



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Issue 11:
Friday 26th
March 2021



Dear parents, children, staff and parishioners,



This week has certainly been a busy one! I have loved spending some time with the children in their classrooms, witnessing how hard they have all been working and enjoying discussing the wonderful work they have produced! Many of them have also been busy completing some assessments this week. These have been completed so that we are able to fully support the children in the next stages of their learning and plan a series of lessons that fully meet their needs. Staff have also been busy planning for next term, and this week, joined with other teachers from across the Romero Academy to share creative ideas and discuss opportunities to deliver an exciting curriculum ready for when we return after Easter.

We also had time to celebrate this week as we celebrated the feast day of St Oscar Romero - the Saint our Academy is named after. In his prayer, Oscar Romero quotes: 'We plant the seeds that one day will grow.' And I feel, that here at St Gregory's, is exactly what we aim to do. It is here that we aim to give the children experiences that hold them in good stead for the future; provide them with a nurturing environment where they have chance to express their views and provide them with opportunities to develop in character both spiritually and morally, so that when they leave us, they are ready to take up their place in the wider world and are ready to evolve from that tiny seed we once cared for and flourish into a beautiful flower that can stand tall on its own.

Leadership Update

This week the Board of Directors met to agree on the leadership structure moving forwards for St Gregory's.

They have decided to continue with the current leadership arrangement until December 2021. Therefore Mr Madia will continue as Executive Principal and I will continue as Head of School.

This will be reviewed as we move forwards and we will update you when we can.

In other news: last week Mrs Collier (Year 6 teacher and SENCO) was successful at interview and will be leaving us at the end of the summer term. She has been recruited as a Headteacher at St Mary's Catholic Primary School in Southam. We are so proud of her in successfully being recruited as a future leader of a Catholic School, but will be very sorry to see her go from St Gregory's.

Holy Week

Holy Week begins on Sunday and we are preparing to embark on our own spiritual journey with Jesus as he takes up his cross. To mark this within school we are creating our own Stations of the Cross Virtual Reflection. Each class are leading us through the stations which incorporate tableaux, readings and prayers. We also have some lovely songs recorded from Early Years and Key Stage 1 and a Sacred Dance performed by Key Stage 2. The reflection will be shared via an online link so that you can watch it as a family if you wish to. On Thursday, we will also be holding rolling worship. The hall will be transformed into a poignant place in which children are reminded of the events of Holy Week and sacrifice Jesus had to endure.



☆Star Workers of the Week☆

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Emeline	Evie-Mae	Sebastian	Amelia	Deepak	Tio	Ellie	Havilah
P.E. Days (come to school dressed in P.E Kits)							
N/A	Tuesday Friday	Tuesday Wednesday	Tuesday Wednesday	Tuesday Wednesday	Thursday Friday	Monday Friday	Monday Thursday
Attendance: 96% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.							
93.5%	93.6%	98.6% 😊	97.9% 😊	95.5%	96.9% 😊	100% 😊	98.5% 😊
Class Attendance Winner		Year 5 😊					

Parent Consultations *Update*

All parents are invited to attend a 10 minute consultation with their child's Class Teacher to discuss how they have settled back into school life.

For EYFS & Years 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 - these will take place on **Monday 29th March** from **1pm – 7pm**.

For Year 1 these will take place on **Wednesday 31st March** from **1pm – 7pm**.

A link to your consultation will be sent to you via email – please look out for this in your inbox.



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St Oscar Romero Day

Wednesday 24th March was a very special day for us as it was St Oscar Romero's Feast Day. Being part of the 'Romero Academy', we wanted to mark the occasion and celebrate this with the children. We began the day with a lovely mass led by Fr Des at St John Fisher Parish. The children then were immersed in a day of activities that allowed them to explore who Oscar Romero was and his legacy. Many of the children designed their own Romero Crosses and some even planted seeds in honour of his prayer. We then ended the day with a special treat – ice cream! Yes, that's right! An ice cream van came onto the school playground and all children were able to enjoy an ice cream with their friends. The sun even came out too! It was a great end to fun-filled day!



Sacramental Preparation and Dates

Unfortunately, the Coronavirus pandemic and its many lockdowns have put many of our plans on hold. This has also impacted upon our Sacramental Programme for our children in Years 3 and 4, who are waiting to make their First Holy Communion and Year 6 who are waiting to be Confirmed. However, as we begin our journey towards normality once again, we have been able to make plans for these Sacraments to take place. Apologies for the wait in confirming these dates with you all, however, we wanted to avoid having to cancel multiple times due to restrictions in place. That being said, myself and Mr Madia met with Fr Des last week, and are pleased to inform you of the following dates:

The Sacrament of Confirmation
Year 6 ~ Tuesday 6th July at 6.30pm

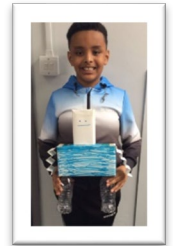
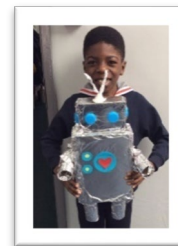
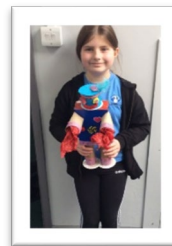
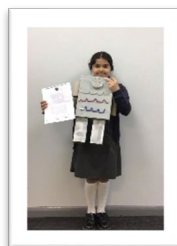
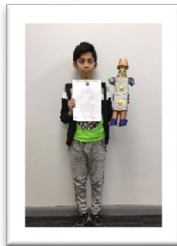
First Holy Communion
Year 3 & 4 ~ Saturday 10th July at 11.30am



These sacraments have been planned to take place after the 21st June, when hopefully we will see the easing of restrictions on gatherings as per the Prime Minister's Road Map. However, should we need to impose any additional measures or make any amendments to these dates, we will inform you of this as soon as we can. I hope now that we are able to look forward to these special milestones in the children's Journey of Faith.

'Battle of the Bots'

As part of Science Week, Cardinal Wiseman launched a 'Battle of the Bots' competition, in which the children were given the chance to design and make a robot. We have been astounded by the quality of entries we have received and have submitted them to Cardinal Wiseman with great pride. The thought that has gone into the reasoning and design is admirable and the way the children have developed these into prototypes has amazed both myself and their teachers. Here are a few of the entries from Year 4 and Year 5. We are keeping our fingers crossed for another win!



Peculiar Pets Poetry

During lockdown, Cardinal Wiseman launched a poetry competition for all Romero Primary Schools to enter. Miss Sheikh was hopeful that Year 4 had enough creativity to enter and she was right, as we have had some fabulous news this week. Cardinal Wiseman thought that the entries were of such a high standard that they entered them in a National Poetry Competition with Young Writers. We found out yesterday, that out of 15,000 entries – 4 of our children have been chosen to have their poem published in a poetry book! This is such fantastic news and the children should be so proud of themselves. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our newly published poets:

Woo hoo!
Well done!
Hooray!

Ava ~ Year 4

Isaiah ~ Year 4

Lola ~ Year 4

Sinead ~ Year 4

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Running Club

It was lovely this week to launch some sporting activities with the children as we introduced our lunchtime running club. Mr Hastings, Mr Sweatman and myself were overwhelmed with the amount of children that turned out for our first session. The children were tasked with running 1000m this week. They gave it their all and set their initial time. We will aim to beat our times or further our distance each time we head out onto the field. A special mention goes to Kyrun in Year 6 who not only set the fastest time this week, but on his second run beat his personal best. Well done!

Cycle Training over the Easter Holidays

Go Cycling over the Easter holidays with British Cycling's free Learn to Ride and Cycle Skills sessions for children age 4-15. Bikes and helmets are provided. Public sessions will be available to book from 1st April on the following website: <https://www.coventry.gov.uk/cycletraining>

Police Notice – Please be Vigilant!

West midlands police are investigating a series of robberies occurring in the Stoke area of Coventry before school on 24th March 2021. School students have been targeted for their mobile phones, and a silver coloured ford focus has been linked. Please be vigilant and report any suspicious activity immediately via 999.

Parents be aware to advise your children to walk together and keep valuables hidden.

Easter Raffle

We will be holding an Easter Raffle upon our return to school after the Easter Holidays. There are lots of *cracking* prizes including some *eggcellent* Easter Eggs! Raffle tickets will be sold for £1 per strip. If your child would like to purchase one, please send in the correct amount in a named envelope. The raffle will be drawn on Monday 19th April.



After School Clubs

As we continue with the Prime Minister's road map, we can once again begin to reintroduce things in line with our own COVID risk assessment. We are delighted to inform you that after school clubs will be returning after the Easter Holidays. We are beginning with sports for our Key Stage 2 children, however, we do have plans to develop this offer when restrictions ease further.

If you wish for your child to participate in one of these clubs, please use Arbor to book their place.

After School Club	Day/Time	Staff Member
Batting Sports (Cricket, Rounders, Softball) Year 4 and Year 5	Monday 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Mr Hastings
Football Year 5 and Year 6	Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Mr Hastings & Mr Sweatman
Netball Year 5 and Year 6	Thursday 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Mrs Scullion & Mr Hastings

Next week at a glance

Date	Time	Activity
Value and Virtue – Attentive and Discerning		
😊 All Sponsorship money to be returned to school 😊		
Sunday 28 th March	9.30am & 11.30am	Palm Sunday (Parish Mass at St John Fisher)
Monday 29 th March	9am 1pm – 7pm	Growth Mindset Assembly with BMX World Champion Mike Mullen EYFS & Years 2 – 6 Parent Consultations via Teams
Tuesday 30 th March	All Day	Lenten Confessions for Years 4, 5 & 6 with Fr Des
Wednesday 31 st March	1pm – 7pm	Year 1 Parent Consultations via Teams
Thursday 1 st April	All Day 3pm	Holy Week Rolling Worship Stations of the Cross Reflection School Closes for Easter Holidays
Friday 2 nd April		Good Friday (Bank Holiday)
Sunday 4 th April	9.30am & 11.30am	Easter Sunday (Parish Mass at St John Fisher)
Monday 19 th April	8.40am	Return to School

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Thought of the Week ..



Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Scullion

Easter Egg Head Competition

HOW TO ENTER:

Decorate a hard boiled egg as a character from a book or film or as a famous person. Bring your entry to school on Monday 19th April for our Easter celebration day.



Prizes for winning entries in each phase!

Entries will be judged on
Monday 19th April 2021

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