



2nd February, 2024.

Dear Parents,

What a lovely day I had on Wednesday on the Reception Class trip to 'Imagine That'. Their excitement and enthusiasm were infectious and it was a joy to watch them making scientific discoveries and displaying their creativity through play. I hope that their thirst for learning and inquisitiveness never leaves them.

Although school trips are expensive in these difficult times, the value is beyond measure, especially when you see how much can be gained from the carefully selected places we visit.

Prayer and Liturgy

This week we remembered the feast of Candlemas, which is celebrated on 2nd February, 40 days since Christmas day, the birth of Jesus. Candlemas marks the end of the Christmas season, when we recall the day on which Jesus was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people as a light, a light for all the world.

The Feast of the presentation is a wonderful reminder that God is with us. He is the Light that has come to dispel our darkness. Moreover, we belong to Him and are His beloved children. He came to save us, He loves us, and He always walks with us.



Parents' Evenings

The spring Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th March, Mrs King has now sent out the booking form.** 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.

Celebrations

At St.Gregory's, we love to celebrate birthdays and happy occasions with all the children and staff and it is wonderful to arrange special events for celebrations, however, we do not want valuable teaching time in class taken up by ensuring party invitations are handed out. Therefore, we would ask that any invitations or arrangements for parties are made outside of school. In school we celebrate birthdays for all the children during our Friday Celebration Assembly and any other wonderful celebrations that people would like to share.

Parking on Sandy Lane – again!

This week our school was spoken about on Radio Merseyside but not in positive way! The item was about parking and the selfishness of drivers parking in places that stop the buses and other road users passing through. I appreciate that you all have busy lives, and that sometimes when you are in a rush, you want to get as close to school as possible, but this blocks up the road and then some road users go on the pavements, very close to children and their families walking along to school. Another unbelievably dangerous thing we see is parents stopping the car in the middle of the road, opening the car door and allowing the children to get out of the middle of the road – this is totally unsafe and irresponsible. This behaviour endangers children's lives.

I feel I write paragraphs like the above every so often and invariably the messages are ignored. On this occasion, please reflect on your own practice and try to make a safe and considerate change. As the weather improves, why not factor in walking part of the journey.

Parental Queries or Concerns -reminder of how to contact school staff

We mentioned a couple of weeks ago that you must contact the office if you have any concerns or queries about your child or any other school business and not leave a message with the Breakfast Club staff. Their role is to look after the children and organise food and activities before school. We understand that you might want to leave an urgent message, and do not have the time to call or email the school, therefore there will now be a box of message forms, envelopes and pens at the Breakfast Club door and you will be guided to use this additional communication facility. Mrs King will then sort through the messages first thing and then either answer the query directly, or in terms of information about your child, arrange for you to speak to the correct person.

We are all always happy to help, and information is much easier to manage if it comes through the correct channels. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

Parish Sacramental Programme- First Holy Communion reminder

The application forms for First Holy Communion are available in both churches this weekend. Y4 parents should return your child's completed application form to the Parish office by Monday 12th February. Forms will be available at all Masses this weekend. 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. As you already know, the date set for the First Holy Communion Mass is Saturday 27th April at 10.30am.

Next Friday, 9th February, we break up for half-term, marking the half way point of the school year! School will close at the usual time and the Hub will be open until 4.45pm. Thank you all once again for all your support. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon

Headteacher

St. Gregory's News

Measles

Public Health Sefton have notified schools this week that there have been cases of Measles reported nationally, although nothing has been reported in the Sefton area. They have provided links below of further information for parents:

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/01/22/what-to-do-if-you-think-your-child-has-measles-and-when-to-keep-them-off-school/>

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2023/10/24/how-protect-against-measles-vaccines-school-pupils/>

Eco Centre, Southport

Children in Year 4 will be visiting The Eco Centre, Southport on Thursday 8th February.

During their visit, the children will be learning lots of interesting facts about our planet and the current climate changes.

The bus will be leaving school at 9.15am and will return for normal school finish time. Children are to wear their full school uniform and bring a packed lunch in a carrier bag (no fizzy drinks or sweets please).



Swimming

Children in Year 3 will attend their last swimming lesson Monday 5th February at Meadows Leisure Centre in Maghull.

A full swimming kit, including goggles and hat, are required. No earrings please.

All children in Year 3 are to attend the lessons. Please complete the consent form on the school app.



Book Bags

Children in Year 2 are asked to remember to bring their book bags into school each Wednesday. This gives an opportunity for their reading books to be changed.



Parents Evening

Parents' Evenings will be taking place on Tuesday 12th March and Wednesday 13th March from 3.30pm to 6.30pm.

A form is available on the school app for you to select a preferred day/time. We will try our best to accommodate your selection, however we cannot guarantee it. Mrs King will be sorting the appointments out soon, so that parents have enough time to arrange childcare etc.

The appointment is an opportunity for parents to discuss to discover how your child is progressing with their learning. If you have any concerns you wish to discuss and feel that the five minutes allocated for your appointment will not be long enough to discuss, please contact the school and make a further appointment to speak to the teacher on the telephone on another date.

Imagine That

What a fantastic day Reception had at Imagine That in Liverpool on Wednesday.

They all enjoyed the fun activities and scientific experiments, although Miss Connolly loved the bubble making machine a little too much!











Gold Medal Winners

Congratulations to our Gold Medal Winners this week.



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Special Award Winners

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Best Book Award Winners

Congratulations to our Best Book Award Winners this week.



100% Attendance

Congratulations to the following children for achieving 100% Attendance since the start of the academic year in September.

Isabella

Darcey

Hallie

Noah

Grace

Harry Robert

Ruby

Leo Grace

Noah Maria

Kian

Sophia

Louis

Sebastian

Felicity

Grace

Zoe

Katy

Lottie

Grace

Lottie

Ted Alex

Oliver Poppy

Katy Grace

Miss Connolly is having a bubbly time!

