



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

12 January 2024

Dear Students, Parents, Carers and Governors

Student voice is always so important, especially as sometimes young people feel that adults don't understand them and their experiences. At St Gregory's we endeavour to ensure that all of our students feel heard and listened to. It is exciting to write with news this week that the Children's Commissioner for England, Dame Rachel de Souza, has launched **The Big Ambition**, a national survey of children and young people across England.

The Children's Commissioner wants to take children's thoughts, opinions and ideas to decision-makers, to make sure that the Government hears young people's voices on what they think needs to be done to make children's lives better in England.

The Big Ambition survey will be open until Friday 19 January and I would encourage all of the young people in our community to have your say: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

In other news, Pope Francis has declared 2024 as a Year of Prayer. As you will know, St Gregory's whole school theme is the 'Year of Grace' which helps us find further ways to be a grace-filled community built on respect, tolerance, dignity and love. Pope Francis tells us that "Prayer unites us; it makes us brothers and sisters. It is in prayer that our hearts find the strength not to be cold and insensitive in the face of injustice. In prayer, God keeps calling us, opening our hearts to charity."

Dates for Your Diary

Tue 16 Jan	Y10 Work Experience Parents' Evening 5.30-6.30pm
25 - 27 Jan	Beauty and the Beast performance, 7pm
Thu 1 Feb	Y11 Parents Evening 4-7pm
Tue 6 Feb	Parent Prayer 8am in the Chapel
Fri 9 Feb	End of Term 3

Next week: A

So let's pray together and be a community full of grace. On that note, students have shone this week in their tutor group assemblies, illuminating the inspirational life of Saint Edith Stein, one of our House saints, and it is in these moments that we see the young men and women of the future who will stand up for injustice, use their strong voices for the common good and be the beacons of hope that Bishop Declan calls them to be. It was also wonderful to meet our Year 9 cohort and their families at our Options Evening on Thursday; this is an exciting point in their future where big decisions need to be made and we wish them grace and love at this step of their St Gregory's journey so that they will discern the right path for them. Thank you to our fabulous PTFA team for providing the pre-loved uniform sale before Options Evening.

Have a wonderful weekend when it comes.

Mrs Melissa George (BA Hons, MA, PGCE)



Year 8 Kintbury Retreat Residential (1-3 March) – Deadline is today - To sign up please pay a deposit of £30 via the School Gateway app.

Parent and Family Prayer - Our next time of prayer in St Gregory's when parents and families are invited to join us is Tuesday 6 February at 8.00 am.

Reflecting on our House Saint, St Edith Stein

This week we have focused on one of our four House saints, St Edith Stein (Teresa Benedicta of the Cross) and how her example empowers young people and women alike. It was one of the very reasons our students chose her for a role model a few years ago. I would like to share with you a reflection I used with our staff in prayer time this week, which is reminder to us about why we work in a Catholic school, and should be a comfort and reassurance to parents and families about the motivation and dedication we place at the centre of our school. It comes from an educator, Colleen Santori, in America who is using the famous quote from St Edith for reflection "The world doesn't need what women have, but who they are.":

Not long ago I was with my eighth grade students visiting another high school, when an accomplished senior and former student stopped me in the hall to share "a revelation he had". He said that, at a recent Sunday Mass, he noticed as he looked around that many of his former elementary classmates were present, which made him realise that they were all actively practising their faith. As he thought further, he realised that several others were involved in service, mission trips, and leadership roles in their current high school. He said, "I guess I wanted to tell you that you played an important role in that,

Mon	Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Display Board Creation
Tue	Break – Lectio Lunch - - Display Board Creation
Wed	Break - Rosary Lunch - Display Board Creation
Thu	Break – Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Lunch – Meditation
Fri	Break – Shared Prayer Lunch – Games

you did a really good job preparing us. Thanks you!".

Besides being one of those sacred moments that makes teaching so rewarding, his revelation confirmed to me the power and timely insight of St Teresa Benedicta's words, which burst with urgency and challenge. It is our privilege to reveal the truth of the Gospel message and social teachings of the Church that shout "You are enough! Live boldly and wholeheartedly. Your families, your communities, our Church and our world need your gifts!".

This message must be stronger than the contradictory messages bombarding our students. We must take advantage of the time we have to tell them God's version of who they are. It must be infused in every aspect of our school community and culture. That way our students become the very fulfilment of Edith Stein's vision: They become precisely what our world needs.

Mr Robinson, Lay Chaplain

St Gregory's Breakfast Club

Open every day

Time: 08:15 — 08:30

Cost: Free

Who: Open to all students



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.





The Voices for Life Bath Children's choir rehearses in the fabulous Bath Abbey Song School on Saturdays, 9.30am-10.45am. All children aged 6-11 are welcome.

Sign up: If your child is interested in joining the choir please click on the link below to complete the registration form or email Tessa at tessa@voicesforlife.org.uk. There is no need to pay at this stage as the first session will be a free taster (there is also financial assistance available).

<https://forms.gle/VFPiZX2tr5xYnN5p9>



Water Bottles

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

Bath & North East
Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

Benefit Related Free School Meals **All School Years**

Is your household earned income/take home pay below £616.67 per month?

Is your child missing out on Benefit Related Free School Meals?

- If your household earned income/take home pay is below £616.67 per month, (which is equivalent to £7,400 per year) and your child attends a Bath & North East Somerset academy or maintained school then you could be entitled to Benefit Related Free School Meals?
- Your household income is the figure that Universal Credit use to work out how much Universal Credit to pay you, **not** your actual Universal Credit payment.
- If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year two and receives Universal Infant Free School Meals, **you can still apply for the Benefit Related Free School Meals.**

Please do not reapply if your child is already in receipt of Benefit Related Free School Meals.

Ways to apply:

Online via the following link: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

You can ask your child's school for an application form or you can make a telephone application by calling 01225 394317. If you reach our answerphone, please leave a message and we will call you back.

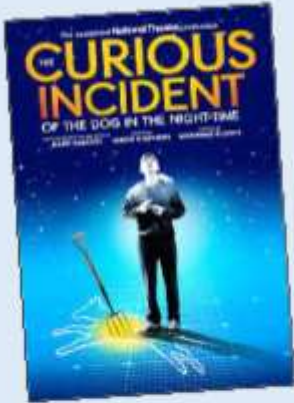
For more details, please visit our website at: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>

Qualifying benefits:

- Universal Credit (provided you have an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400, as assessed by earnings from up to three of your most recent assessment periods) Income Support
- Income-Based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (WITHOUT Working Tax Credit) and have an annual household income (as assessed by HMRC) below £16,190
- Working Tax Credit **Run-on** which is **only paid for four weeks** after you STOP qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- The Guaranteed Element of State Pension Credit
- Support under PartV1 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999

Recommended Reads

This week's recommended book is provided by Mrs Richards from the Drama department. It is called 'The Curious incident of the dog in the night time'. This and all of the other departmental recommended books can be found on the school website, under 'School Life' and then 'Academic Life'.



The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time - Mark Haddon and adapted by Simon Stephens

The story concerns a mystery surrounding the death of a neighbour's dog that is investigated by young Christopher Boone, who is autistic, and his relationships with his parents and school mentor. The play reworked the source material by changing its voice and presenting the story as a play-within-a-play.

Absences

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.

You can also report planned absences such as medical appointments.

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.



Date of absence
20/01/2021

Reason for absence
Terry missed the bus today.

Please report your child's absences as soon as possible

Attachments

ATTACH SUPPORTING EVIDENCE

You can upload a maximum of 5 attachments, each up to 250mb in size.

SUBMIT CANCEL



Doodle Maths / Doodle Tables Champion of the Week

<u>Year 7:</u>	Leno S (151 stars)	Nell C (96 stars)	Bobby W (65 stars)
<u>Year 8:</u>	Zac C (206 stars)	Freddie E (145 stars)	Eddie W (96 stars)
<u>Year 9:</u>	Ece G (96 stars)	Jacob G (89 stars)	Bear H (65 stars)

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

Performing Arts Enrichment Timetable

Term 3 - 2024

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 Sterlini
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			



Big Garden Birdwatch is the world's largest garden wildlife survey. Every year, hundreds of thousands of nature lovers like you to take part, helping to build a picture of how garden birds are faring.

Across the UK, over half a million people took part in Big Garden Birdwatch 2023, counting a whopping 9.1 million birds! House Sparrows took the top spot, but counts of these chirpy birds are down by 57% compared to the first Birdwatch in 1979. In fact, we've lost 38 million birds from UK skies in the last 60 years. With birds facing so many challenges, it is more important than ever to get involved in the Birdwatch. Every bird you do – or don't – count will give a valuable insight into how garden birds are faring.

To take part please go to the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds Website and find all the details on how you can order your pack and find out when and how to do the bird watch.



RSPB Bird watch –

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CdVNDXnLdHs&t=9s>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

<https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch>

The Science Team



B&NES Libraries Events & Activities

Lego Lab

Get creative with Lego

Monday - Saturday

Bath Central Library

Art in the Library

Care Leavers Lens - photography by young people who have been in the care of B&NES Council

Monday - Saturday

Bath Central Library

Sensory Space

For young adults with sensory needs. *Book online.

Monday - Saturday

Bath, Keynsham & Midsomer Norton Libraries

Board Game Saturdays

Drop in and play with our great selection of games

Monday - Saturday

Bath, Keynsham & Midsomer Norton Libraries

Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives



ROAD SAFETY

**BE BRIGHT
BE SEEN
BE SAFE**

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!





Term 3 PE Enrichment Clubs start on Monday 8 January



Day	Club	Where	Year Group	Girls or Boys
Monday	Fish Trampolining	Gym	Y7 – Y13	Boys & Girls
Monday	Bath City Football	Astro	Y7 – Y8	Boys
Tuesday	Netball	Courts	Y10 – Y13	Girls
Tuesday	Football	Astro	Y10	Boys
Tuesday	Basketball	Courts/Gym	Y10 – Y11	Boys
Wednesday	Hockey	Astro	Y7 – Y9	Girls
Wednesday	Football	Field	Y9	Boys
Wednesday	Football	Astro	Y11	Boys
Thursday	Fixtures	Various	Various	Girls
Thursday	Football	Astro	Y7	Boys
Thursday	Football	Field	Y8	Boys
Thursday	Basketball	Courts/Gym	Y8 – Y9	Boys
Friday	Football	Astro	Y7 – Y9	Girls



All clubs are from 3.15pm - 4.15pm
There will be no lunchtime clubs until 15 January due to exams
Please register on School Cloud for ALL clubs
Please speak to a member of the PE Team if you have any questions



Year 10 Work Experience Evening - Tuesday 16 January 2024

This evening will add information related to the initial letters sent out in September and November 2023.

The evening will start at 5.30pm in the School Hall and will last approximately one hour.

The evening is to inform parents, carers and students regarding the Year 10 Work Experience week planned for five working days from Monday 8 July – Friday 12 July 2024.

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.

Language Corner

French:

A couper le souffle = to take your breath away/ breath taking)

I spent some breath taking holidays

J'ai passé des vacances À couper le souffle

The bungalow had a breath taking view on the lake

Le bungalow avait une vue sur le lac a coupé le souffle

Spanish:

Más vale tarde que nunca – better late than never

Mandarin:

君子之交淡如水。(Jūnzǐ zhī jiāo dàn rú shuǐ
 'gentleman's friendship bland like water') — A gentleman's friendship is insipid as water

Whole School Production: Beauty & The Beast - Term 3 Rehearsal Schedule				
Date	When	Section/ Scene	Who?	Where?
Sun 14 Jan	10 - 4 pm	Run through	Whole cast	HALL/DAST
Mon 15 Jan	Lunch	Dance numbers	Dancers	DAST
Tue 16 Jan	Lunch	Orchestra	Orchestra	DAST
Wed 17 Jan	Lunch	Belle & Beast solo's/scenes	Belle & Beast	DRST
Wed 17 Jan	3.10 - 4.30 pm	Act 2	Whole cast	HALL
Thu 18 Jan	Lunch	Castle Crew musical numbers	Castle Crew	DRST
Thu 18 Jan	3.10 - 4.30 pm	BATB Band	BATB Band	DAST
Sun 21 Jan	10 – 4 pm	Dress/Tech	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Mon 22 Jan	9 - 3.10 pm	Production Rehearsal	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Tue 23 Jan	9 - 3.10pm	Production Rehearsal	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Wed 24 Jan	3.10 - 6pm	Dress	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Thu 25 Jan	9 - 12pm	Matinee	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Fri 26 Jan	5 - 9pm	Opening Night	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST
Sat 27 Jan	5 - 9pm	Second Night	Whole Cast	HALL/DAST

- As you can see, this is a **VERY** tight schedule. Sections will not be revisited more than once until the run up to the show.
- Please, please, please make sure that you are on your very best behaviour from now until the production because if you receive any lunch time or after school detentions these will take priority.
- If you need to use the phone to call home at any time come to the studio, **NOT the main office**.
- This is a wonderful opportunity to perform. Please spend time to thoroughly learn your lines and fully understand what it is you are saying to your audience.
- If you can't make any rehearsals, and you have a **very good reason** for doing so, then please tell us as soon as possible.

We will try to provide your costume for you, but you may need to source various items depending on the character.
We will let you know in due course about your costumes.

Important Dates for your diary:

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.

Free 5 week cooking course for children and young people* aged 5-17

Learn how to make healthy recipes on a budget

Ingredients and equipment provided for f2f courses and a £30 supermarket voucher is given for online courses

*1 adult is required to attend per family



0300 247 0050



bathnes.thehub@hcrpgcaregroup.com

Cook it

Tues 23rd Jan- 27th Feb (no session 13th Feb), St Martin's Garden Primary School, Combe Down, Bath, 4-5.30pm.

Thurs 25th Jan- Thurs 29th Feb (no session 15th Feb), online via Microsoft Teams, 4-5pm.

Mon 4th March- 1st April, online via Microsoft Teams, 5-6pm.



Youth Project

After school drop-in
at Roundhill

Tuesday 3.30pm - 5pm

Friday 3.30pm - 5pm

Gaming, toast and Chill



Roundhill Hub



**FIND THE SPARK
PLAY THE GAME**

Sunday 14th January 2024 - 10am-11:30am
Combe Down RFC - BA2 5DE



**CHALLENGE YOURSELF
TRY SOMETHING
NEW THIS YEAR**

JOIN US FOR A FUN INTRODUCTION TO RUGBY.
GIRLS AGED 11+ AND WOMEN WELCOME
SIGN UP HERE TO GET INVOLVED: 

WARRIOR

BATH BASKETBALL



New community-based basketball club in Bath
looking to provide basketball experiences for all!

WHAT WE OFFER:

- Junior sessions with elite coaching from our Director of Basketball - Antonio Wilburn and our Community Coaches.
- The **ONLY** National League Basketball team in Bath. Come and support our Senior Mens team when they play on Saturday nights at Prior Park College.
- Coaching, officiating and volunteering opportunities if you'd like to get involved.

Visit our website and social medias below to keep update with all things Bath Basketball.

Junior Basketball Sessions:

Age Group	Time	Venue
Boys School Years 10-13	Monday 7:30-8:30PM	King Edwards School
Mixed School Years 5-9	Sunday 9:00-10:00AM	Founders Hall, University of Bath

**PLAY
WATCH
GET INVOLVED**

bathbasketball.info@gmail.com

 [@bathbasketball](#)  [bath basketball](#)  [@bathbasketball](#)  www.bathbasketball.co.uk

**skills
CONNECT** **Employment &
Skills POD**

**Skills for Work
Volunteering Opportunities**

Do you want to gain experience but struggle to find opportunities?

Gain skills and experience for work through volunteering with a range of charities in different sectors.

Many opportunities can lead to paid work and charities can offer references for future employers.

 **Wednesday 31st
January**  **Bath Central
Library**

 **10am - 12pm**  **FREE**

Drop in to this **FREE** event
to talk to local charities offering volunteering opportunities.

 EmploymentSkills_Pod@bathnes.gov.uk  www.achieveinbathnes.co.uk  [@AchieveBathnes](#)

**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.