



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Issue 18:
Friday 28th
May 2021



Dear parents, children, staff and parishioners,



The school has been alive with the joy and awe & wonder of the Holy Spirit this week, as we reflected on the celebration of Pentecost last Sunday. The children have all been focussing on the story of Pentecost and its meanings during their RE lessons. Also this week, Year 5 have begun their preparation for the next step in their journey of faith - their Confirmation – by participating in a retreat day that allowed them to explore and reflect upon how the Holy Spirit is at work in our lives. Throughout their learning, the children have both explored and developed their knowledge of how, at Pentecost, we hear how Jesus appears again to his disciples and within this, we can see our oneness with God exemplified. During this, they have come to learn how the Father reunites Jesus with his followers, who gifts them the Holy Spirit, so that they would continue to live as he had taught them. They have also acknowledged that at times, we may despair at the darkness in this world, but we must remember that Jesus is still as near to us now as he was to his disciples. Therefore, it is with the help of the Holy Spirit, that we should now try to follow the perfect example of Christ, and remember our brothers and sisters in every corner of the world who are in need. We pray particularly for those in India, who are facing such illness and devastation at this time.

Therefore, as we move forward, please remember to let the peace of God rest within you, and rejoice in the hope that his work is not done yet. Finally, trust in his goodness and wait patiently upon him. For it is said; "He breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit'" and by embracing this Spirit, we are able to move forward becoming all that God wants us to be.

☆ Star of the Week ☆ - (Please note there is no star of the week for week ending 28.05.21)

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
NEW Summer 2 P.E. Days (come to school dressed in P.E Kits)							
n/a	Tuesday	Monday Thursday	Monday Thursday	Monday *Swimming Kits*	Tuesday Friday	Thursday Friday	Friday *Swimming Kits*
Attendance: 96.1% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.							
97.75% 😊	91.8%	93.1%	98.6% 😊	90.7%	99.6% 😊	95.2%	93.3%
Class Attendance Winner		Year 4 😊					
House Point Winner		Weekly Winner: Trinity ~ 212 Points			Overall Winner: Herbert ~ 1149 Points		

May Procession

As we enter the final week of May, our thoughts and our prayers turn especially to Mary our Mother in this month of dedication. Today, we held our May Procession to pay homage to Our Lady; to think about her in our own lives and our faith. We praised her through hymns and prayers. The children were then able to visit our garden area which is specially dedicated to Our Lady, and whilst there prayed for their own private intentions and paid homage to Her by placing flowers around Her statue. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Collier and the newly appointed GIFT team who lead us in this celebration today.



Romero goes roaming on Reading!

This term, Mrs McGinty (EYFS KS1 Romero Strategic Lead) and I are visiting all our schools to look at how we enable and empower our pupils to be successful readers. On Wednesday, we had a delightful, warm welcome by the staff and pupils at Saint Gregory to see how reading is placed at the heart of the curriculum offer in the school. From the lesson visits, we saw wonderful attitudes to learning; as we progressed through the school, pupils are becoming self-reliant, confident readers. The learning environment is rapidly improving with a focus in a number of areas on the importance of vocabulary and the enjoyment of a book in an exciting book corner within the classroom or refurbished library. We had a very positive visit. When we spoke to a number of parents on the playground, it was unanimous that parents feel that the school is doing a good job in guiding children to be a successful reader. Parents were positive about the communication from staff and the feedback on how well pupils were making progress in reading. The provision during lockdown was praised and parents felt that they would be informed if there were any issues arising that needed greater engagement between home and school. The pupils were articulate, confident in the lessons observed; they are making links between the geography/history units and the texts they are reading in English. Thank you children and staff for a wonderful Wednesday!

Mrs Quinn, Catholic Senior Executive Leader



Fidget Toys

An increasing number of fidget toys like the ones pictured are being brought into school by the children. Please can we ask that you ensure these remain at home going forward. Thank you!



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🌐 Website: www.stgregorys-coventry.org.uk

Executive Principal: Paul Madia

Interim Head of School: Megan Scullion



Saint John Fisher Catholic Church

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Sacramental Preparation

Supporting our children during their Journey of Faith is something that is really treasured here at St Gregory's. This week, we were honoured to witness the next step for two of our year groups – Year 3 and Year 5.

Year 3 received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation on Tuesday evening during a beautiful service led by Fr Des. We continue to keep these children in our prayers as they now begin their preparation to receive their First Holy Communion on the 10th July. *'May God grant them his mercy and fill them with his love.'*

Year 5 were looking ahead to the future they took part in a retreat day to launch their Sacramental Preparation for their Sacrament of Confirmation which they will receive in Year 6. The day was led by Tom and Beth – lay chaplains - from our partner secondary school, Cardinal Wiseman. During the day the children explored what Confirmation entails and why the Holy Spirit is such an important part of our lives.



Parent/Carer Survey ~ Your Voice Matters !

Here at St Gregory's, we strive to provide a high-quality education in which all our pupils reach their God-given potential; your view is important in providing feedback on how well we are achieving our vision. To this end, we are delighted to share our fourth annual survey to parents/carers across all eight schools within The Romero Catholic Academy. It will close on Friday July 9th 2021.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/RomeroSurvey2021>

Through this survey, we would like to know what you think is working well and what you would like us to improve. We have some additional aspects in light of the current climate and we thank you for your patience as we have navigated the last ten months. The survey takes approximately 6 minutes to complete and comments are optional. You can provide your details or you may answer the questionnaire anonymously if you would prefer. As always, if you wish to raise a concern, there is a process to follow and we appreciate you bring it directly to the attention to staff at the school so we can resolve the matter in a speedy manner.

We would like to take this opportunity to 'thank you' in advance for completing our survey. As always, the survey will be analysed at school level and across Romero as the results will be collated and viewed by the Board of Directors. We will share the responses and the key themes emerging in Autumn with a 'You said, we did' update in our newsletter. We will also include the FAQs on the website – www.romeromac.com

Nursery Gate – Safety Concern

As part of our Nursery offer, provision starts at 8.30am and ends at 2.30pm. As these times fall outside of our drop off and collection times for years Reception ~ Year 6, we have a Nursery Gate in use solely for the Parents and Carers of our Nursery children. However, recently some parents have been congregating outside of this gate prior to 8.30am and allowing their children to run up and down the car park, the paths to the kitchen & school office; play in between the parked cars in the car park and access the gardens and knock the front door of our Site Service Officer's house. Unfortunately, all of these are a safety risk and mean that the children are at risk during this time. The car park is operational during these hours and we would hate for there to be an accident or for any of the children to be hurt. Therefore, please can I ask that you arrive at the gate as close to 8.30am as possible and keep your children with you and under close supervision.



Year 2 ~ 'Indian Adventures' Experience Day

Last week, Year 2 brought their learning to life by holding an experience day for the children which was based on their current theme 'Indian Adventures'. The children spent the day immersed in activities and acquired new knowledge about their theme. They became experts on the symbolism of the Indian flag, looked at some of the traditions within the Indian culture and even got to sample some of the nation's most famous delicacies during a special food tasting! They had a fantastic day and enjoyed the active learning experiences that the day brought with it!



Year 2 Free School Meals

If your child is currently Year 2 their entitlement to Universal free school meals will end in at the end of this academic year (July 2021). If you think you are eligible for free school meals, you will need to apply before they finish the school year to ensure you do not need to pay anything in September.

You can apply via www.coventry.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals

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COVID-19 TEST POSITIVE TEST RESULT ONLY

As you may be aware schools are required to notify parents if a child in their child's class tests positive for COVID-19 up to Tuesday 1st June. Therefore, if your child tests positive for COVID-19 between Friday 28th May and Tuesday 1st June it is essential that you inform school so that we can notify parents of the necessity for their child to self-isolate. As the school will be closed for half term, you are requested to email: m.scullion@romeromac.com

Happy Half Term!

Please let me take this opportunity to wish you all a relaxing and safe half term with your families. Hopefully the sun makes an appearance so that we are able to make the most of some 'down time' from school. I also would like to extend a huge thank you to all staff at St Gregory's – this half term has been full of highs and many memories have been made for and with the children. I know that all of these things require many people to go 'over and above' and this is very much noted and appreciated.

So whatever your plans, have a lovely half term break. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 7th June for some Summer fun!

Dates for your Diary

Date	Time	Activity
Value and Virtue – Faith-filled and Hopeful		
Sunday 6 th June	9.30am & 11.30am	Tenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (Parish Mass at St John Fisher)
Monday 7 th June	8.40am PM	Children return to school: Summer 2 begins Year 3 Swimming
Tuesday 8 th June	All Day	Year 4/5/6 Confessions with Fr Des
Wednesday 9 th June	AM	EYFS: The Animal Man Experience
Thursday 10 th June	All Day 1.15pm – 4pm	Whole School Football Development Sessions *PE Kits Needed* Coventry Catholic Schools Netball Rally
Friday 11 th June	All Day AM	Year 2: Pirate Experience Day Year 4: Warwickshire Cricket Board ~ Cricket Masterclass
Sunday 12 th June	9.30am & 11.30am	Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time (Parish Mass at St John Fisher)

We keep those children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday evening in our prayers ...



Have a lovely half term!
Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Scullion

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