



10th November, 2023.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear Parents,

It was lovely to welcome back some of the children who have been unwell with Chicken Pox this week. We seem to be over the worst of it, but who knows where and when it might pop up again! Therefore, please be vigilant checking for spots and please keep your child at home if they display any symptoms.

In the past two weeks, three classes have been out on educational school trips and as well as adding so much to the History and Geography curriculum, it also gives our children the chance to show the community how well behaved they are. I received a lovely email from the Southport Eco centre following the Y3 visit last week, congratulating our children on their behaviour and subject knowledge. Well done everybody!

Prayer and Liturgy

This week we considered that whilst it's good to feel proud of ourselves and our achievements; how we shouldn't be boastful and think so much of ourselves that we put ourselves in a 'place of honour' above others, like the Scribes and the Pharisees did in the Gospel. We thought about how Jesus tells us that being truly great means serving others. When we choose to be humble and serve others, we put our wants aside and put God and what He wants us to do first – we put God in 'the place of honour'.



A Reminder of our Christmas Activities

Christmas planning is now well underway, and we have dates to share for your diaries, including a new EYFS Nativity play, KS1 Nativity play, a Choir Christmas Concert and a Christmas Bingo. Please note the additional information for the Early Years Nativity Play.

The EYFS Nativity play will take place on **Tuesday 12th December** and **Wednesday 13th December** in the morning at 9.15am. Parents of Nursery and Reception children will be allocated 2 tickets to attend. This is the first time the youngest children will be performing their own play and we don't want to overwhelm them! Therefore, we want to make the audience more intimate, so the children feel happy to perform. Mrs King will send out further information of how to obtain tickets next week. It is also hoped to have a Dress rehearsal on **Monday 11th December** for Grandparents, time to be confirmed when we know how long the play will take.

The Infant Christmas play will take place on **Tuesday 12th December** and **Wednesday 13th December** in the afternoon at 2.00pm. Parents of Year 1 and Year 2 children will be allocated 2 tickets to attend. Mrs King will send out further information of how to obtain tickets next week. It is also hoped to have a Dress rehearsal on **Monday 11th December** for Grandparents, in the afternoon, time to be confirmed when we know how long the play will take.

The Choir Christmas Carol concert will take place on **Monday 18th December at 4.00pm** in the school hall and will include seasonal refreshments! We have another excellent choir this year and I know parents and grandparents will really enjoy this festive occasion.

The choir have also been asked to sing at the Parish Christmas Lunch on **Sunday 17th December**, time to be announced. We appreciate that this is the weekend before Christmas and totally understand if some children cannot attend. However, it would be lovely if those children who are free could brighten up the lives of the elderly within our community. Our contributions were very much appreciated last year.

A Christmas Bingo has been arranged for **Wednesday 13th December at 6pm**. Again, further details will be sent out next week including ways you can support this fundraising event.

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

Parent Governor

We have had a record number of candidates putting themselves forward to be our next Parent Governors. Thank you to all seven candidates who are willing to offer their time and commitment to our school. The elections will take place in the next two weeks, then the two candidates with the most votes will be announced on Friday 24th November.

Huge thanks to Mrs King, who is the returning officer. The rules and regulations are quite stringent and Mrs King has spent lots of time making sure everything is followed to the letter!

Remembrance

As we are not in school tomorrow, 11th November, we will be holding our service of Remembrance in school on Monday morning, when we will give thanks for the lives and sacrifice of the men who died from Lydiate. Father Grant will be holding a special service at 11am on Saturday 11th in Our Lady's church and the War memorial, to which all our families are welcome to attend.



Thank you to Thomas and Jude's Nan for knitting beautiful poppies which have been on sale for our school community. We will send the money raised to the Royal British Legion.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon



Newsletter

10th November, 2023.

*They shall grow not old,
as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them,
nor the years condemn;
At the going down of the sun,
and in the morning,
We will remember them'.*

St. Gregory's Remembers

Children in Year 3 visited Southport Eco Centre on Friday 3rd December.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their visit and they were praised throughout for their energy, knowledge and excellent manners.

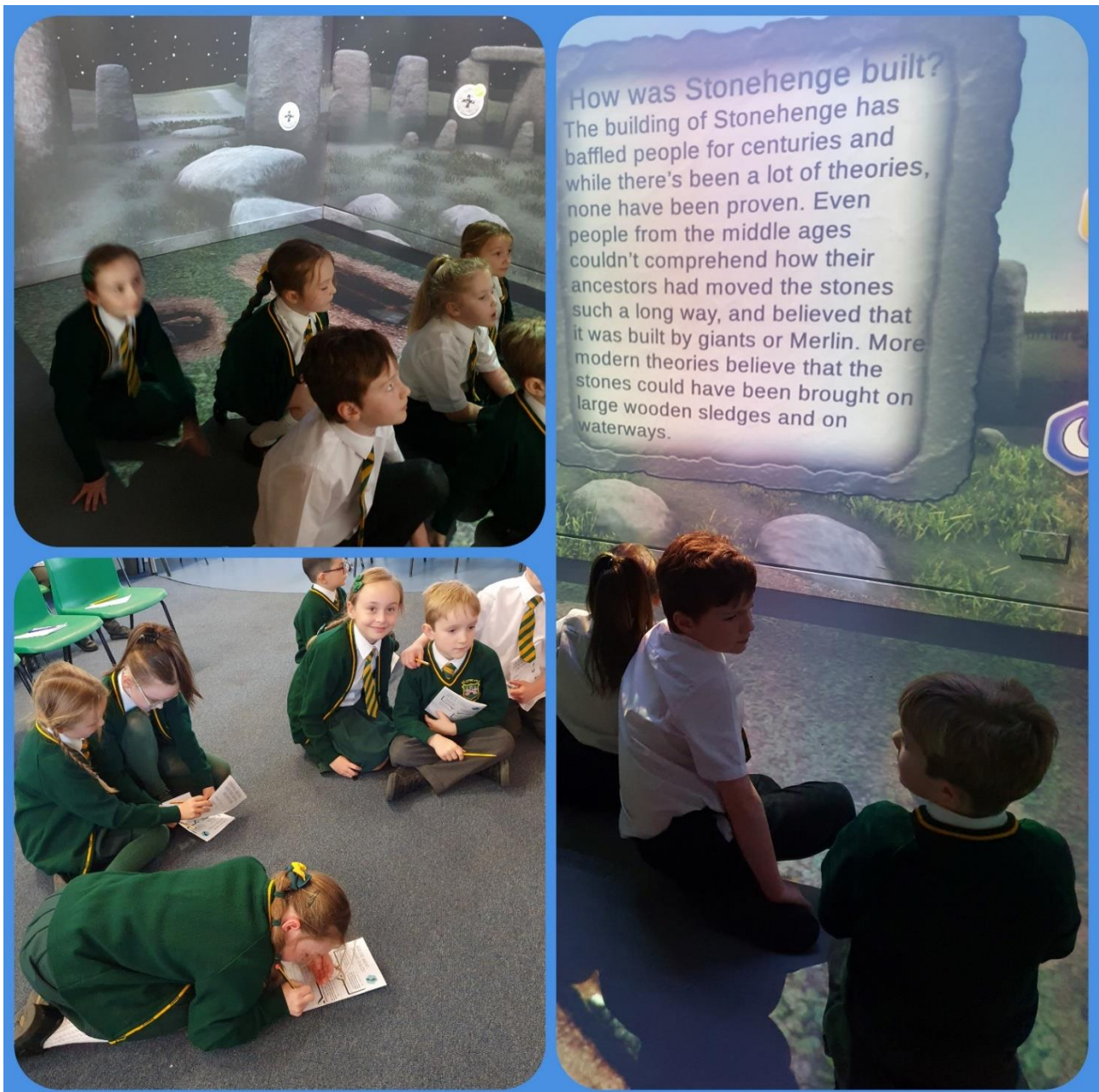
The lead teacher at the Eco Centre, Julie, remembered Year 3 children when they visited in Year 2 and wrote a lovely email to Mrs Albon:

Hi Mrs Albon, I was lucky enough to spend another day with this lovely class today. Many of them remembered me and vice versa.

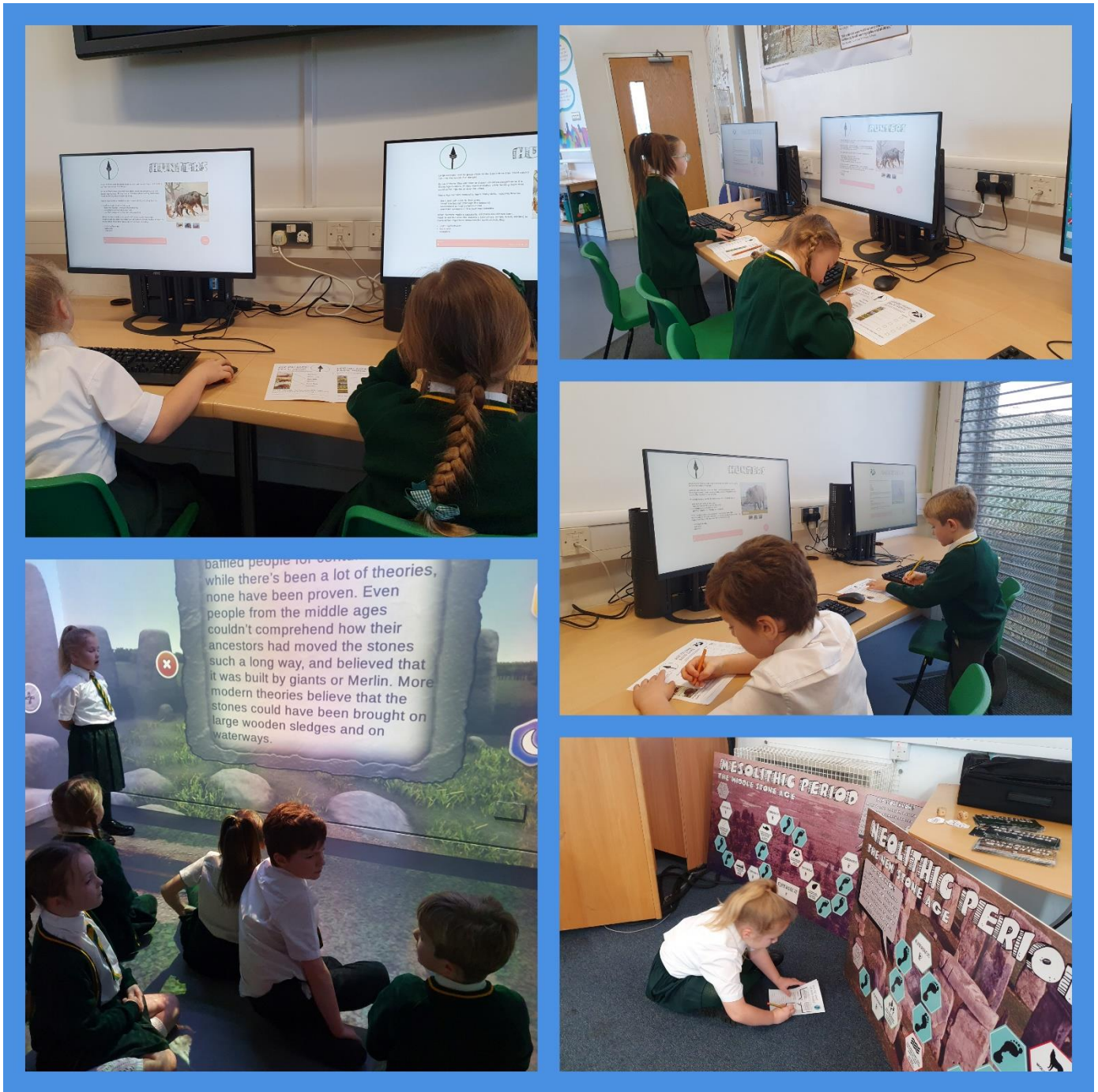
I need to reiterate absolutely everything I've said here (in previous email) - they're just great, and your staff.

So, thank you and thanks to them, again - I've had the best day.

Julie.



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The children discovered all about the archaeological dig in Eco Garden, uncovering what evidence we have found of hunter-gatherers and the animals that lived on our coastline 7,000 years ago.

Then the children designed a PC Game to find out more about the various roles that hunter-gatherers would have played within their communities in order to survive.

As well as playing a board game activity, to learn more about the three periods of the stone age and how they differed, the children then discovered facts about Stone Henge and had fun activities.

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*Well done Year 3 – excellent
ambassadors of St. Gregory's!*

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What a wonderful day on the farm Year 1 had this week.

The children visited Croxteth Park Farm and really got stuck into all the activities and enjoyed petting the animals.

The children all discovered a lot of facts about the animals and also answered a lot of the questions, which the farm staff were really impressed with.

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The children were really keen to groom the ponies and feed the animals – what an experience!

Thank you to the wonderful staff at the farm for making the day so special.



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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?

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. 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 **8th December**.

Please give if you are able to.

Thank you!

St. Gregory's Mini Vinnies



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Wishlist

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



Christmas
Appeal
2023



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As previously mentioned in our Newsletter before the half term holiday, St.Gregory's currently have two Parent Governor vacancies.

This week, we have sent Personal Statements of all 7 candidates on the school app. This was to give parents an opportunity to read the statements, before making your voting decision.

Voting forms were sent home with the children. It is one vote per family.

In the pack, there were also be two envelopes. The first envelope is for you to complete the form on the front, stating your name/child's name and signature. The second envelope is where you put your voting paper in and seal the envelope. You are allowed to vote for **two** people, as there are **two vacancies**. The envelope with your voting paper in, then goes into the outer envelope with your name etc on. You can then either send your child into school with the envelope or pass it into the school office.

Once we have closed the voting period, the first outer envelope will be checked for eligibility to vote and opened. Then the second unopened envelope, will be put into the ballot box. This will not be opened until we are ready for counting. All votes are completely confidential and we will never see who voted for which candidate.

Any defaced voting slips will not be counted. Any envelopes without the front slip completed, will not be counted. All votes must be completed using the two envelope method – we cannot just accept the inner envelope with your vote inside and no details of the voter.

Once we have counted the votes received for each candidate, we will then announce the successful candidates.

It would be appreciated if every family could cast a vote for this important role on the Governing Body of St.Gregory's.

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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) morning (time to be confirmed)
Tuesday 12th December (9.15am) – Nursery
families
Wednesday 13th December (9.15am) – Reception
families

Families will be allocated **two** tickets.

Year 1 and Year 2 Nativity Performance

Monday 11th December – Grandparents
(Dress rehearsal- time to be confirmed)
Tuesday 12th December (2pm)
Year 1 families
Wednesday 13th December (2pm)
Year 2 families

Families will be allocated **two** tickets.

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
3.45pm

Families welcome

Nursery Christmas Party

Thursday 14th
December 9.15am

Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 20th
December

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Christmas Card Competition

St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School is working in partnership with Alastair Saville Estate Agents this year, taking part in their 'Design A Christmas Card' competition.

Every child in school will be given an opportunity to design a Christmas card, during the school day. A winner from each class, will be entered into a public winner's poll. The designs will be displayed in the window of Alastair Saville shop in Maghull and on their social media platforms. General public will be able to pop in to their shop and vote for their winner. Our families are welcome to pop in and vote.

We will also have a voting box in the school office foyer for visitors to school to vote too.

As well as in person, you will be able to vote for your favourite piece of work on their website.



All entries must be completed by 17th November and they will be collected by a member of Alastair Saville team. Once the poll closes, an overall winner will be announced and they will receive a lovely prize. There are also smaller prizes for all the entrants.

***Good luck to everyone. We cannot wait to
see your designs!***

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Gold Medal Award



Congratulations to our Gold Medal Award winners this week from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2.



Gold Medal Award



Congratulations to our Gold Medal Award winners this week from Key Stage 2.



Special Award



Congratulations to our Special Award winners this week from Key Stage 2.



Special Award



Congratulations to our Special Award winners this week from Reception and KS1 classes.



Best Book Award



Congratulations to our Best Book Award winners this week.

Best Book Award



Congratulations to our Best Book Award winners this week.