



9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024.

## *Message from Mrs Albon.....*

Dear Parents,

It's been a short but very busy half-term! As always, we have packed lots in to the first few weeks of 2024, including trips, clubs and of course lots of hard work. Over these past few weeks, we have been short-staffed, and this has meant everybody pitching in and supporting to cover others roles. One of the wonderful things about our school team is the willingness and support they give to one another, no matter what is needed. I would like to thank all our staff for their constant care of our children and of one another. I think they all deserve a holiday; I hope it is a restful one.

### **Prayer and Liturgy**

This we heard about how Jesus healed people who were sick and how many people who were ill came to Jesus and he made them better. We thought about how, even in the middle of a busy day, Jesus took time out to be still and pray to His Father. We reflected upon the fact that this is good for us too. When we gather to pause and reflect on God's word, we can think about how we can live our lives in a better way, caring for the needs of others.



*God of love, help us all to follow Jesus' example of loving care,  
and to treat all those who are ill with kindness and tenderness. Amen*

## Parents' Evenings

The spring, Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March**. 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.

## **Parish Sacramental Programme- First Holy Communion - reminder**

This weekend is the last weekend you can collect application forms at each Mass. I have rung the Parish office and been assured that the forms **will be** available in both churches this weekend. **Y4 parents should return your child's completed application form to the Parish office by Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February**. Masses are at 4.30pm on Saturdays at St. Gregory's Church, and on Sundays they are at 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.

## Half-term Activities

This week, I have covered the Hub on a couple of occasions and had great fun playing table top games with some children. I was reminded that playing games as a small group offers so much in terms of turn taking, sharing, and appreciating when somebody else is the winner. I was also struck by the fact that although most games now are on phones and computers, children of all ages still really enjoy playing, what I would term-old fashioned games, and that there is certainly a place for both styles of games. Children really enjoy playing games with an adult. So, why don't you root out the boxed games from the cupboard and have some fun this holiday!

**Together in Jesus, we love, learn, create and celebrate.**

This week at our staff meeting, we were looking at the new Reading Framework and in particular how we select books that will enthuse and interest independent reading. We hope to continue to replenish our class and school libraries over the coming months, using school fund and having future fundraisers. In the meantime, we would encourage families to take children to the local library and enrol them as a member. There are usually events on for children, especially in the holidays and on Saturdays.

Thank you all once again for all your support. I hope you all have a lovely week playing games and reading books, and that the weather improves for us all.

With kind regards,

*Deborah Albon*

Headteacher

**Together in Jesus, we love, learn, create and celebrate.**



# St. Gregory's Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> February, 2024

## FEBRUARY HALF TERM

School closes on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February for our half term holiday. School will reopen on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024. Breakfast Club is available on this day.

Have a lovely half term break!

### Parents Evening

We will be holding our Parents' Evenings on **Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March and Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March, from 3.30pm.**

Appointments will be sent out to parents after the half term holiday.

Your Parents' Evening appointment will last for approximately 5 minutes. However, if you have any concerns that you wish to discuss with the class teacher and feel that this is not enough time, please contact the school office and we will arrange a telephone call, which is convenient with both yourself and the class teacher.

Our 'nearly new' free uniform shop is always open to parents and will be accessible during both Parents' Evenings in March. If you require any jumpers, trousers, skirts etc, please feel free to come along and help yourself to some spare uniform.



Ultimate Kids will be running their successful Half Term Camp from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February to Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February at St.Gregory's.

If you would like your child to join the Half Term Camp, please follow the link below and book your child in:

<https://bookings.ultimatekidsltd.co.uk/project/49539>

### Swimming Lessons

Children in Year 3 will continue with their swimming lessons after half term on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February.

Please ensure you send in your child's full swimming kit into school for their swimming lesson.

Every child is expected to take part in the swimming lessons, unless a medical exemption letter has been provided to school.

# Portraits



Children in Year 2 have been very busy this week, studying and creating portraits.



The children learnt how to mix water colours to find the correct skin tones for their portrait. They were very careful making sure they did not go outside the lines with their brushes.



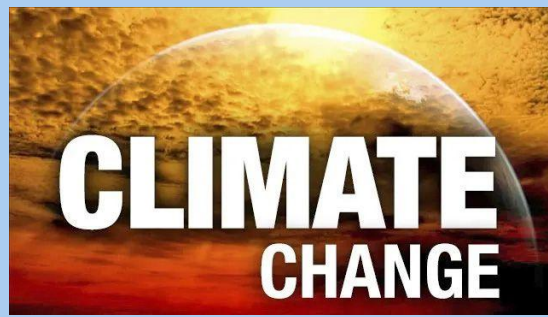
Special techniques were used to sketch and paint portraits of someone who is very special to them!





The children used lots of concentration completing their portraits and great emphasis was placed on particular parts: beautiful bright eyes, shiny lips and even dangly earrings!





Year 4 visited the Eco Centre in Southport this week, discovering greater understanding and interesting facts about climate change.







The interactive games and challenges were excellent and the children thoroughly enjoyed completing them.

Thank you to all the staff at the Eco Centre for welcoming Year 4 and delivering such a wonderful educational visit.

# Geography

This half term, Year 3 have been investigating rivers, as part of their Geography curriculum. They have been looking at different parts that make up a river and have explored famous rivers from around the world.



Year 3 were then incredibly lucky to have Mr Albon visit their class this week, to deliver a Geography lesson. The children delved deeper into the different parts of the river and discussed how we live with rivers.

We are so grateful that Mr Albon shared his expert knowledge and love for rivers with us, a very nice end to a much-enjoyed topic. Thank you Mr Albon!



# Nursery PE Lesson

Nursery welcomed Ultimate Kids to their PE lesson this week. The children continued developing their balancing and jumping skills. There was lots of fun and laughter during this lesson.





# Happy Chinese New Year

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Reception Class have been celebrating Chinese New Year this week, by designing their own lanterns, creating paper dragons and mastering the art of using chopsticks!



## Year of



## The Dragon

# Gold Medal Award



# Gold Medal Award



# Gold Medal Award



# Best Book Award



# Special Award



# Special Award



# Special Award

