



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Issue 12:
Friday 9th
December
2022



Dear parents, children, staff, and parishioners,

St Gregory's is an OUTSTANDING Catholic School!



On Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th November, we welcomed inspectors from the Archdiocese of Birmingham into school to conduct our CSI (Catholic Schools' Inspection). We are thrilled to announce that after a rigorous two days of observing lessons, speaking with staff & children, holding discussions with Senior Leaders & Governors, observing Prayer & Liturgy and taking into account all aspects of school life – we have been awarded an **Outstanding** judgement in all 3 areas: **Catholic Life, Religious Education and Collective Worship** and have secured an **Outstanding** Judgement over all!

We are thrilled to announce the above and are extremely proud of our achievements. We, as a staff team, have worked hard to make changes over the past 2 years and it is lovely to have this recognised externally. We fully embrace the impact that we, as educators, can have on the lives of the children in our care, and for us at St Gregory's nothing is more important than ensuring that we provide opportunities for all of our children to feel confident enough to achieve their God-given potential and to ensure that we give them a wide range of experiences to develop morally, socially and vocationally so that, when they leave us, they are ready to take up their place in the wider world and contribute to society in a positive way.

I would like to take this opportunity, to formally thank each one of our members of Staff, all of our Governors and Father Des for their commitment to ensuring that the above vision for St Gregory's is translated into reality. They all work so hard and each bring something unique which in turn ensures St Gregory's is the special place that it is. A special thank you must go to Miss Downing who, in her role as RE Lead, has worked to transform our provision for RE and whose strive for excellence inspires us all!

Finally, I would like to extend a huge thank you to you – our families! Your support is invaluable, and we could not achieve all that we do without this! Thank you also for trusting us with your children. It is an honour to work with them each day, and their respectful, thoughtful and kind ways make it a joy to do so!

The findings of our Inspection are listed in our CSI Report. To view our report, please visit our website:

[CSI Inspection Report – St Gregory's](#)

There are many highlights from our report, but some include:

'The school environment enhances Catholic life and mission; pupils learn and grow in a vibrant, faith-filled atmosphere'

'From the moment you enter St Gregory's, a strong, welcoming, and inclusive Catholic culture is evident'

'Pupils are kind, respectful, thoughtful, and enthusiastic about the Catholic faith'

'All staff members are deeply committed to the school's mission and providing high-quality care for pupils'

'Pupils thoroughly enjoy their lessons at St Gregory's'

Saint Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Harry Rose Road, Coventry, CV2 5AT

☎ Telephone: (024) 7645 5900

✉ E-mail: admin.sg@romeromac.com

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

Executive Principal: Dee Williams

Associate Principal: Megan Scullion



Saint John Fisher Catholic Church

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During December we journey into Advent as we begin a new church year: "Slow down; Be ready."



We have continued to use Advent as a time of preparation, and this week we have ensured that we have been preparing our hearts to welcome Jesus at Christmas time. The lead up to Christmas is always such a busy time, and we, as a school, have fully embraced the festivities and have really tried to bring the joy during this special time of year. However, as much as we are enjoying the hustle and bustle of 'tinsel term' (as I like to call it!) we also must take time to slow down and reflect upon the magical event that is about to happen on Christmas Day. Children, during their prayer times, have reflected upon the peace that Jesus brought with him when he entered the world and thought about how they could bring and promote peace in the world today. For them, it was simple: show kindness to all, respect each other's differences and to never stop believing that good can happen – and personally, I couldn't have said it better myself!

☆ Information for You ☆

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
P.E. Days (come to school dressed in P.E Kits)							
n/a	Friday	Wednesday and Friday	Monday and Wednesday	Wednesday	Monday	Wednesday and Thursday	Thursday
Attendance: 92% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.							
87.3%	95.8%	88%	84.4%	96.3%	92.7%	91.3%	96.6%
Class Attendance Winner		Year 6					
House Point Winner		Weekly Winner: Herbert ~ 252 Points			Overall Winner: Herbert ~ 1897 Points		

Second Sunday of Advent ~ Whole School Mass

Thank you to those children who attended our Whole School Mass on Sunday 4th December to mark the Second Sunday of Advent! We were overwhelmed with the number of you in attendance and this made for a lovely celebratory Mass! Fr Des would also like to extend his thanks to those families who supported the Parish Bazaar afterwards too! It was a wonderful occasion and provided festive cheer!

Nativity Plays

Thank you to all of the children in Nursery and Reception and the children in Year 1 and Year 2 for their wonderful Nativity plays. They read their lines, performed their dances and sang all the songs with great enthusiasm. It was lovely to see the children carry on even if something went wrong and see the pride in the audiences' eyes as the children took to the stage. Once again, a huge thank you to all of the staff for their commitment and going the extra mile to enable us as a school to put on performances of such a high standard! And a huge thank you to the parents and family members who joined us for the performance – we really were delighted to be able to share the performances with you all!



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Key Stage 2 Carol Service Wednesday 14th December

5pm

St John Fisher Parish Church

All children in KS2 (Yr3 4 5 6) will be taking an active part in our annual Carol Service "One Night; One Moment." We want all the children to be present to share with us the real meaning of Christmas and the staff are working hard to make this a very special reflection as we journey towards Christmas and the birth of Jesus. Please put this date in your diary. It is an expectation that all children attend. If in exceptional circumstances your child is unable to attend, we request this in writing please.

They Key Stage Two Carol Service will hopefully become something that is known as a key event in the life of the school and we are excited to welcome you to its premiere! (If you remember, Covid Cancelled the last one 😞)

The service is open to families of St Gregory's and our St John Fisher Parish Community, and we do hope that you will be able to join us.



Achievement Awards

This term, we will be holding an Achievement Award ceremony. These Awards now take place in the second half of every term so that we are able to celebrate and highlight some of the key children's achievements in each year group. If your child has been selected to receive an award, you will have received an invitation via email. We can't wait!



Monday 12 th December	9.00am	Key Stage 1 Achievement Awards (invitations via email)
Tuesday 13 th December	9.00am	Key Stage 2 Achievement Awards (invitations via email)
Thursday 15 th December	9.00am	Reception and Nursery Achievement Awards (invitations via email)


Important Update!

The @educationgovuk have encouraged schools to be vigilant for symptoms of Strep A. At present we are promoting cleaning routines including regular handwashing. Here is a helpful overview of the symptoms for parents and carers courtesy of the @BBC and @NHSuk.


What is Strep A?

- A type of bacteria sometimes found in the throat or on the skin
- Very rare but can cause severe/life-threatening illness and be contagious
- Treatable with antibiotics


What are the symptoms?




Most healthy people remain **symptom free**




Throat infection



Scarlet fever (high temperature, sore throat, swollen neck glands, rash)



Skin infections



Sunburn-type rash that can feel like sandpaper

Seek medical help if you think you are showing symptoms
Source: NHS

BBC

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Christmas Dinner

On Thursday 15th December we will be having our annual Christmas lunch, cooked by our school kitchen. All children in Year R/1/2 will get a "free" meal. If any children who are not on school dinners would like a meal, there will be a charge of £2.40. All children will be allowed to come in wearing a festive hat, headband, hair attire for the day. It is still FULL school uniform for the day. All the staff will be eating with the children during lunchtime, and myself and Miss Downing will be helping serve! We cannot wait!

Outstanding Debts

We would like to remind parents that there are a number of outstanding debts for such things as dinner money, Care Club and educational visits that must be cleared. If your Arbor balance is in debt, please could we ask that you see to this matter as soon as possible. Thank you.

Reception September 2023

Reminder that applications close on January 15th for places to start Reception on 1st September 2023. Please note, even if your child attends St Gregory's nursery and you wish for them to attend our Reception, you must still fill in an application as a place is not automatically guaranteed. [To apply click here!](#) Please also contact the school office if you would like to take a tour- we wholeheartedly recommend you visit so you can see all the school in action and fully experience the Catholic ethos on offer.

Staffing Changes

We would like to inform you of the following staffing changes ahead of January 2023:

Miss Rowlands has taken the opportunity to embark on an exciting new chapter of her teaching career, and will be leaving us to take up a position at Finham Primary School. She will be leaving us at the end of this term – we wish her luck for the future!

In order to ensure that we are able to maintain high standards of teaching and learning in Year 1, earlier in the term, a rigorous interview process was held, and we are now delighted to share that **Mrs Webb** was successful and will be teaching Year 1 as of January 2023. Mrs Webb brings with her a wealth of experience, having worked for 17 years at St Thomas More Primary School where she has held positions such as RE Lead, Leader of Learning and has experience teaching across the majority of the Primary Phase. Most recently, she has been teaching Year 1 and is very much looking forward to joining the community here at St Gregory's.

We are also saying goodbye to **Mrs Ahira**, who has, most recently, been a teaching assistant across Year 1 & 2. Her last working day will be on Wednesday. We thank her for all that she has done for the children of St Gregory's!

Come January, we will be welcoming **Miss Tammy Edwards** as our new Nursery Teaching Assistant. She will be a brilliant addition to our St Gregory's Team and she looks forward to working with the youngest children in our care!

Terrific Trampolining

Last weekend, Kevon competed in the West Midlands Schools Trampolining Competition. Kevon has been hard at work preparing for this competition and were very proud to be competing. This year he had moved up an age category and the stakes were high! Kevon performed at a high standard and secured an amazing 2nd Place! He will now compete at the next round in January – Good luck Kevon!



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St Gregory's Advent Calendar

FOR THOSE IMPORTANT DATES YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS!



	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
28 th – 4 th December 1st Week of Advent			10.15am Blessing of the Nativitree and Advent Wreaths (all welcome!) KS2: Reconciliation with Fr Des 1.15pm Year 2 Christingle Service	9.30am Light of the World National Assembly - CAFOD	Years N/R/1/2/3/4/5/6 Advent Class prayer times (9.00am) for parents to join us in Prayer
5 th – 9 th December 2nd Week of Advent	9.30am EYFS Dress Rehearsal 1.30pm Key Stage 1 Dress Rehearsal	2pm EYFS Nativity Performance 5:30pm KS1 Nativity	Rolling Worship: Preparing to Welcome Jesus 9:30am EYFS Nativity 1:30pm Choir to sing at the Hospital	Day of Service: Whole School Social Action project - feeding the homeless 9.30am KS1 Nativity 1.30pm Year 4 Teaching Mass 3.30pm Staff Spiritual Reflection: Advent	PM: Reception – Year 6 visit to the Pantomime
12 th – 16 th December 3rd Week of Advent	9.00am Key Stage 1 Achievement Awards 9.30am Nursery Festive Drama Workshop	9.00am KS2 Achievement Awards 9.00am Year 5 Dodgeball Competition	All day KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal PM Father Christmas to visit EYFS & KS1 6.30pm KS2 Carol Service at Church	9.00am Reception and Nursery Achievement Awards 11:30am – 1:15pm St Gregory's Christmas Dinner 2pm Final Mass of Term including Virtue and Values Awards	Christmas Jumper Day ~ Donation 2pm Step into Christmas 3.15pm finish for Christmas Holidays (school closes)



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Week at a Glance

Date	Time	Activity
Value and Virtue – Faith Filled and Hopeful		
Sunday 11 th December	9.30am & 11.30am	Third Sunday of Advent Mass at St John Fisher Church
Monday 12 th December	9.00am 9.30am 6pm	KS1 Achievement Awards Nursery Festive Drama Workshop St Gregory's Local Governing Body Meeting
Tuesday 13 th December	9.00am 9.00am PM – 4pm	KS2 Achievement Awards Year 5 Dodgeball Values Competition KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal at Church – Collect from St John Fisher at 4pm
Wednesday 14 th December	AM PM 5pm	KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal at Church – Drop at St John Fisher from 8.20am Father Christmas to visit EYFS/KS1 Key Stage Two Carol Service: One Night, One Moment at St John Fisher Church
Thursday 15 th December	9am Lunch 2.15pm	EYFS Achievement Awards Christmas Dinner Day Final Mass of Term – all welcome!
Friday 16 th December	All Day 2pm	Christmas Jumper Day – Voluntary Donation! Step into Christmas Assembly – Team Elf vs Team Rudolph!
Sunday 18 th December	9.30am & 11.30am	Fourth Sunday of Advent Mass at St John Fisher Church

Thank you for your continued support!

Megan Scullion

Mrs Scullion
Associate Principal



	RED OPTION	YELLOW OPTION	BLUE PURPLE ORANGE OPTION
MON	Pork Sausage with Mashed Potato	Quorn Sausage with Mashed Potato	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
TUE	Chicken Burger with Potato Wedges	Quorn Beef Style Burger with Potato Wedges	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
WED	Chicken Roast Dinner	Quorn Roast Dinner	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
THU	Pasta Bolognaise & Garlic Bread	Macaroni Cheese & Garlic Bread	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans
FRI	Battered Fish & Chips	Cheese & Tomato Pizza & Chips	Jacket Potato with Tuna/Cheese/Beans

All meals are served with vegetables and cake or fruit of the day.
Our self-serve salad cart is also on offer which contains bread, pasta salads/coleslaw and vegetable sticks

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