



St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

Parent Newsletter – November 2019

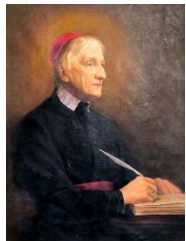


'Loving and Learning'

*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 November

As our half term draws to a close, and following the canonisation of St John Henry Newman, we take the opportunity to remind ourselves of the prayer he shared with us:



May the Lord support us all the day long,
Till the shades lengthen and the evening comes,
and the busy world is hushed, and the fever of life is over,
and our work is done.
Then in his mercy may he give us a safe lodging,
and holy rest, and peace at the last.



Amen

A message from Mr Boodell

It is with great pride that I am able to inform you that, after a successful interview, I have been appointed as the permanent Head of School for St Gregory's Catholic Primary School. This school, and the children, families and staff within it, hold a very special place in my heart and it has been a pleasure and an honour to work here for the past 11 years.

I look forward to many more exciting years to come in my new role and would like to say a heartfelt 'Thank you' for the many messages of support and positive wishes I have received both this term and last.

October has been another busy month at school and the children have thoroughly enjoyed their learning as they come to the end of their first theme. They have also enjoyed learning more about significant figures from history as part of Black History Month and finding out about different religions during our recent Multi Faith Week. I had the pleasure of accompanying some of our classes on their visits to different places of worship and, as always, the children were a real credit to the school.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to say another thank you for your support this half term and wish you a restful and relaxing half term break. Remember that school is closed for training days on Thursday and Friday of this week but we will look forward to welcoming the children back to school on Monday 4th November ☺

ALDI Kit for Schools Stickers – Mission Completed..!

Thank you so much for your support in collecting the ALDI Team GB stickers. We have now completed our poster and submitted it to be entered into the prize draw. We will receive some new sports kit to use in school and hope to be one of the lucky schools selected to win £20,000.



October 2019 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>	97.2%	98.4%	96.4%	94.2%	95.8%	97.7%	97.8%	94.6%

Congratulations to **Year 1**, who were the winners of the attendance award for the month of October. Our average attendance for this period was **96.5%**.

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

Smethwick Foodbank Appeal – A Huge Thank You..!

Thank you once again for your amazing generosity in the lead up to our Harvest Celebrations. I visited the foodbank to drop off the food after our thanksgiving service and the staff were overwhelmed at the response we had received.

Janine from the foodbank visited school on Friday to speak to the children about the difference their generosity will make to the lives of many local families. She let us know that we had collected over 580 kg of food which is a new record for a one form entry school..!

We will continue to support the foodbank over the coming weeks and months so please add to the basket in the school reception area whenever you are able to.



Year 5 Rainforest Fundraiser

Another well done to all of our children, and particularly our Year 5 class, who raised over £200 during their 'Save the Rainforest' fundraising day. The children in Year 5 planned and coordinated activities throughout the day and were able to donate £118.96 to the WWF and purchase our own acre of Amazonian Rainforest for £100 which will now be protected in perpetuity.

School Uniform Reminder

A reminder that after the half term break, children in KS1 and KS2 are expected to wear winter uniform to school (white or light blue shirt and tie, grey or black trousers, grey pinafore dress and school jumper or cardigan). Reception children can continue to wear white polo shirts throughout their time in EYFS.

We have also linked up with a new online supplier for our school uniform to offer parents more choice and better value for money. Please visit Ace Online Embroidery from Friday 25th October to see the range of products on offer:

<https://stgregorys.ace-online.co.uk/catalogue>



Benson Community Free Autumn Half term Activity Camp

From Monday 28th October - Friday 1st November, there will be a free sports camp for children aged 7 and over running at Hadley Stadium.

Activities on offer include archery, football, basketball, tennis, arts and crafts and more. Sign in and join at Hadley Stadium, B66 3NL