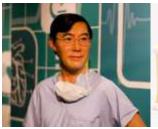
looked at what has happened in the UK and shared with our French pen pals.

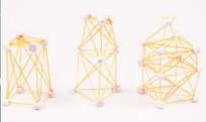


This week Dr Victor Chang is celebrating his 87th birthday. Chang is a trailblazer in the field of cardiovascular surgery and transplantation. One of his most significant contributions to cardiology includes developing an artificial heart valve and an artificial heart assist device that are used worldwide in severe heart conditions.

For the practical this week we had a go at tower building and looked at the different structures and materials that are used to support tall buildings. We used art straws, plasticine and cocktail sticks. You can also use spaghetti and sweets. Here is a link that will give you some ideas that you can try yourself.

Article of the week – https://
www.independent.co.uk/news/health/victor-chang-cardiac-surgeon-google-doodle-b2450849.html">https://
www.independent.co.uk/news/health/victor-chang-cardiac-surgeon-google-doodle-b2450849.html">https://





Practical of the Week – https://
https://
learning.sciencemuseumgroup.org.uk/resources/spaghetti-structures/#:~:text=Start%20building%
20your%20structure%20by.objects%20on%20top%">20your%20structure%20by.objects%20on%20top%

20of%20it



The Science Team

Parking

May I please remind parents and carers of the dangers of parking and stopping 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.



This year's incredible Beauty & the Beast Cast are looking to raise funds for Performing Arts opportunities and technical equipment and we are hoping that you, or someone you may know work for a local business that would be willing to contribute to our raffle.

We already have a donation from Mr B's Bookshop and Great Western Wines. If you are able to donate something for our raffle then please email Mrs Richards at:

richardsc@st-gregorys.org.uk

Look out for tickets in the New Year – it's going to be an incredible show.

Claire Richards Head of Performing Arts



School Meals Supervisory Assistant (SMSA)

We are looking for School Meals Supervisory Assistants to supervise students during the break and lunchtime period.

• 11.00 - 2.40 pm, (there may be scope for flexibility around these hours) Monday to Friday, Term Time Only.

The role is paid at £11.78 per hour.

Please telephone the school office on **01225 832873** or email hr@st-gregorys.org.uk for an application form or visit our website at <u>Vacancies – Saint Gregory's</u>

Bath (st-gregorys.org.uk)

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all our students. The successful candidate will require an enhanced DBS check.

www.st-gregorys.org.uk

Rugby Round-Up

Year 8 Rugby Season

Played four won four

The Year 8 rugby team continued their very impressive form this term and maintained an unbeaten record. Comfortable wins against Oldfield, Ralph Allen and Writhlington led to a BANES Cup semi-final away against a strong Norton Hill side. A rather poor first half saw the team losing for the first time at the break. Great team spirit and some very impressive individual performances saw St Gregory's fight back to win a thriller five trys to four. The team will now go on to play in the final in the new year. Despite a perfect record, the really exciting thing about this team is how much they can still learn and develop as a team. A massive well done to all involved. We go again in 2024.

Year 9 Rugby Season

Played four, won two, lost two

A mixed season for the Year 9 team this year. Two strong wins against Oldfield and Ralph Allen saw the team playing some dominant and cohesive rugby. Lacking numbers, the team lost in the last play of the game against Writhlington in a friendly. The next game was against a very strong Wellsway team in the cup semi-final. Despite a spirited first-half display the game got away from the boys in the second half. A big thank you must go to Mr Jaggon for all his help coaching the team this year.

Year 10 Rugy Season

Played four, won one, lost three

It was great to see big numbers training this year in Year 10 and with lots of the squad new to the game. We started with a really narrow defeat against St Mark's. The next two games led to two losses against strong Ralph Allen and Writhlington teams. Despite the results, the team were growing in both confidence and quality. They continued to train hard, and we organised a re-match against St Mark's for the final game of the season. The team were fantastic and ran out 29-14 winners to show the progress they had made throughout the season. Well done to all who took part, it's been a pleasure to coach you.

Mr Brodie (Head of Boys PE)

Elevate Education Free Webinar

Elevate Education will be hosting their next parent webinar on Resilience on 28 November.

Elevate works with our students, delivering high-impact workshops on study skills, motivation, wellbeing and exam preparation. By tuning into their webinar series, you'll learn how you can help support your children at home by reinforcing the skills they're learning at school.

Sign up for the session below to learn how you can help your child to recover from a knock to their confidence. Whether that's a disappointing grade, exam slip-up, or a less-than-perfect report.

How You Can Build Resilience in Your Child Tuesday 28 November 6:00-7:00pm (GMT)

Click here to register for free

Here's what Elevate will be covering on the night:

- Practical strategies to help your child manage their response to setbacks
- ♦ Building your child's resilience both in and out of school
- How 'fear of failure' can impact your child's resilience



Finance Office Support

The Finance department based in Alexander House, Bristol, are looking to recruit a team administrator to strengthen its central Finance Office function.

The role is part-time, 12 hours across three days. Attention to detail, flexible can-do attitude, and the ability to be well organised are important. Experience in a similar role and knowledge of Microsoft Outlook, Word and Excel would be highly beneficial. For further details please go to

www.cliftondiocese.com\Diocese\WorkingForUs where you will find the Job Description and application form. All applications to be sent to Simon Hussey, Head of Finance by 24 November 2023

simon.hussey@cliftondiocese.com

Language Corner

French:

Expression with subjunctive:

Il est important que + verb (subjunctive)....= it is
important that ..+verb(subj.)

It is important for me that I can speak with my friends with my mobile phone because I'm a single child

Il est important pour moi que je puisse parler avec mes amis avec mon portable car je suis fils unique

It is important (for me) that I can go to university because I want to be an engineer

Il est important (pour moi) que je puisse aller a

Il est important (pour moi) que je puisse aller a l'université car je veux être ingénieur

Spanish:

nos llevamos como el perro y el gato – we get on like cat and dog – we don't get on

Mandarin:

叶公好龙(yègōnghàolóng)To pretend to like something when actually you hate or fear it

A

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.

Flute Taster Sessions

Would you like a FREE taster session on the flute?

Sign up in Music!







Spaces are limited. Book your ticket now via <u>Eventbrite</u>

Knife Crime Awareness Event for Parents

Join us at Keynsham Community Space on Monday 27 November, 6pm to 8pm

The event is aimed at parents and carets who would like to know more about the dangers of limite crime, or are concerned that your children are at risk.

It aims to increase awareness of key issues surrounding knife crime, empowering you and your children to make informed and positive decisions to stay safe.

You will have the appartunity to hear the real experience of a parent who has been personally affected by knife crime.

There will also be a presentation by Street Doctors followed by a panel discussion with the appartunity to ask questions.

Questions for the panel should be emailed prior to the event to: VECL Events@bothnes.gov..k

The Both & North East Samerset Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) is a multi-agency partnership that aims to prevent and reduce violence in the area. The Knife Orime Awareness event is supported by partner agencies including Avon and Samerset Police. DHI Project 28. Youth Connect Southwest and the NHS:

Bath & North Somerset VRP https://bcssp.bathnes.gov.uk/vru





Reporting Absences

Feature on the Class Charts (parent) App

Please use the Class Charts app to notify the school if your child is going to be absent. The absence telephone line is still available, however we would prefer you to use this app if possible. This should not only be easier for you, but will allow the school to be more efficient when recording student absences. Once we have acknowledged the absence, you will receive a confirmation email to the account that is registered in the app.

Absences

If your school has decided to allow parents to report absences, you will see the Absences tab when viewing pupils from that school.

Selecting this tab will display a list of absences that you have reported, once you have reported them. This includes when the absence took place, the reason for the absence and who acknowledged your absence report.

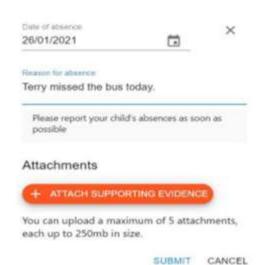
To report an absence, click on the Report new absence button.



Next, enter the details of the reported absence into the form provided.

You can also include up to 5 files in your absence report as supporting evidence. To do this, click on the Attach supporting evidence button and select the files of your choice.

Click on the Submit button to send your pupil's absence report to their school. The absence can be edited and deleted until it has been acknowledged by a teacher.



Inspire Lunchtime Lecture Programme

Our Inspire Lecture Programme continues this term. The programme is open to all students and will run during one lunchtime each week. Students can bring their lunch along to the session and spend their break listening to a speaker talk about an area of interest, and then have an opportunity to discuss and ask questions about it. Students are welcome to attend any of the sessions which are open to their year group; places are on a first-come, firstserved basis. Over-subscribed sessions will be repeated later in the year if necessary. Students who are part of our Inspire cohort are expected to attend at least three sessions across the year.

Here is the timetable for this term's sessions:

Date	Name	Session Name	Description of the session	Who can come?	Room
Fri 1 Dec	Mr Psirides	ICACANASTV	To present what the accepted view of 'excellent teaching' is from academic research and to explore the student perspective through seminar and discussion		DRST
Tue 5 Dec		God is also our	why it matters. This fits in with the A level course so would be	Year 10 Year 11 Post-16	K12

Please encourage your child to come along and be inspired!

If you have any further questions about the programme or would like to volunteer to lead a session later in the year, please get in touch with Mrs Aldred at aldredm@st-gregorys.org.uk.

Mrs Aldred, Inspire Champion

Nut Allergies

Please be aware that we have students and staff with serious nut allergies. We would therefore ask $\overline{}$ Time: 08:15 - 08:30 that you do not include nuts in I Cost: Free packed lunches and snacks, eg [] chocolate and cereal bars.

St Gregory's Breakfast Club

Open every day

I Who: Open to all students



Music Clubs Monday Thursday Friday Tuesday Wednesday Tutor: Tutor: Tutor: Break: Tutor: Contemporary Vocal Flute Salad Contemporary Vocal Senior Choir (Y9+) Lower School Group (all) Group BAND Lunch: Voices (Y7-Y8) String Sinfonia Symphony Lunch: Orchestra Brass Band After School: School Production Band Why join? Exclusive trips, concerts and more!

	Whole	School Production: Beauty & T	he Beast – Term 2 Rehearsal Schedule	
Mon 27 Nov	Lunch	Wolves	Maddison, Eden, Jazzy, Corina, Evelyn, Lyra	
Tue 28 Nov	Lunch	Beauty & The Beast	Belle, Mrs Potts, Chip & Beast	Drama Studio
Wed 29 Nov	Lunch	The Mob Song	Gaston, Belle, Maurice, Madame D'Arque, Villager soloists	Hall
Wed 29 Nov	3.10-4.30pm	The Mob Song (page 85 – end)	Whole cast	Hall
Thu 30 Nov	3.10-4.30pm	The Mob Song (page 85- end)	Whole cast	Hall
Fri 1 Dec	Lunch	Beast & Gaston Fight (page 90-93)	Beast, Gaston & Belle	Drama Studio
Mon 4 Dec	Lunch	Wolves	Maddison, Eden, Jazzy, Corina, Evelyn, Lyra	Dance Studio
Mon 4 Dec	3.10-4.30pm	Beauty & the Beast	Mrs Potts, Belle, Chip, Lumiere, Cogsworth & Beast	Drama Studio
Tue 5 Dec	Lunch	Beast & Gaston Fight (page 90-93)	Beast, Gaston & Belle	Drama Studio
Wed 6 Dec	Lunch	Page 93-96	Beast, Belle & Castle Crew	Drama Studio
Thu 7 Dec	Lunch	Page 93-96	Beast, Belle & Castle Crew	Drama Studio
Thu 7 Dec	3.10-4.30pm	The Mob song & Fight on the tower/Transformation	Whole cast	Hall
Fri 8 Dec	Lunch	Beauty & The Beast	Belle, Chip, Mrs Potts & Beast	Drama Studio
Mon 11 Dec	Lunch	Dance Numbers TBC	Dancers	Dance Studio
Tue 12 Dec	Lunch	Finale	Whole cast (singing 'two hearts)	Drama Studio
Fri 15 Dec	Lunch	Finale	Whole Cast (Singing 'two hearts)	Drama Studio
	Christmas	s Holidays - Learn all your lines	s & practice musical numbers for Act 1 & 2	

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 11.10-11.25pr	n				
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 Sterlini			
Beauty & The Beast Dance Team DAST with Mrs Pearson Tech Club	Symphony Orchestra DAST with Mrs Sterlini GCSE Music	GCSE Dance Practical support DAST with Mrs Pearson GCSE Drama Written	GCSE Dance Written support DAST with Mrs Pearson Year 7 Drama Club	GCSE & A level Drama Practical support DRST with Mr Psirides			
DRST with Mr Psirides & Austin	Composition MUS with Edgar	support DRST with Mrs Richards & Miss Tate	DRST with Maddie & Sammy				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
		After school 3.10-4.30					
	Beauty & The Beast Band DAST with Mrs Sterlini GCSE & A level	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			
	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.

Girls' Fixtures

Thu 30 Nov

Y9 B&NES Netball Tournament @ Chew

Valley 2pm

(Away)



Please remember aerosol sprays are strictly forbidden in school.







Saint GREGORY'S

After School Sports Clubs - Terms 1&2

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	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
After School (3.15-4.15pm)	FISH TRAMPOLITY Year 7-13	Year 10&11 RUGBY FIELD	Year 7 RUGBY FIELD Year 7/8/9 GIRLS RUGBY ASTRO	Year 8&9 RUGBY FIELD	77
ease sign up via	School Cloud - clu	ıbs and even	ts		XX

- 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





