



23rd February, 2024.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of the school year. Time is really flying by - especially for me and Year 6! The second half of the spring term is always busy, with Lenten activities, a Mothers' Day celebration, World Book Day and of course building up to the great celebration of Easter. We will also see more outdoor sporting events and hopefully more prayer times in our open-air cathedral.

Prayer and Liturgy

This week, we began our Lenten journey with several beautiful prayer times. On Monday we gathered to think about what Lent means to us and how, with God's help, we can do three special things during Lent: Give, Act and Pray.

During Lent we will try to follow in Jesus' footsteps by giving to those in need, by acting in kind ways and by finding time to pray.

Whilst we are mindful of the financial hardships within our own community, we feel that as a school we should reach out and support our brothers and sisters both near and far, who are in desperate need. There is of course no obligation to support any fundraising activities within Lent, though there will be opportunities for those who are able.

It was lovely to welcome Ben McMullen, Deputy Director of Education for the Archdiocese of Liverpool to school on Wednesday. He joined Years 4, 5 and 6 for prayer, when we reflected upon the words of the Our Father and how we could build up God's kingdom here on earth.



Formal Assessment and Phonic Information Evenings

We are in the process of organising meetings and will provide this information to parents during next week.

Parents' Evenings

The spring Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th March**. **Hopefully you have all now received your appointments.** Thankfully, the autumn meetings took place in a spirit of mutual support and respect, and we look forward to the spring meetings running smoothly and without incident. Following each meeting, you will have an opportunity to see your child's books, which I am sure the children will be excited to share.

On both parents' night, we will be limiting the numbers in the Hub to 15. This is because we do not have additional space large enough to accommodate the normal 25 limit, and we cannot rely on the weather to be outside. It would be really helpful if parents could find alternative child care arrangements on 12th and 13th March, as we also cannot guarantee that any member of staff will be in the hall to look after children who attend with their parents. Any child left in the hall on their own must not be on a phone or tablet. We look forward to your support and help in this matter.

First Holy Communion - Parish Sacramental Programme

Hopefully, those families who wish their child to make their First Holy Communion this year have completed their forms and returned them to the Parish office. There are two sessions with the Parish Catechists which all children and parents should attend.

Session 1 - Sunday 17th March 2024

Session 2 - Sunday 24th March 2024

The children from St. Gregory's School will attend at 12.30pm - 1.30pm.

The children from St. John Bosco School will attend at 1.45pm - 2.45pm.

Don't forget the expectation is that children preparing for their First Holy Communion attend Mass each weekend. Masses are at 4.30pm on Saturdays at St. Gregory's Church, and on Sundays they are 9.30am at Our Lady's and 11.00am at St. Gregory's.

At the 11.00am Mass, the children have the opportunity to go to 'Little Church', which brings the Gospel message to children at their own level.

World Book Day

Staff are planning simple, 'non-expensive' activities for World Book Day which is next Thursday, 7th March. Please see the information later in this newsletter, regarding the activity for your class.

Mothers' Day Celebrations

We are delighted to be able to invite our Mums, or a significant adult, to a Mothers' Day assembly in March for Early Years and Key Stage One.

Mums/Significant Adults of children in **Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2** are invited to join us on **Friday 8th March at 9.15am** in the school hall. We hope you will be able to join us!

The Stone has Rolled Away- Choir Easter Play

The Choir have been working hard since Christmas preparing for our Easter Play- '***The Stone has Rolled Away.***' There will be an opportunity for parents and families to watch the play on Tuesday 26th March at 6.30pm in St. Gregory's Church. There will be no tickets or entrance fee for this performance, however, there will be collection on the night for one of Archbishop Malcom's chosen Lenten charities- The Children of Gaza and the Holy Land.

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

We are giving you advanced warning 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.

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon

Headteacher

Newsletter

23rd February, 2024

Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all our families who have accessed the Parents' Evening booking form on the school app to make your appointment.

This was a much simpler and smoother way for parents to make your selection. Once you have clicked on your selected date/time, this is then your confirmed appointment – no further information will be sent out to you, so please remember to keep a note of your selection.

If you are still having any issues in making your booking, please contact the school office and let us know the reason for the issue and we will try to help.

The Hub will be operating on Parents' Evenings, but with a limited number of maximum 15 children. This is due to limited space in school. Please only book your child into The Hub on these days if you really need it.

There will also be no staff present who are able to mind your children in the school hall whilst you speak to the teacher. Please do not bring little children along to the meetings, as this is your opportunity to have a chat with the class teacher on your child's current progress.

The Hub The booking form for The Hub is live on the school app..

If you need to use The Hub, please make sure your child is booked in. If your child is not collected at the end of the school day and is not booked into The Hub, we will ring parents to establish the reason for not collecting your child. This is to ensure the safety of your children.

New Life!

Children at St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School were extremely fortunate to witness new life being born at school this week, real life chicks hatched in our Nursery setting!

The children were amazed, as we have watched the chicks hatch from their eggs into fluffy yellow and very loud chicks!

Take a look further in the newsletter for photographs of the new creation!



The following clubs are available for the next half term, week commencing Monday 26th February to week ending Thursday 28th April.

- Monday – Year 1 Craft Club (lunchtime)
- Tuesday – Netball (Y5/Y6) Limited spaces
Football (Y3/Y4) Limited spaces
- Thursday – Choir (Y3 – Y6)
Football (Y5/6) Limited spaces
- Friday – Y3 / Y4 Book Club with Mrs Thompson (lunchtime)
Football (Y1/Y2) Limited spaces

Upcoming Events

- Thursday 7th March** – World Book Day (further details to follow)
- Friday 8th March** – Mother's Day Assembly at 9.15am (Nursery/Reception/Year 1 and Year 2)
- Tuesday 12th March** – Parents' Evening (1)
- Wednesday 13th March** – Parents' Evening (2)
- Friday 15th March** – Celebration of St. Patrick's Day (further details to follow)
- Tuesday 19th March to Friday 22nd March** – Good Shepherd Fundraising Event in school (further details to follow)
- Wednesday 20th March** – Year 5 at Maritime Museum/City Tourer event
- Monday 25th March** – Year 2 at Tatton Park
- Tuesday 26th March** – Choir performing The Stone Has Rolled Away for families (further details to follow)
- Thursday 28th March** – School closes for Easter holidays

Nursery and Reception class children were treated to new life being born in their classroom this week – baby chicks were hatched!

There were lots of very excited and curious children, awaiting the birth of the chicks.

Early Years

St.Gregory's welcomed Living Eggs to our school, who provided a two week comprehensive programme, providing everything we needed to hatch the chicks.

The children watched inquisitively, as the eggs hatched in the incubator and fluffy chicks were born.





Year 2 thoroughly enjoyed their Design and Technology lesson this week with Steph O'Donnell.

The children made fantastic animal enclosures using great skills and lots of concentration.





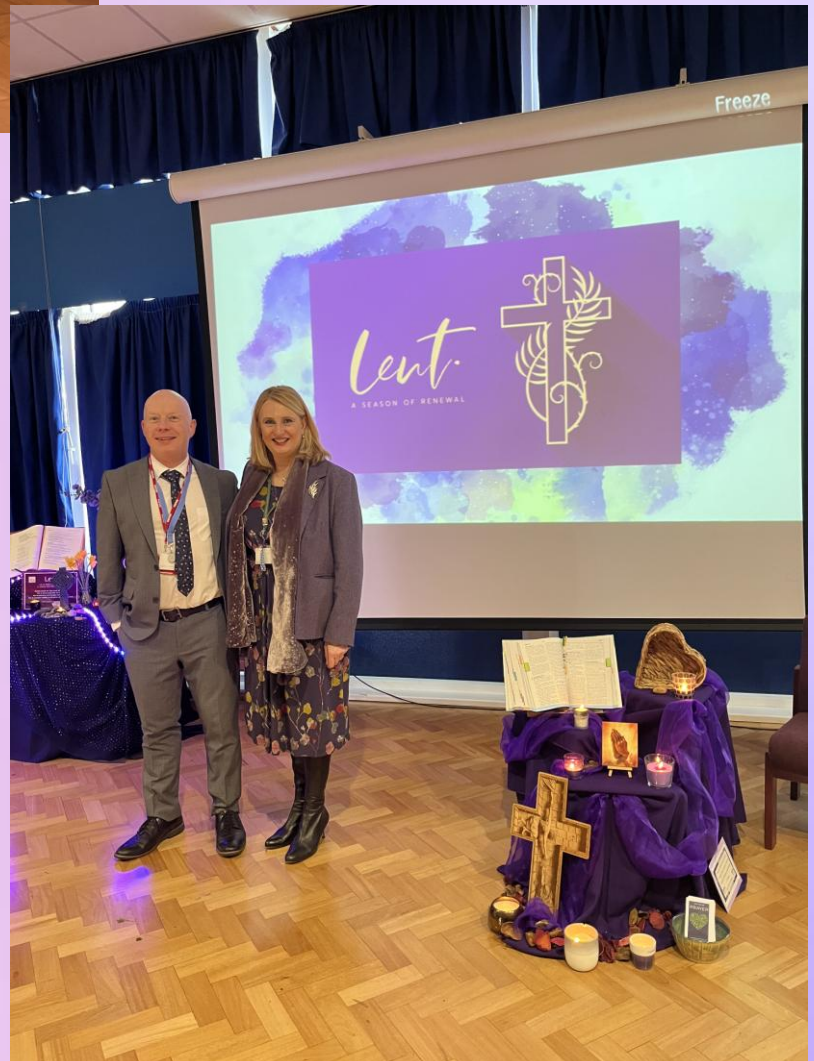
Thank you to Steph for a wonderful afternoon of Design and Technology. The children really enjoyed the session.



St. Gregory's welcomed (Bishop) Ben McMullen, Deputy Director of Education, to our school this week.

After enjoying a tour of our wonderful school and visiting each class, he then joined KS2 for prayer and worship.

Mr McMullen commented on how beautiful our school is and how respectful and reverent the children were during prayer time.



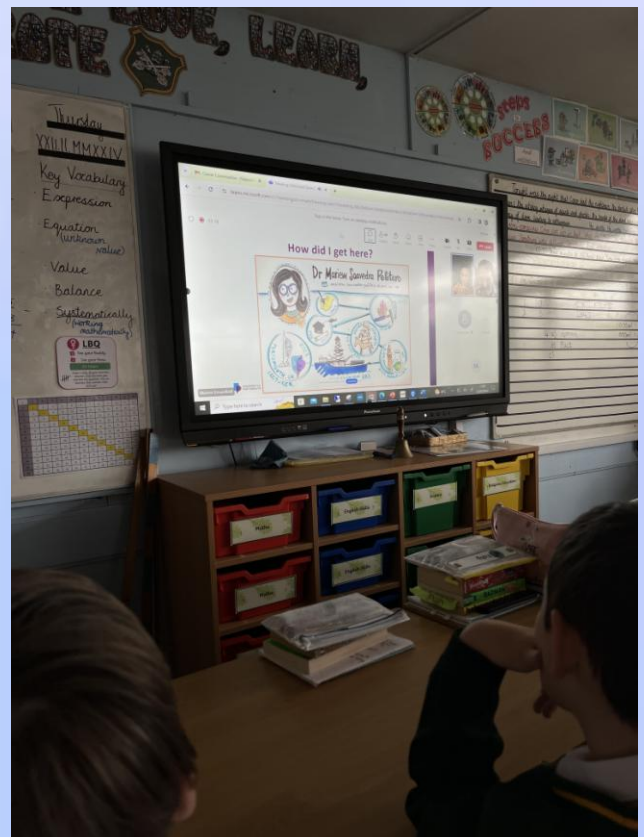
Careers



As part of their aspirations curriculum, Y6 attended a brilliantly informative & inspiring careers session with two palaeontologists: Dr. Nizar and Dr. Mariem. The experts opened our children's minds, giving insight into the many aspects of their work - the joys, the challenges & the journey.

It's important that children know the truth about careers, the joys and the challenges. We want to open their minds to opportunities available to them, and inspire them but also allow them to make informed decisions about their future.

The session finished with a great Q&A session too!

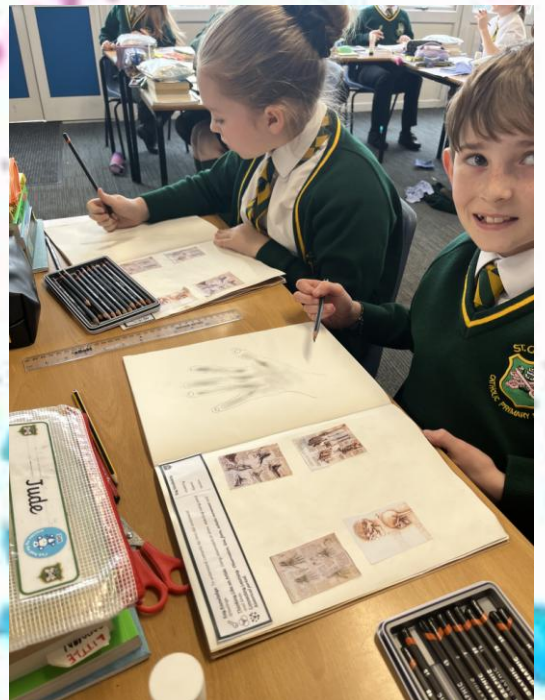




Y6 have been studying art in the renaissance, looking particularly at the work of Leonardo da Vinci.



After studying some of his anatomical drawings from the thousands of diaries he kept, Y6 used their senses to produce their own sketches, focusing on observation, line and shading.



Mother's Day Assembly

Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2
would like to welcome all their

Mother's, Nan's, Grandma's
or another special person
to a special
Mother's Day Assembly

On

Friday 8th March 2024
at 9.15am



Gold Medal Winners



Gold Medal Winners



Special Award Winners



Special Award Winners



Best Book Award Winners

