



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Parent Newsletter – January 31<sup>st</sup> 2020



### *'Loving and Learning'*

*To love all those with whom we come into contact as taught to us by Jesus through the Gospels.*

*To learn to the best of our ability using our God given talents.*

### A Prayer for the Holy Family

As we enter the month of February we turn our attentions to remembering and celebrating the Holy Family – Mary, Joseph and Jesus. Both as children and as parents, we can take comfort in the fact that we have the perfect model of the family before us in the Holy Family:

*Holy Family of Nazareth, make our family one with you. Help us to be instruments of peace. Grant that love, strengthened by grace, may prove mightier than all the weaknesses and trials through which our families sometimes pass. May we always have God at the centre of our hearts and homes until we are all one family, happy and at peace in our true home with you. Amen*

### A Message from Mr Boodell

January can feel like a very long month and it is certainly a relief to see the days starting to get that little bit longer again. The children have been working incredibly hard during this month with lots of wet plays and indoor breaks to contend with but they continue to do us proud.

Next Friday (7<sup>th</sup> February) is a charity fundraiser for Epilepsy Awareness. Children can wear their own clothes (preferably something purple) and will carry out a painting activity during the afternoon.

We will also take the chance to have a 'Wellbeing Morning' on this date. Children will carry out some activities linked to mindfulness, to focus on their wellbeing and give them a well-earned break from the norm. Activities will include 'Circle Time' games, Yoga, Mindfulness Colouring and Guided Meditations. I hope this will give all the children a lift and the energy needed for a final push towards half-term ☺



### St Gregory's Pre School reopening in September 2020 ☺

We are pleased to confirm that St Gregory's Pre-School will be reopening in September 2020. We will be offering 30 hours and 15 hours packages with flexible wraparound options available to create a package that works for working parents (7.30am-6.00pm). More information will be sent out by school before half-term but you can register your interest with the school office now and we will contact you with more details about how to apply for a place.

### January 2020 Attendance

<u>Year</u>	<u>Rec</u>	<u>Y1</u>	<u>Y2M</u>	<u>Y2W</u>	<u>Y3</u>	<u>Y4</u>	<u>Y5</u>	<u>Y6</u>
<u>Attendance</u>	98.5%	97.7%	96.7%	91.7%	95.8%	96.4%	95.6%	97.9%

Congratulations to **Reception**, who were the winners of the attendance award for this term.

Our average attendance for this period was **96.3%**.

Our school target for 2019/20 is **97%**.

### Important message on Hand Sanitisers

Please do not send bottles of hand sanitiser into school with your children. They are not suitable for use by young children and many contain alcohol, are highly flammable and can cause serious skin and eye irritation.

Mr Turvey has ordered new soap dispensers and antibacterial liquid soap for the toilets and communal areas which will be installed at the beginning of next week.



### School Uniform Reminders

- School ties should be worn by all pupils during the Spring term. They are available to buy from the school office or Clive Marks.
- Earrings are not permitted in school and must not be worn during the school day for health and safety reasons.
- PE Kit consists of a white T-Shirt, red shorts and black pumps.
- Nail varnish and other make up is not permitted in school.

We are also pleased to announce that ACE Embroidery online are now stocking all of our uniform online. Please visit the link below to see the full range of products on offer (ties to follow soon): <https://stgregorys.ace-online.co.uk/catalogue>

### St Gregory's Parish Charity Barn Dance

Members of the Parish community are running fundraisers throughout the year to try and do more for local charities. The next event is a Barn Dance for HCPT on Saturday 15th at the Bear Tavern. HCPT Group is a Catholic charity that takes children with disabilities or special needs on pilgrimage to Lourdes each Easter. Tickets are on sale at St Gregory's Church after each mass or by contacting Paul: [midlands@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:midlands@hcpt.org.uk) or 07803150319.

## Charity Barn Dance in aid of HCPT

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2020, 7:30pm  
The Bear Tavern, Bearwood

**Tickets £5**



On sale at St Gregory's Church after each mass or by contacting Paul: [midlands@hcpt.org.uk](mailto:midlands@hcpt.org.uk) or 07803150319.

Raffle prize donations appreciated

### Mr Boodell's Puzzle Corner

This week's puzzle is a Hink Pink – A puzzle where the answer is two rhyming words e.g: Paperback thief = Book crook

**Clue: A lengthy tune**

Children – Bring your answer to Mr Boodell for a sticker.

Challenge: Can you think of your own Hink Pink..?

### Spring Half-Term 1 Key Dates

#### Virtue Focus for this half term:

#### Compassionate and Loving

<u>Week</u>		<u>Theme</u>	<u>Key dates this week</u>	<u>Training Days</u>
Jan 6-10	1	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January – The Feast of the Epiphany</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January – SATs Meeting for Year 6 Parents</b> 6.00pm in School Hall</p>	n/a
Jan 13-17	2	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Year 4 &amp; Year 5 Residential Meeting</b> 3.30pm in Year 5 Classroom</p>	n/a
Jan 20-24	3	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Year 5 Class Assembly</b> School Hall @ 9.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January – Year 6 Retreat Day @ St Hubert's</b> (More information to follow)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Chinese New Year</b></p>	n/a
Jan 27-31	4	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> January – Holocaust Memorial Day</b></p>	n/a
Feb 3-7	5	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Epilepsy Awareness Art Day</b> More information to follow</p>	n/a
Feb 10-14	6	Spring 1	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>I Can Do It Week</u></b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February – Safer Internet Day</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Year 5 perform in Pyramid Concert @ Birmingham Town Hall</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Year 2M Class Assembly</b> School Hall @ 9.00am</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Break up for Half Term Holiday</b></p>	n/a

#### Things to remember

- Please remember to put your child's name on all their school uniform and PE kit – this greatly helps us when it comes to reuniting lost jumpers etc. with their owners.

#### Small Acts of Kindness

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Key information</u>
07/02/20	Epilepsy Awareness Day	Children will be asked to bring in £1 on this day to wear their own clothes and raise money for Epilepsy Awareness. They will complete an art activity during the afternoon which will be displayed in the school hall on Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb.

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb

**Spring Half Term Holiday**  
**Children return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**