



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Part of The Romero Catholic Academy

Issue 17:  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup>  
February 2023



Dear parents, children, staff, and parishioners,



This week, school has been abuzz with enthusiastic children who are so excited to discuss and share their learning experiences with each other. For some, learning can be boring, a chore or something you simply have to do to get to an end result. Yet here at St Gregory's, learning is the vehicle by which we open minds, unlock hearts, inspire a future generation and give them experiences that remain in their hearts forever.

This week alone each class has had creative and enriching learning experiences to increase their awareness of another Faith as part of our 'Faith Focus Week'; our social interventions have seen children work with others to develop them in social interaction, self-confidence and communication and Year 4 are preparing to visit 'The Living Rainforest' next week to develop their understanding of their Geography topic.

To the left, you can also see an image of our Year 4 children learning about the rituals and significance of the Jewish celebration of the 'Seder Meal' as part of Faith Focus Week.

The ingredients used cost money, the planning and preparation cost the staff involved time but the engagement of the children is something that money can definitely never buy!

**A huge thank you to Year 2 and Miss Bereza for today's Assembly on Kindness Matters ...**

**Thank you for reminding us that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a big difference!**

### ☆ Roll of Honour ☆

Celebration Assembly was a lovely occasion this morning as we celebrated all of the achievements of our Stars of the Week! It was lovely to hear the vast array of reasons for each award, reminding us that we all have different things that make us special at St Gregory's!

Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Eden	Isabella	Ariana	Daniel	Lila	Anashe	Adebola	Tio
P.E. Days (come to school dressed in P.E Kits)							
n/a	Thursday	Monday Wednesday	Wednesday Thursday	Monday Thursday	Thursday	Wednesday Friday	Wednesday Friday
Attendance: 94.4% Overall (total attendance for the week for the whole school) Our school target for this year is 97%.							
98.5% 😊	90.4%	91.6%	98.4% 😊	90.4%	95.8%	96.5%	95.6%
Class Attendance Winner		Year 2					
House Point Winner		Weekly Winner: Trinity ~ 289			Overall Winner: Godiva ~ 2832 Points		

### Looking at Learning

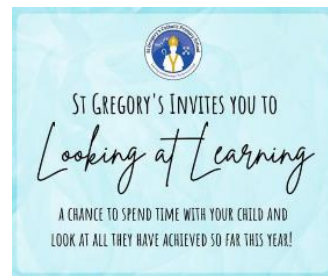
Next week, as detailed in the dates sent out at the start of the year, you are invited to our 'Looking at Learning' sessions so that you are able to sit with your child and discuss all that they have learned so far this year and celebrate their progress and achievements too. Acting on your feedback from last time, we are now providing an afternoon and evening session for each of the 'Looking at Learning' sessions. We hope that you are able to attend.

Looking at Learning sessions are at **2.45pm** or **5pm** on the following dates:

Year 4, 5 and 6 ~ Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Year 1, 2 and 3 ~ Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

Reception and Nursery ~ Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February



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## Safer Internet Day ~ Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February

2023 will be the 19th year Safer Internet Day will be celebrated in over 100 countries around the world. It will run under the slogan "want to talk about it?" and will promote the need to talk about life online. On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, all children at school will take part in this important day and have a focused lesson on being safe on the Internet. Some children will even represent St Gregory's at a special event at Cardinal Wiseman Secondary School. At school, we ensure that all the children are safe through our E-Safety policy; dedicated lessons as part of the computing curriculum and through raising awareness amongst pupils and parents.

## Valentines Disco – Wednesday 15th February 2023

The school council will be busy planning and leading a number of events for fun or fundraising across the year. Their next event will be a Disco on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023. Please confirm your child's place by booking under the 'trip' section of Arbor. All money raised will fund new books for the library – which will be reopening after February half term to help us promote reading for pleasure 😊 Your support is greatly appreciated.

**EYFS/KS1 Valentines Disco – 3:15pm – 4:30pm. Tickets are £4 per child (includes snack and a drink) – payable on Arbor**

**Year 3/4/5/6 Valentines Disco – 4.30pm – 6pm. Tickets are £4 per child (includes snack and a drink) – payable on Arbor**



## Faith Focus Week

This week, the whole school has been taking part in a Faith Focus week in which the children have explored other Faiths and learnt about their beliefs, rituals and customs. It has also provided us with the opportunity to celebrate some of the different Faiths and appreciate the cultural diversity that we have within our school community.

The following Year Groups have been increasing their awareness of the following Faiths:

**Nursery and Reception ~ My own Faith & Festivals throughout the world**  
**Year 1 and Year 5 ~ Islam      Year 2 and Year 6 ~ Hinduism**  
**Year 3 ~ Sikhism      Year 4~ Judaism**

I would like to extend a huge thank you to each one of our staff members who have planned such creative and engaging work this week to help the children experience Faith Focus week in such a positive and varied way. We ended with a sharing afternoon today to showcase the children's learning and it really was a lovely way to celebrate all that we had learned and the new knowledge we had all acquired!



## Candlemas

On Thursday we celebrated a lovely Whole School Mass for the feast of Candlemas! On February 2, exactly 40 days after Christmas, we remember the time when Mary brought her firstborn to the Temple to be dedicated to the Lord (Exodus 13:2-12). The story continues as Simeon holds the baby in his arms and says that Jesus will be a light for the Gentiles (Luke 2:22-32). A huge thank you to Year 2 for leading us in this celebration! A tradition of Candlemas is also Pancakes – and Mrs Mockford treated us to these on Thursday lunchtime! Thank you!



## Nursery Applications for September 2023 – Now Open!

We are now also taking applications for our Nursery for a September 2023 start. Please contact the office if you would like an application pack 😊

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### Reading at home.

The opportunity for a child to read aloud to an adult is an important factor when developing fluency and also assists with addressing any misconceptions in pronunciation/phonological awareness. you can also improve their understanding of what they have read by asking them questions about the text whilst listening to them.

**Our school expectation is that children read to an adult 3 x a week for at least 15 minutes at a time.**

We then ask that the adult signs the child's diary and notes down any difficulty so that we are able to support the children back at school. We are working on something very special in the background to help celebrate those children who are making an effort to read a book – watch this space!



### Swimming Team Assemble!

Our newly formed Swimming Team are preparing for their first event which is the Catholic School's Swimming Gala – one of the biggest events in our Sporting Calendar. Today, we headed to Pingles Leisure Centre with our friends from St John Fisher for one final practice swim ahead of the event. Children had the opportunity to practice their event and to get to grips with the distances needing to be swam. The Gala will then take place, next Friday, on the 10<sup>th</sup> February. Good luck Team St Greg's!

### Support Needed ~ Tesco Grant Opportunity!

We are currently in the running to secure a grant from Tesco to help us fund an exciting new reading project!

Teaching children to read but also helping them to develop a love of books is something we are deeply passionate about, and this funding can help us develop this even more!

You are currently able to vote for St Gregory's to access this funding at the **Tesco Store on Clifford Bridge Road, Tesco Crosspoint and the Tesco at the Arena Shopping Park.**

Once you have finished your shopping, collect your blue token, and pop it in our voting box!

Please do spread the word to your friends and family too. This is a great opportunity and a chance for us to create something really special with the money granted 🌟🌟



### Phonics Workshop ~ Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Calling all Parents and Carers of children in Nursery, Reception and Year 1! We are pleased to invite you to our 'Phonics and Pastries' workshop which will be delivered on Tuesday 7th February at 9am. Come along, grab yourself a coffee and a pastry and open your mind to the world of phonics and all things early reading!

The morning will cover the following:

- ♥ an overview of our phonics scheme
- ♥ shared resources that you can use at home
- ♥ strategies to help your child learn to read
- ♥ and, an opportunity for you to watch a live phonics lesson to see phonics teaching in action

This will be a fantastic way for you to learn how you are able to support your child with their reading at home as well as meeting other parents and enjoying a cuppa and a pastry too!

We hope to see as many of you there as possible! We look forward to sharing our good practice with you all 😊



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## Scholastic Book Fair

On Monday, the Book Fair will arrive at St Gregory's and will be with us all week long!

Sales begin from 8.30am - 8.50am each morning and from 3.15pm - 3.40pm after school.  
The book fair will run until Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February!

If you wish to browse what is on offer, please feel free to visit the hall (where the book fair is located) or view the selection online: [Book Fair - Items for Sale](#)

This year, you are able to pay in cash or via the online link which can be found here: [Pay online here](#)



During the course of the week, children may bring home an order form. Using this, you will be able to note down the purchases you wish to make, send a cash payment or pay using the online link and once complete, return the form to school so that the children can collect their order.

Please note, that if we are low on stock or sell out of a popular product, we are able to order more but these may not be delivered until Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

For every sale, as a school, we receive money towards funding new books for our library - so your support really is appreciated.

## Week at a glance – It's a busy one!

Date	Time	Activity
<b>Value and Virtue – Eloquent and Truthful</b>		
<b>Year 2 and Year 6 Assessment Week</b>		
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am 11.30am	Parish Mass at Saint John Fisher
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> February	8.30am 9am 11am 1.30pm 2.45pm or 5pm	Scholastic Book Fair Opens! Mission Assembly Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation Rehearsal Y2 Teaching Mass at St John Fisher Parish Church Year 4, 5 and 6 Looking at Learning
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	All Day All Day PM 2.45pm or 5pm 3.30pm	Safer Internet Day Year 6 Confirmation Retreat Day at Cardinal Wiseman Rock Steady Lessons Year 1, 2 and 3 Looking at Learning Netball Match vs Corpus Christi HOME
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> February	2.45pm or 5pm	EYFS Looking at Learning
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	All Day	Y4 Educational Visit: The Living Rainforest
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	9am All Day	Celebration Assembly Catholic School's Swimming Gala
Saturday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	11.30am	Year 6 Sacrament of Confirmation
Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> February	9.30am 11.30am	Parish Mass at Saint John Fisher

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

*Megan Scullion*

Mrs Scullion  
Associate Principal

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## ST GREGORY'S NURSERY OPEN EVENING

SECURE YOUR  
PLACE  
FOR  
SEPTEMBER  
2023

COME AND SEE US IN ACTION!



MONDAY 13TH FEBRUARY  
4PM - 5.30PM

WE WARMLY INVITE YOU & YOUR CHILD TO COME AND VIEW OUR NURSERY SETTING SO THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO GAIN AN INSIGHT INTO SCHOOL LIFE AT ST GREGORY'S AND SEE WHAT WE CAN OFFER YOUR CHILD!

STAY & PLAY - MEET THE STAFF - PIZZA PARTY



## WE ARE CURRENTLY ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS TO JOIN OUR NURSERY IN SEPTEMBER 2023\*

APPLICATION FORMS WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE EVENING OR CAN BE OBTAINED FROM OUR OFFICE

\*CHILDREN AGED 3+  
15-HOUR AND 30-HOUR PLACES AVAILABLE

WRAPAROUND PROVISION AVAILABLE FROM  
7.30AM UNTIL 5.30PM

### HOW TO FIND US!



024 76 445 900



Harry Rose Road, Wyken  
Coventry, CV2 5AT



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