



24th November, 2023.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear Parents,

You will now have seen the message from Mr Freeman announcing my retirement in July. It has been an emotional two days sharing my news, as St. Gregory's school has been my life, as well as my extended family, for the past 24 years. I am so blessed to work within such an amazing community and therefore, reaching a decision to retire has been a difficult one. However, I think it is time personally and professionally to hand over the reins and begin a new chapter in my life. As a Headteacher, I had to give two full terms notice to the Governors, in order that they can set about recruiting my successor in plenty of time for September 2024. This will hopefully allow a smooth transition of leadership for the school community.

There will be plenty of time for my reflections on my many happy years at St. Gregory's, but for now there is still plenty to do over the coming months and I will remain totally committed to my role as Headteacher.

Prayer and Liturgy

On Monday we welcomed Families and Parishioners to mass in school. The morning was grey and miserable and there was a subdued atmosphere in the hall. However, during mass the children's prayerfulness, engagement and enthusiastic singing, lifted everybody's spirits and we entered our week with joy and renewed purpose. We thought about how when we have faith and belief in Jesus, our lives and the lives of others around us can be transformed.



Christmas Activities

Mrs King will send out tickets for the Christmas plays on Monday, so if you haven't ordered your tickets yet, then please do so as soon as possible. Tickets can only be purchased via your Parentpay account. We will be holding our Early Years and KS1 Nativity performances on the following dates:

Monday 11th December – Grandparents

Nursery/Reception at 9am

Year 1 and Year 2 at 2.00pm

This performance will be our dress rehearsal.

One ticket per family for this performance.

Tuesday 12th December

Nursery Families at 9am

Year 1 Families at 2.00pm

2 tickets per family for the performances.

Wednesday 13th December

Reception families at 9.00am

Year 2 families at 2.00pm

2 tickets per family for the performances.

For health and safety purposes, and so that the children can enjoy performing and are not overwhelmed by large audiences, we have reduced our tickets this year for our Grandparents performances. We realise that this may be difficult for some families who have more than one grandparent who would like to attend, but we have to think of the children first and foremost – we want them to really enjoy this experience, especially the little ones. However, there is a waiting list for spare tickets, so if you would like extra tickets please speak to Mrs King.

The Choir Christmas Concert will take place on **Monday 18th December at 4pm** in the school hall and will include seasonal refreshments! We are hoping to record this concert, for those who cannot make the concert in person.

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

A Christmas Bingo has been arranged for **Wednesday 13th December at 6pm**. We are only holding **one** Mufti -day on **Friday 1st December**. Each key stage will be invited to donate different items. Please see below for the list of requested items. **Once again, please do not feel you have to contribute; we understand how difficult things are at the moment.**

Mufti Day – Friday 1st December

Nursery/Reception – Boxes of Chocolates / Selection Boxes

Year 1 / Year 2 – Fancy Goods / Gift Sets

KS2 classes – Bottles

Have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon.

Newsletter

Children in Year 4 will continue with their swimming lessons on Monday.

All children are to attend the swimming lessons, as part of their curriculum.

A full swimming kit is required, including costume or trunks, cap, towel and goggles.

There may be a slight delay in the bus returning to school,

It's a
Mufti Day!

Friday
1st December



Parentpay

Parentpay is our school online payment system for all items in school, including wraparound provisions, clubs, trips and fundraising events. If you do not have your log in details for Parentpay, or need to add a child to your account, please contact Mrs King and she will help you set up your account.

Reporting



Absences

If your child is absent from school, you must report the absence before **9.30am**. There are many ways you can report an absence of a child:

Ring the school absence line on 0151 526 5856

Fill out the absence form on the school app

Email Mrs King on hking@stgregslydiate.co.uk

If the absence is not reported Mrs King will try all numbers on your child's record to find a reason for the absence.



Football Matches



We have arranged more football matches for the children, but as the weather is now colder, and the ground becomes harder, we may have to make the fixtures below the last for this year.

We are very fortunate to have excellent grounds at St.Gregory's, but following a pitch inspection before the girls match this week, we had to make a quick decision to move the match to the bigger pitch, which was in a more playable condition. We realise that the girls had not played on this bigger pitch before, but the option of cancelling the match was something we did not want to do, as the girls would have been so disappointed. Well done girls for stepping up to the challenge!

Since Mr Hutson made his own decision to retire from coaching school football, Tom and Matty have stepped in and have continued to provide excellent football coaching and overseeing the matches for all the children. However, we must ask our spectators to show respect for all the players and the coaches when attending the football matches. All tactical decisions are to be that of the coach.

We have lots of competitions and matches coming up in the new year and look forward to the all the children taking part in the events.

Thursday 30th November – Year 5 selected players. Venue: St.Gregory's. Kick off: 3.40pm

Friday 1st December – Year 5/6 selected players. Venue: Marine FC. Kick off: 1.45pm

Tuesday 5th December – Year 2 selected players. Venue: St.Gregory's. Kick off 3.30pm

Good Luck to our Footballers!

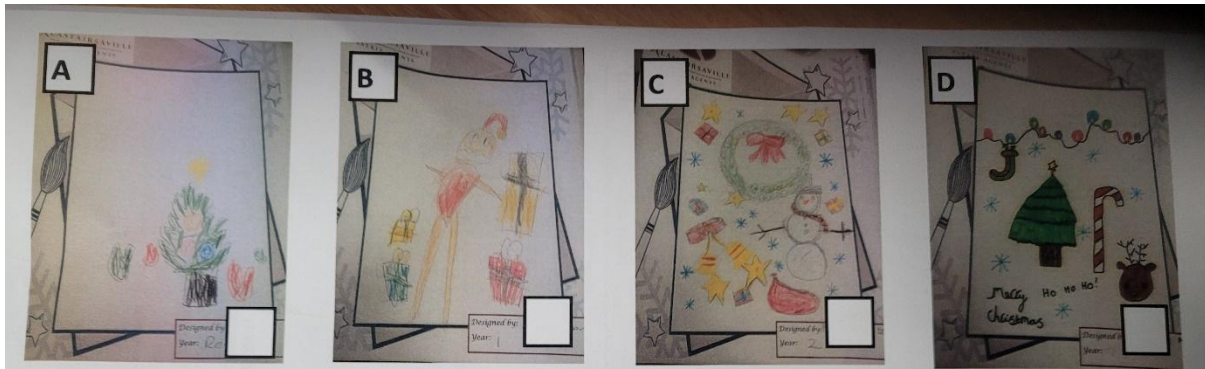
Reception - PE

Children in Reception class have been enjoying their PE lesson this week – climbing, jumping and balancing!

Gross motor skills use the large muscles in the body to allow for balance, coordination and physical strength, so that we can do bigger movements, such as walking, running and jumping.



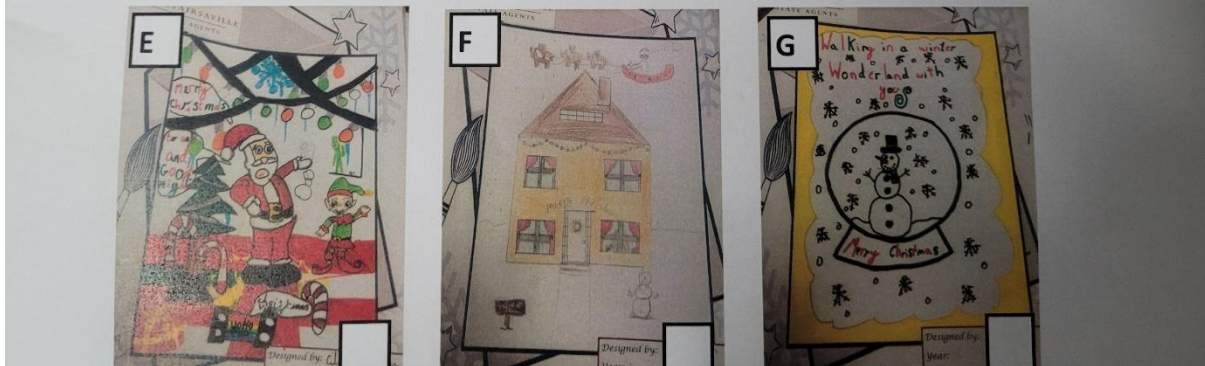




ALASTAIR SAVILLE

ESTATE AGENTS

TICK THE BOX FOR YOUR WINNER



The staff at Alastair Saville Estate Agents in Maghull have now shortlisted our Christmas Card entries for their competition.

They said they had a mammoth task, as the standard of the children's entries were excellent. They really struggled selecting their final winners for each year group.

The Year Group finalists from Reception to Year 6 are shown above. You can see from the selection of entries, how the children really enjoyed taking part in this competition and see the wonderful ideas and creativity of each entrant.

Besides placing your vote on our school app, there are also other ways of voting:

A Voting Box is located at both Alastair Saville shop in Maghull and in the school foyer. We would like to welcome family members and children to pop along and put a vote in the box for their favourite piece of artwork.

via their Instagram page: <https://www.instagram.com/p/Cz9CHn6M50q/>

via their Twitter page: <https://twitter.com/AlastairSaville>

An app message has been sent out to parents enabling you to vote for your favourite entry – we know it is going to be really difficult for you to select just one winner!



Good luck to all

our finalists!



Dear Parents,

Thank you for the support you showed to our campaign to help the homeless people of Liverpool, during the summer term. We donated lots of dried goods which the Whitechapel Centre used to make up 'Kettle Bags' to hand out to the people who they have housed in temporary accommodation.

We are asking if you could possibly help us again for their Christmas appeal?

Unfortunately, homelessness is on the increase. More people than ever are facing Christmas without a safe place to call home. Your support is needed more than ever to help us to end homelessness for people across our city.

The Whitechapel Centre works with people experiencing homelessness every day of the year but Christmas is a particularly difficult and emotional time. They try to make it a little better for anyone who is sleeping rough, offering a warm welcome, Christmas lunch and a gift. They will also be distributing gifts and Christmas treats to over 900 clients around the city. For many, this will be their first Christmas without their own home.

The Whitechapel Centre can only do this because of the kind donations they receive. This year, the Whitechapel Centre are running a Christmas appeal and **WE** can help by donating useful things listed on the Christmas Wishlist below. Your support will help them to continue their work this Christmas and give people the hope and opportunity to change their lives throughout the year.

We have a donation bin in the school foyer, which we are hoping to fill. Some families have already been very generous and donated items – thank you! Every morning, we will visit each class and collect in any donations the children have kindly brought in. We will then deliver all of the items to the Whitechapel Centre on **Friday 8th December**.

Please give, only if you are able to.

Thank you!

St. Gregory's Mini Vinnies



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



Wishlist

- Chocolate selection boxes
- New pyjamas, boxers & socks
- Toiletry gift sets
- Hats, scarves & gloves
- Christmas food treats
- Stocking fillers

 The
Whitechapel
Centre

Christmas
Appeal
2023



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Christmas Time

EVENTS



Christmas is a wonderful time of year and, at St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School, we thoroughly enjoy celebrating this time of year with our school community.

Please find below information with regards to our festive Christmas events that are coming up!

Nursery and Reception Nativity Performance

Monday 11th December – Grandparents
(Dress rehearsal) 9.00am

Tuesday 12th December (9.00am) Nursery families

Wednesday 13th December (9.00) Reception families

Families will be allocated **two** tickets

Grandparents will be allocated one ticket.

Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance

Monday 11th December – 2pm
Grandparents

Tuesday 12th December (2pm)
Year 1 families

Wednesday 13th December (2pm)
Year 2 families

Families will be allocated **two** tickets.
Grandparents will be allocated one ticket.

Christmas Bingo

Fundraising Event

**Wednesday 13th
December**

Eyes down at 6pm!

Tickets on sale
soon!

Whole School Panto

**Thursday 14th
December**

Followed by party food
lunch on arrival back to
school.

Choir Christmas Concert

Monday 18th December

4.00pm

Families welcome

Nursery Christmas Party

**Thursday 14th
December 9.15am**

Christmas Dinner

**Wednesday 20th
December**



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Gold Medal Winners



Congratulations to our
Gold Medal Award
winners this week.

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Special Award Winners



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Special Award Winners



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winners this week.

Special Award Winners



Congratulations to our
Special Award
winner this week.

Best Book Winners



Congratulations to our
Best Book Award
winners this week.

Best Book Winners



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winners this week.



Parent Governor Announcement

Thank you to all our families who voted in our Parent Governor Election Ballot.

We received 62 votes altogether and every candidate received in excess of ten votes each, which is an excellent performance – well done to you all!

The count was very close indeed, particularly between a few of our candidates, and was checked in the presence of the Returning Officer Mrs King, Mrs Albon and Mr Perree.

All the candidates have been informed by email of the outcome and we are pleased to announce that our newly elected Parent Governors are:

Mr Jon Shepherd

Mrs Jennifer Sweeting

Our Governing Body are thrilled to welcome both of our Parent Governors and look forward to working closely with them over the next four years.



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