



# St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

## Parent Newsletter – October 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 October – The Memorare

REMEMBER, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thy intercession was left unaided.

Inspired with this confidence, I fly to thee, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother; to thee do I come; before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful.

O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.



#### A message from Mr Boodell

October has once again been a busy but enjoyable 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 and celebrating significant events and figures from history as part of Black History Month and finding out about different religions during this week's Multi Faith Week.

As we come to the end of October, I would also like to take the opportunity to celebrate how amazingly well the children have done this half term. It is always a long and busy half term when judged by normal standards and even more so after almost six months of lockdown. All of the staff at St Gregory's would like take this chance to applaud every single child at school for how fantastic they have been throughout. Well done children and enjoy a well-earned half term break.



#### Corona Virus Guidance

A reminder that your child should not be attending school if they are suffering from any of the main Coronavirus symptoms. Get a test if your child or any other family member has any of these symptoms:

- A new high temperature, where they feel hot to touch on their chest or back.
- A new continuous cough, coughing a lot more for more than an hour or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- Loss of, or change in sense of smell or taste.

Please also remember that if any member of your family is experiencing Coronavirus symptoms, or awaiting the results of a Coronavirus test, your child should not attend school until you have the results of the test.

### Names on school uniform/property

We continue to experience a large number of jumpers, cardigans, coats and other items without children's names on.

Children will often take off their jumper or coat when playing outside and will sometimes forget to pick it up.

If items of clothing do not have a child's name on them it can be extremely difficult to return them to their owner.

Please help save valuable time in school – Put your child's name in anything that could potentially get lost (jumper, cardigan, coat, lunchbox, school bag)

### Autumn Half Term Attendance

(Attendance figures discounting enforced bubble closures)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Rec</u>	<u>Y1</u>	<u>Y2</u>	<u>Y3B</u>	<u>Y3S</u>	<u>Y4</u>	<u>Y5</u>	<u>Y6</u>
<u>Attendance</u>	95.7%	<b>98.2%</b>	98%	97%	94.5%	95.8%	95.7%	93.6%

Congratulations to **Year 1**, who were the winners of the attendance trophy for this half term. Our average attendance for this period was **96.1%**.

Our school target for 2020/21 is **97%**.

### Pupil Absence Reporting

If you are unable to get through to the school office in the morning to report an absence you can email - [PupilAbsence@st-gregorys.sandwell.sch.uk](mailto:PupilAbsence@st-gregorys.sandwell.sch.uk)

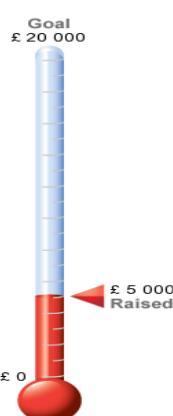
### Reminder – Dogs in the playground

Please remember that dogs are not permitted on the school site and should not be brought onto school grounds when dropping off or collecting children from school.

### School Fund Appeal

Thank you to all the families who have already contributed to our School Fund Appeal. We are trying to raise the £20,000 needed to transform our grass area into an all-weather AstroTurf surface which will make a huge difference to the children's playtimes and wider curriculum opportunities for many years to come.

If you would like to make a donation you can donate by using SchoolComms and clicking the 'School Fund' tab. Every penny helps and we will be holding some additional fundraising events in school as the year progresses to help us reach our target as soon as possible.





## School Term Dates 2020/2021

### **Autumn term 2020**

- Tuesday 1 September 2020: (Training Day - School closed to pupils)
- Wednesday 2 September: Start of term – School opens to KS1 and KS2 pupils
- Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September: School opens to Reception and Pre-school pupils
- Thursday 22 October: School closes for half term.
- Friday 23 October: (Training Day- School closed to pupils)
- **Half-term holiday: Monday 26 October 2020 to Friday 30 October 2020**
- Monday 2 November: School opens
- Term ends: Friday 18 December 2020
- **Christmas holiday: Monday 21 December 2020 to Friday 1 January 2021**

### **Spring term 2021**

- Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January: (Training Day- School closed to pupils)
- Term starts: Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- **Half-term holiday: Monday 15 February 2021 to Friday 19 February 2021**
- Term ends: Thursday 1 April 2021
- **Easter Holiday: Friday 2 April to Friday 16 April 2021**

### **Summer term 2021**

- Term starts: Monday 19 April 2021
- Monday 3 May: May Day Bank Holiday (school closed)
- Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> May: (Training Day- School closed to pupils)
- Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May: (Training Day- School closed to pupils)
- **Half-term holiday: Monday 31 May 2021 to Friday 4 June 2021**
- Term ends: Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July
- Wednesday 21 July 2021: (Training Day- School closed to pupils)
- **Summer holiday starts: Thursday 22 July 2021**

Note: \* School is used as a polling station for local and general elections so will also be closed to pupils in the event of these elections taking place in 2021