



14th December, 2023.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear Parents,

When I looked at our school calendar on Sunday night to remind myself about all that had been planned, I couldn't believe we had packed so much in! However, in true St. Gregory's style, we rose to the challenge and this week has been a happy and utterly joyful one. Both of our plays were magnificent, every child taking part with enthusiasm and confidence. I have been humming the songs all week! We feel it is so important for our children to be involved in a traditional Nativity play, so they are immersed in the true meaning of Christmas. Well done Early Years and Key Stage 1 children and staff!

The choir have been out to sing at Beechcroft in Maghull and they were praised for their singing, outstanding behaviour and manners. The choir are still in demand over the weekend and next week.

Thank you to everybody for supporting the Bingo on Wednesday, either by your attendance or for donating the prizes. It was a lovely festive atmosphere and lots of fun was had by all. Special thanks to our 'original' Bingo caller Miss Richardson, our wonderful organiser Mrs King and of course Mrs Groves and Mrs Chatten-Brooks for creating the beautiful hampers filled with prizes.

Yesterday we travelled to Southport for our annual pantomime trip, *oh Yes, We Did!*

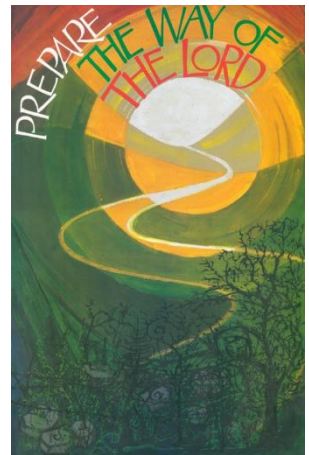
It was one of the best productions we had been to, and was thoroughly enjoyed by children and staff alike. Mr Perree, or should I write Mr Peareeee, particularly enjoyed the pantomime and was totally involved as the sidekick of the Dame! Again, the staff at the Atkinson commented upon the manners and behaviour of our children, we were all very proud. On our return the Christmas elves had been busy setting up the hall, so that all children could be together for a party.

None of the above could have taken place without the hard work and total commitment of **ALL** our school staff. We have a wonderful team at St. Gregory's and I am so grateful to them and incredibly proud of them. They certainly deserve their holiday when it comes.

Thank you too parents for all being such enthusiastic audiences and for providing the costumes when needed. I hope you have enjoyed our school Christmas occasions so far; we still have some choir events to come.

Prayer and Liturgy

This week we heard about how John the Baptist prepared people for the coming of Jesus by baptising them. We thought about how we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. In particular we thought about how we can get ready to welcome Jesus, by making sure our hearts are full of love and care for other people. Prayer is a way that we can also prepare for Jesus, so it was lovely to pause amongst the business of Advent and be still in with our thoughts and reflections.



Choir Carol Singing at Parish Lunch – all Choir

On Sunday 17th December, **all** choir members are invited to entertain the Parish at their annual lunch. We appreciate that this is a busy time for families, so we don't expect to see all our choir members. For those who are able to attend, please meet us at the St. Gregory's Parish centre for 1.00pm. We will sing for about half an hour and families are welcome to remain and enjoy the performance. Own clothes may be worn, not school uniform.

Choir Carols by Candlelight – all Choir

On **Monday 18th December at 3.45pm**, the school choir will entertain their families in the school hall, accompanied by seasonal refreshments! Everybody welcome! Choir will stay in school until the concert begins.

Choir Carol Service at Our Lady's Church - Wednesday 20th December 6.30pm–Y5/6 Choir

Father Grant has invited the Y5/Y6 choir children to attend a Carol Service at Our Lady's church next Wednesday at 6.30pm at Our Lady's church. St. John Bosco and St. Thomas' school choir will also be in attendance, which is why this event is only open to Y5/6 choir members; basically, there would not be enough room for our enormous choir! We will send out a permission form on the school App and if there are not enough children able to attend from Y5/6 we will open it up to the Y4 children. I am sorry that not everyone is invited. Sadly, there just isn't enough room in the church. School uniform is required.

End of term

On Thursday morning all children will be involved in a school Carol service as our final Collective Worship of the year. This occasion is one of my favourite times of the year and I am really looking forward to it, although I will probably shed a few tears this year. The children will have an early lunch and then school will close for the Christmas holidays at 12.30pm. Please remember there will be no Hub on this day.

Have a fun filled and joyous weekend, although I imagine we will all be very busy!

With kind regards,

Mrs Albon



Christmas News!



Choir Concert

Children in St.Gregory's School Choir will be singing to our families at our Choir Christmas Concert on Monday 18th December.

Doors will be open from 3.45pm.

Come along and listen to beautiful singing by our wonderful choir.

Refreshments will be available and a prize raffle will be held at this event.

Christmas Dinner

Children at St.Gregory's Catholic Primary School are welcome to receive a traditional Christmas Dinner, on Wednesday 20th December.

A wonderful feast of turkey, roast potatoes and veg, followed by a delicious pudding, all served by school staff to the children.

Children can wear a Christmas accessory for this special meal, for example a festive bobble, ribbon, t-shirt. We don't want parents spending extra money at this time of year, just something simple is fine. If your child has a Christmas jumper to wear, that is also fine and this is to be worn in place of their school uniform jumper or cardigan.

Free Prize Raffle

Every child at St.Gregory's Primary School, will be given a Raffle Ticket for our free prize draw, which will take place on Wednesday afternoon.

The prizes will be wonderful hampers that Mrs Groves and Mrs Chatten Brooks kindly created, with the generous donations from our families.

Good luck everyone!



St.Gregory's Catholic Primary School will be closing on Thursday 21st December at 12.30pm, for the Christmas Holidays.

There will be no after school club on this day.



Whoops A Daisy Angel

Performed by our children in both Nursery and Reception Class, this nativity was one to remember. The very first nativity performed solely by our Early Years in the history of St.Gregory's – and it was outstanding! There was not a dry eye in the audience. The children were incredible, remembering their lines and dances and the audience were amazed by their acting talents.

















A Midwife Crisis



Families were treated to a wonderful performance of A Midwife Crisis, by Year 1 and Year 2 children.

This nativity tale had lots of different characters and some wonderful story telling.

The narrators spoke clearly and loudly, delivering the message of the Christmas nativity.

With Midwives galore on the stage, they were fully prepared for the imminent birth of baby Jesus.

Led by a very clever Donkey, who is never listened to by anyone!, Mary and Joseph eventually made it to a stable to prepare for the birth of our lord saviour, Jesus Christ.



With dancing sheep and clomping camels, this was an outstanding performance. The audience were treated to beautiful dancing by the twinkling stars and beautiful angels who were delivering the Lord's message.



















With outstanding delivery of the script by the Kings and the Soldiers, this was a real treat for our families.

All the children delivered their lines clearly and crisply and really delivered the tale of the Christmas Nativity.

Thank you to all our families for supporting our Nativity performances, helping the children to learn their lines and dances and also providing such wonderful costumes.







St. Gregory's School Choir



St. Gregory's School Choir delighted the residents of Beech Croft Home, with wonderful Carol singing. The children brought a lot of joy and happiness to the residents and they too joined in with a sing a long. We were thrilled to see Mrs Deegan, one of our much-loved, retired Dinner Lady's, who was enjoying the concert.





CHRISTMAS BINGO

St. Gregory's Christmas Bingo was, once again, a huge success this year! Thank you to all our families who attended this festive event.

Miss Richardson in the calling chair, had everyone in stitches with her antics!

The atmosphere was wonderful and the audience were enjoying the Christmas cheer! (and the mulled wine wasn't bad too!)

Special thanks to all our families who donated items for the hampers, they were truly amazing, as was your generosity.

We also have to say very special thanks to our 'Queen of Titivation', Mrs Groves – who decorated the hampers. We do not know what we are going to do next year to keep the standards up!

This was such a wonderful event and raised a fantastic amount of £963.56 for our school fund. Thank you to all our families for your support.





Thank you to our school staff, who, after working hard during the day, stayed to support the Christmas Bingo event.

Mrs Albon, Miss Moores and Mrs Mooney were fantastic caterers and Miss Brown and Miss Connolly showed off their superb mathematics at the till.

Thank you to all our wonderful staff for your help with this fundraising event!





"He's behind you!"

The children were all treated with a visit to the Atkinson Theatre in Southport this week, to watch the production of Jack and the Beanstalk.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their annual visit and joined in with the singing and dancing of the very talented cast.

One of our children was called onto the stage and really showed off her dramatic stage talent – whilst Mr Perree enjoyed having banter with the Dame, as she called his name!

Thank you to the wonderful staff of the Atkinson Theatre, who were really welcoming to all our children.











After their wonderful Panto visit, upon arrival back to school, the children were treated to a fabulous Christmas Party lunch.

With Christmas music playing, singing and dancing, the children tucked into their lovely delights.





Christmas Card Competition

St. Gregory's received a lovely visit from staff at Alastair Saville Estate Agents on Friday, who delivered the good news about their Christmas Card competition. Joanne and Kate announced the runners up and overall winner of the competition in our celebration assembly and what fantastic prizes the children received.

Every child who entered the competition was also gifted a large size selection box too, which was very generous.



Congratulations to our runners up:
Ava, Beth, Cillian, Mya, Louie and Hallie

Jo informed the children, that this year was such a tough year to select the runners up and that they had never received as many entries before.

She also said they received the highest number of votes, since they began running this competition a few years ago, so thank you to all our families for getting involved in this event.



Congratulations to Noah, the overall winner of the Christmas Card Competition.

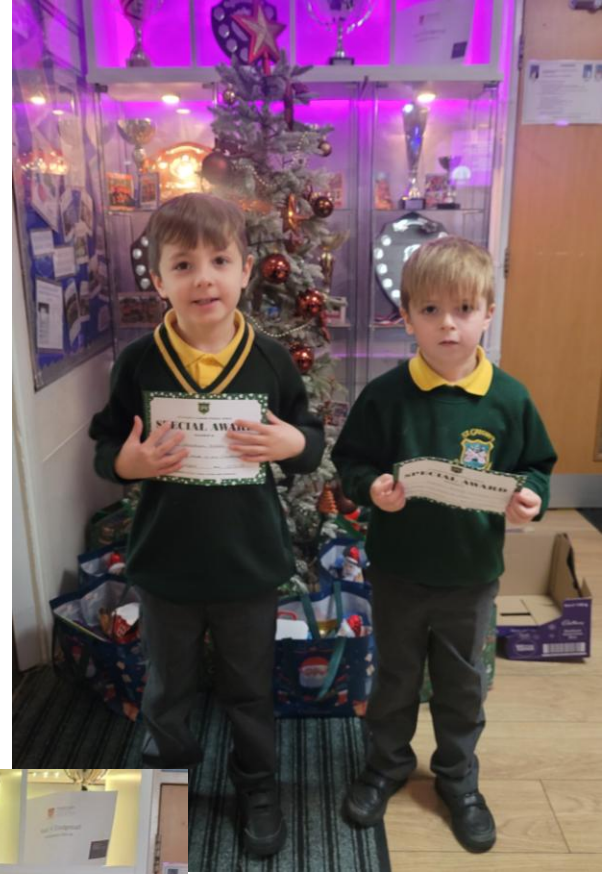
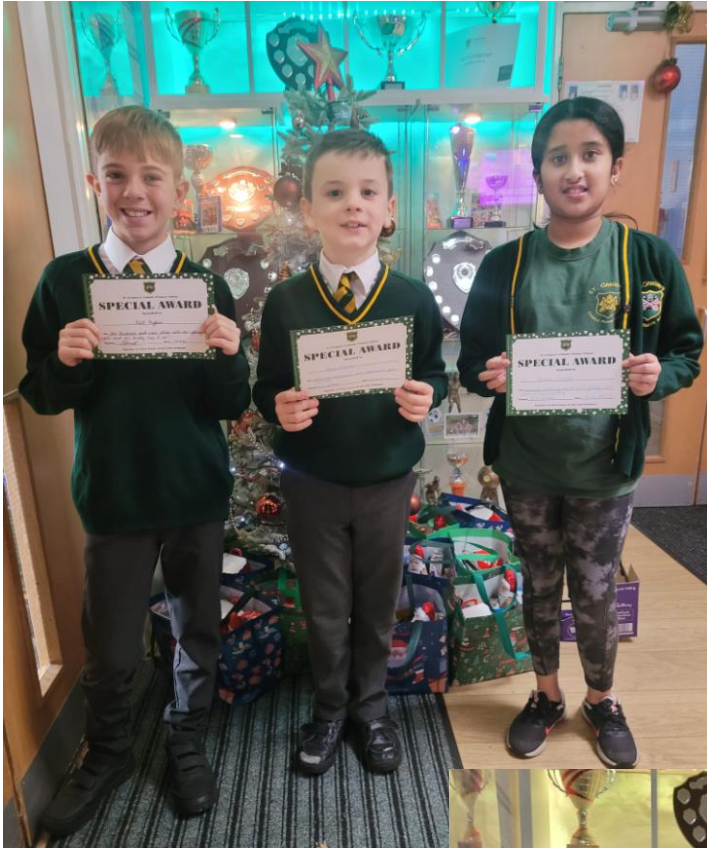
Noah's card will now be printed in mass production and sent out to all the clients of Alastair Saville.

Well done Noah!

Gold Medal Winners



Special Award Winners



HAPPY CHRISTMAS

