



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Parent Newsletter – January 10<sup>th</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 Father Cownley

As you may already be aware, Father Cownley has been quite unwell recently. He is resting and recuperating at the moment and we hope to welcome him back to school and church in the near future. In the meantime please remember him in your prayers:

Almighty God, as we ask your help for our brothers and sisters who are ill,  
we ask you to help us to be healing people in our time and place.  
May your love touch others through us, and may we help all people to live in peace.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### A message from Mr Boodell

A warm welcome back to school for all of our children and families. I hope you enjoyed a restful and relaxing Christmas break.

I am attaching a list of key dates and events for the first Spring half term which I hope you will find useful. I'd also like to share with you the beautiful 'Virtues Cross' that the children created at the end of last term.

Every child in school decorated a wooden lolly stick with the virtues that mean something special to them. These lolly sticks were combined to form the beautiful cross that is now proudly displayed in our Key Stage 1 corridor. I'm sure you will agree that the end result looks fantastic and is a constant reminder for us that collectively and individually we all have a very important role to play in the family of God.

Our virtues for this half term are 'Compassionate and Loving' and we will continue to recognise and acknowledge the children who display these virtues in our Monday Morning Prayer Service every week.



### Autumn Term 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>	94.3%	96.8%	93.3%	93.9%	95.3%	96.4%	97.2%	95.3%

Considering the amount of coughs, colds and tummy bugs which did the rounds in December our overall school attendance for the Autumn term was still very positive.

Congratulations to **Year 5**, who were the winners of the attendance award for this term. Our average attendance for this period was **95.3%**.

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

### Smethwick Foodbank Appeal

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. Urgently needed items include:

Tinned fruit, Rice puddings, Custard, Tea bags (40's & 80's), Coffee, Packs of long grain rice (500gms and 1kg), Packs of pasta (500gms and 1kg), Pasta sauce, Tinned soups, Biscuits (all sizes), Tinned meats (ham, corned beef, hot dogs, chopped pork), Tinned meals (stew, meatballs, chilli con carne), Spaghetti hoops, Tinned tomatoes, Tinned fish (tuna, mackerel, salmon, sardines), UHT milk



### School Uniform Reminder

A gentle reminder that all children in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 should now be wearing school ties as part of their winter uniform.

Please ensure that children are coming to school with a tie from here on in. Should you need to purchase a tie, they are on sale from the school office for £5 and we have both elasticated and traditional ties available.



### Homework Projects

A huge well done to the children (and parents©) of Year 2 and Year 3 whose homework projects last term were absolutely amazing. I attach a small selection of pictures of the fantastic Roman Shields (Year 3) and Titanic models and projects (Year 2) which impressed myself and all the staff in school so much.

Keep up the good work...!



### 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.
Ongoing	Smethwick Food Bank	See Newsletter above

17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> Feb

### Spring Half Term Holiday

**Children return to school on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**