



22nd March, 2024.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear School Community,

Huge congratulations to our Key Stage 2 children for their imaginative Lenten fundraising activities. Their creativity and enthusiasm for the different money-making ventures has astounded us all, and in total over the four events, they have raised a magnificent £ 854.59! The money will be split between The Archdiocesan Good Shepherd fund (Nugent Care) helping local families in need, and Cafod, who are on the ground helping those suffering around the world, particularly in Gaza, Syria and Ukraine. The younger children really enjoyed the many activities, especially the ones involving prizes and cakes!

Prayer and Liturgy

This week we thought about how Jesus used the image of a grain of wheat to talk about what is in store for him – death and resurrection. We remembered how Jesus said that a single grain of wheat must die, in order to produce a rich harvest. We thought about how in Lent we remember how Jesus suffered and died for us. When

Jesus rose from the tomb on Easter Sunday, he showed us that death is not the end. God, our Father, wants us all to live with him in a new life of peace and joy, in the service of one another.



***Heavenly Father,
You gave us your precious Son, so that we might have life.
Help us to live that life to the full,
in service of those in need,
and those close to our hearts.
We ask this through your
Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen***

Together, in Jesus, we love, learn, create and celebrate!

Staffing Announcement – Welcome Back!

After spending the last three months in Australia, Mrs Gordon and her family have made the decision to return home to the UK. With this, we are thrilled to be able to welcome Mrs Gordon back to St. Gregory's after Easter! Miss Donnelly will continue teaching Year 4 for the remainder of the school year, and Mrs Gordon will return in a part-time teaching role, supporting across Key Stage 2.

Mrs Gordon will be based primarily in Year 6, assisting with preparations for SATs, after which Mrs Gordon will continue supporting Year 6, as Mr Perree (though remaining the Y6 class teacher) will increase his release time, so he and Mrs Albon can work closely to enable a smooth transition of leadership over the remainder of the summer term.

First Holy Communion - Parish Sacramental Programme

The second of the First Holy Communion sessions takes place this Sunday 24th March, at 12.30pm for one hour in the Parish Club, Sunday. It is important to attend both sessions, as this is a vital part of the preparation to receive the sacrament of the Eucharist. The third and fourth sessions will take place in school, during the RE lessons. We will send out a detailed plan of the day before Easter.

The Stone has Rolled Away- Choir Easter Play

We are looking forward to presenting our Easter Play- '*The Stone has Rolled Away,*' in school next week. The whole school will watch the Easter Play on Tuesday afternoon next week, so there will be no need for our younger children to attend the evening performance. The performance for adult family members will be at 6.30pm on Tuesday 26th March in the school hall. Children are asked to return to school at 6pm, with doors opening for parents at 6.15pm.

As previously announced, there will be no tickets or entrance fee for this performance, however, there will be collection on the night for one of the Archbishop Malcom's Lenten charities- The children of Gaza and the Holy Land.

There will be no choir rehearsal on the final day of term, Thursday 28th March.

Choir will resume after Easter.

Unavoidable Hub Closure- Wednesday 27th/Thursday 28th March

Please remember that we will be unable to operate the Hub after school on the last two days of this term: Wednesday 27th and Thursday 28th of March. Due to important and unavoidable meetings and events, staff will be required elsewhere, meaning we will be unable to meet the necessary staffing requirements to operate the Hub. We apologise for inconvenience and are assured that this advanced warning will enable families to make alternative arrangements.

Thank you all once again for all your support,
have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon

Headteacher

St. Gregory's News

Swimming Lessons

Swimming lessons will continue for Year 3 on Monday 25th March and for the first two weeks back after the Easter Holidays.

Tag Rugby Competition

Selected players will be taking part in a Tag Rugby Competition on Monday 25th March at Ormskirk Rugby Club.

A message has been sent to the children involved on the school app, with all the information for this event.

Tatton Park Trip - Year 2

Children in Year 2 will be visiting Tatton Park on Monday 25th March, discovering very interesting facts about Tudors and finding out what duties the 'assistants' were expected to do.

The coach will be leaving school at 8.45am and all children are to arrive to school at 8.30am, via the hall doors. Please remember a packed lunch in a carrier bag.

We have kept the costumes very simple – brown/black leggings or joggers and boots or trainers that the children will be comfortable wearing. A hoodie/jumper will be needed, as well as a waterproof coat!

Cross Country Stars!

Congratulations to our wonderful Cross Country runners, who took part in the Sefton Schools Cross Country competition this week. The children all tried really hard and pushed themselves during this event – well done everyone!



ST. GREGORY'S HAS GOT TALENT

The stage is set, the performers have been rehearsing and the audience are waiting in anticipation for this year's St. Gregory's Has Got Talent on Thursday 28th March.

This is one of our favourite events throughout the school and we might also have a special guest appearance on our Judges Panel!

Thank you to the children who have signed up for this Talent Show, we are sure it will be another one to remember.

Good Shepherd Appeal



Thank you to all our families to took part in our Good Shepherd Appeal this week.

The KS2 children were so proud of their stalls that they set up each day for this event. From cake selling, keepie uppie competition, name the bear and even wellie in a bucket – the list was endless! The stalls were superb and we raised a fabulous amount of £854.59.

The amount raised will go to The Archdiocesan Good Shepherd fund (Nugent Care) helping local families in need, and Cafod, who are on the ground helping those suffering around the world, particularly in Gaza, Syria and Ukraine.







British Sign Language



This week was British Sign Language week and St.Gregory's welcomed Lindsey Robinson from Sefton's Hearing Team on Thursday to deliver a special assembly about hearing and sign language.



The children found out about the frequencies of sounds entering the ear, the different types of hearing aids that can be used and how sign language is used for communication.

Lindsey then taught the children sign language to sing a song called "Once I Saw An Elephant". The children were really keen to learn this skill.

Lindsey also taught us how to sign our Mission Statement and the hymn 'A Little Bit of Kindness'

The children were so interested and enjoyed taking an active part in this assembly. We look forward to Lindsey visiting St.Gregory's again.

We have been informed that a very small number of children who attend one of the classes in our school have recently been diagnosed with scarlet fever. We are happy to report that out of the small number of cases reported, most of the children have now returned back to school fully fit.

We have sought advice and have worked very closely with UK Health Security Agency North West Health Protection Team, following their guidelines and procedures. They have advised that although scarlet fever is usually a mild illness, it should be treated with antibiotics to minimise the risk of complications and reduce the spread to others.

Symptoms of scarlet fever:

The **symptoms** of scarlet fever include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. This is followed by a fine red rash which typically first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the scarlet rash may be harder to spot, but it should feel like 'sandpaper'. The face can be flushed red but pale around the mouth.

If you think you or your child have scarlet fever:

- See your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible.
- Make sure that you/your child takes the full course of any antibiotics prescribed by the doctor.
- Stay at home and away from nursery, school or work for **at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment**, to avoid spreading the infection.

If you/your child has an underlying condition which affects the immune system, you should contact your GP or hospital doctor to discuss whether any additional measures are needed.

Potential complications:

Children who have had **chickenpox** recently are more likely to develop more serious infection during an outbreak of scarlet fever and so parents/guardians should remain vigilant for symptoms such as a persistent high fever, cellulitis (skin infection) and arthritis (joint pain and swelling). If you are concerned for any reason please seek medical assistance immediately. **All children with chickenpox should remain off school / nursery until at least 5 days after the start of their rash AND until all their spots have crusted over.**

Infection control advice:

The Health Protection Team have advised us on hygiene measures to help prevent spread within our school / nursery. Parents/guardians can also help with this by reminding children of the importance of coughing / sneezing into tissues and placing these in the bin, washing hands regularly and ensuring any breaks to the skin are covered with a waterproof plaster/dressing before attending school / nursery.

Further information:

You can find more information at:

- NHS Choices <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/scarlet-fever/>
- UKHSA Scarlet Fever Frequently Asked Questions <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scarlet-fever-symptoms-diagnosis-treatment>

We will keep parents and UK Health Security Agency updated if we have any further cases reported.

Gold Medal Award



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Gold Medal Award



Special Award



Special Award



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Best Book Award



Best Book Award



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