



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Issue 08:
Friday 5th
March 2021



Dear parents, children, staff and parishioners,



As the final week of remote education comes to an end, I just wanted to say a huge thank you to every member of our school community for the part they have played in ensuring that our children had the opportunity to learn in the ways they did. We have ensured that although schools have been closed to many, learning has been on offer to all.

For many of you, the end to remote learning may be tinged with a hint of sadness, as weeks of watching and supporting your child with their learning now comes to an end; for others, it may bring with it a deep sigh of relief as you rid yourself of the balancing act of both teaching, working and parenting; And, for many of you, it may instil within you a renewed sense of hope. Hope that better times are on their way. And, as glimmers of normality once again return to our daily routines, hope that a world without Covid is not as far away as we think.

Returning to School – 8th March

Earlier this week, we informed you of our arrangements as we prepare to open to all pupils on Monday 8th March. Please ensure that you have read this letter carefully to ensure that you are familiar with the processes we have in place to ensure the safety of your family and of others.

Please note that we have made some alterations to our drop off and collection arrangements. We will now be operating a 'drift in' system and the gate opening times are as follows:

Drop Off ~ 8.40am – 9.00am
Collection ~ 3.00 – 3.20pm

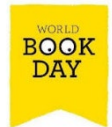


Don't Forget Your Mask!

Please ensure that you are wearing a mask if you are planning to enter our school site. In order to keep our community safe, we are now insisting that mask wearing is mandatory. If you are unable to wear a mask due to medical reasons, please contact us and we will make arrangements to assist you with your drop off and collection arrangements.

World Book Day

Wow! What a fantastic day yesterday was for all at St Gregory's – World Book Day was a huge success! It was lovely to share our enthusiasm and passion for reading with the children and see so many of them enjoying a day filled with fun.



St Gregory's Presents The Masked Reader

Thank you to those who watched our episodes of 'The Masked Reader' and well done to everyone who successfully guessed which staff members were hiding behind the masks. The staff have definitely given ITV something to worry about with their performances and enjoyed getting dressed up for the occasion.

A Virtual Character Parade

Thank you to those of you who dressed up in honour of World Book Day and sent in your pictures. Although we couldn't all be in school, it was wonderful to still be able to host a character parade – albeit in a virtual manner!

The link to the Character Parade is here should you want to watch it with your family: https://youtu.be/YL_LA46D0d4

A 'Veggie Special Book Character' Competition



We had lots of amazing entries for this competition. We were very impressed with how some of you had transformed your spare vegetables into something so amazing. Although it was a very tough decision, we are pleased to reveal that the following children have been chosen as the winners of this competition:

Name ~ Oliver Glod
Name ~ Max Carroll



Extreme Reading Competition

A national lockdown didn't stifle your creativity with this competition! We were amazed by the photos we received of you all reading in extreme places. Again, it was another tough decision, but the following children have been chosen as St Gregory's Extreme Readers:

Name ~ Bethany Ellis

All winners will be presented with their prizes next week!

Saint Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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Telephone: (024) 7645 5900

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Saint John Fisher Catholic Church

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Parish Priest: Father Desmond Devenney

Mass Times Saturday 6.30pm

Sunday 9.30am & 11.30am



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Fr Bob – 1 Year Anniversary

'Fr Bob, you are never far from our thoughts and always in our hearts. Our children still speak of you with a fondness that displays just how special you were to them and how greatly you are missed. Your memories will never be forgotten.'

Today marks the first anniversary of Fr Bob's passing. A mass was held at St John Fisher Parish in remembrance of him and all children were invited to attend this via the live streaming link. The children were reverent and respectful and appreciated the opportunity to pray for Fr Bob and his family at this time. We ask God to look over them and offer them his comfort.



Sir Captain Tom – Lenten Fundraising



This year for our Lenten fundraising we've decided to use the amazing charitable fundraising Sir Captain Tom Moore did as inspiration for our fundraising.

This year's challenge is called 'Captain Tom's Century Challenge'. We are challenging you to get sponsored to complete 100 of something. Please [Click Here](#) to find a list of fundraising ideas that will help you to begin thinking of what you might do!

We have already had some children raise some amazing amounts of money – well done and keep up the fantastic work!

Parent Consultations

In the middle of March, we will be holding an appointment system for all classes for parents to meet with their teacher (1:00pm until 7:00pm on Microsoft TEAMS) – these will be 10 minute appointments and will update you on your child's learning to date. Please make sure you make an appointment to see how your child is getting on. All appointments will be made through our online system on Arbor. The office staff will send out the booking system shortly.



Thank You!

Recently, we have benefitted from some lovely donations from people in the local community to help further enhance the learning opportunities that we are able to provide to our children and enhance the environment in which they learn. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people/businesses for their donations:

Morrison's Binley ~ For their donation of some beautiful story books for our library

Terry Burgess at PRP Autos ~ For their generous donation of lots and lots of pallets to help enhance our EYFS environment

Wishes to Stay Anonymous ~ A contribution was made towards our paint purchase to help decorate the communal areas of our school

Wishes to Stay Anonymous ~ A financial donation was made that has allowed us to purchase 5 laptops. These were distributed to some of our families who have used these to support with remote learning

A Very Kind Parent ~ A donation of 10 Treat Boxes which were distributed yesterday to some of our children

We are extremely grateful for all of these acts of kindness and cannot thank you enough. We are very fortunate to belong to such a caring and supportive community. Thank you so much – you really have made a huge difference!

Congratulations Mrs Tate!

Mrs Tate has announced that she is expecting a baby. In order to keep herself and the baby safe, she will now be working from home and teaching virtually. We have therefore made the following changes to our staffing:

Nursery ~ Mrs Grice will now be teaching Nursery on a Wednesday

Year 1 ~ Mrs Swiadek and Mrs Kelly will be supporting Year 1 on a Thursday and Friday whilst Mrs Tate teaches virtually. Miss Rowlands will also be assisting Year 1 with this provision.

These arrangements are only short term, as we will be welcoming back Mrs Waters from maternity leave who will then become the Class Teacher in Year 1 and support in Nursery on a Wednesday.

We are sure you will join us in offering our congratulations to Mrs Tate and her family.

PE Days

One of our 'Covid Keeps' is allowing the children to come dressed in their sports kit on their PE days. This has saved curriculum time as the children do not have to take time getting changed and also drastically reduced the amount of lost property! Something we are all grateful for.

Your child's PE days are listed below, please can you ensure they come dressed appropriately for outdoor sports and wear trainers on the following days:

Year Group	PE Days
Reception	Tuesday & Friday
Year 1	Tuesday & Wednesday
Year 2	Tuesday & Wednesday
Year 3	Tuesday & Wednesday

Year Group	PE Days
Year 4	Thursday & Friday
Year 5	Monday & Friday
Year 6	Monday & Thursday

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Happy World Book Day!
From all at St Gregory's



Thought of the Week ...



Thank you so much for all of your continued support.

Mrs Scullion

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A special
newsletter for the
second week of
Lent

Welcome to our second Lenten newsletter, where we will share weekly news and events of our school community during Lent. We will also provide resources to support the spiritual journey of all members of our school family as we reflect on the Passion and death of Jesus over the coming weeks.

Gospel for the Second Sunday of Lent

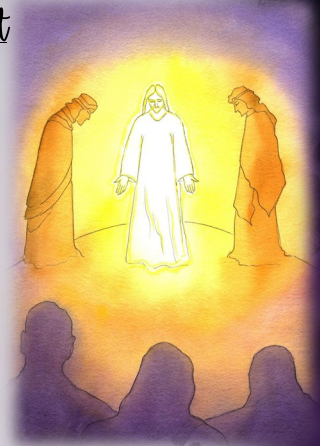
*"This is my beloved son.
Listen to Him."* Mark 9: 2 -10

In the gospel on Sunday, we heard about the Transfiguration, where the voice from the heavens revealed Jesus as God's beloved son to Peter, James, and John. A huge change came over Jesus on the mountain and the disciples saw his true loving self shining through like the rays of the sun. If we listen to Jesus and spend time with God in our hearts then we too can let our true light shine brightly.

How can you let your light shine for the entire world to see this week?

Photographs from the First Week of Lent

We are incredibly proud of our children both at home and at school who shone during the first week of Lent. I have received so many photographs, videos and updates from children and staff sharing their Lenten journey so far. Here is just a selection of them for you to enjoy.





Captain Tom's Century Challenge

Have you chosen your challenge for 'Captain Tom's Century Challenge' yet? If you need some inspiration, look on our Padlet for suggestions of what you could do and don't forget to share your own ideas and photographs on there as well! Remember that you have the whole of Lent to complete your challenge. Please keep your sponsorship money in a named envelope and bring into school when appropriate.

<https://padlet.com/mscullion/SGCaptainTomChallenge>



"Tomorrow will be a good day." Sir Captain Tom Moore

Online Retreats for Adults during Lent

'Knowing Jesus': Walk with the Jesuits through Lent and Easter in this online retreat and really come to understand and love Jesus. <https://www.onlineprayer.net/>

'Pray as you Go' is a wonderful resource for Catholics all year round but it has some beautiful reflections for Lent, including a virtual retreat, 'Growing Back Better', which reflects on how 2020 challenged us in ways no-one could have imagined. There is also a journey through the Stations of the Cross.

<https://pray-as-you-go.org/retreat/lent-2021>



'Whenever we repent of our sins, God the Father embraces us in a swift movement of forgiveness.'
Elizabeth Wang

Activities for Children and Families During Week Two of Lent

Lent

has  some lovely whole family themes of  ideas for the prayer, listening to Jesus and taking time out to encounter Jesus. <https://young-catholics.com/3165/second-sunday-of-lent-year-b/>  ing

OPEN.

Join Dan and Emily each day of Lent for a new series of OPEN. Journeying together in preparation with short bursts of Liturgy.

onelifemusic.co.uk

One Life & Music

'Open' from One Life during Lent. Look out for the link every morning on Sacred Heart Facebook and your child's virtual learning platform.

'Open': Don't forget that we have purchased our wonderful resource 'Open' from One Life Music. This is a daily reflection for every weekday morning on Sacred



CAFOD have also produced some liturgies and accompanying re