



3rd November, 2023.

Message from Mrs Albon.....

Dear Parents,

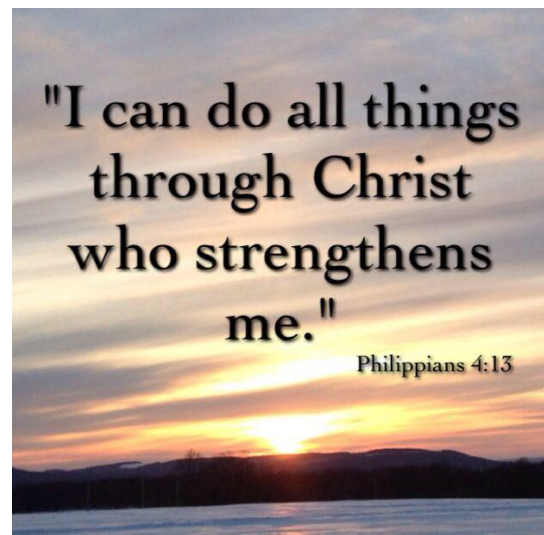
Welcome back to one of the busiest half-terms of the year! As well as the many feasts and festivals we will be celebrating, we also have school trips and lots of work to do in class!

Unfortunately, as many families know, we have a wide-reaching outbreak of chickenpox in school, which has sadly not gone away over the half-term break. As always, please be vigilant and ensure we don't have infectious children in school. We wish all our unwell children a speedy recovery and hope you are not too itchy!

Prayer and Liturgy

This week, we celebrated the feast of All Saints. In our whole school Celebration of the Word, we listened to the beautiful reading from St. Matthew- The Beatitudes. We heard how we too can aspire to be saints on earth, by following the message from this Gospel. We thought about the question raised by Pope Benedict to children in 2010, when he asked them, "What kind of person do you want to be?"

On Wednesday in Church, Father Grant built upon this message when he said we have all got the capacity to be saints, and he asked us to remember this message from St. Paul, when sometimes we want to give up:



"I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me."

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

Christmas Activities

Christmas planning is now well underway, and we have dates for your diaries to share, including a new EYFS Nativity play, a KS1 Nativity play, a Choir Christmas Concert and a Christmas Bingo.

The EYFS Nativity play will take place on **Tuesday 12th December** and **Wednesday 13th December** in the morning. Parents of Nursery and Reception 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, time to be confirmed.

The Infant Christmas play will take place on **Tuesday 13th December** and **Wednesday 14th 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 11^h December** for Grandparents, in the afternoon, time to be confirmed.

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.

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Fireworks

Staff have reminded the children about the Firework Code and how to keep safe this weekend. Please follow the link to an information page from Merseyside Police which gives lots of sensible information about how to have fun but remain safe around fireworks.

[Be safe not sorry with fireworks | Merseyside Police](#)



Thank you all once again for all your support, have a SAFE weekend, and I look forward to seeing all children on Monday, happy and healthy!

With kind regards,

Deborah Albon

Newsletter

3rd November 2023

Clubs

The following Clubs will commence next week:

Monday – Multiskills (Reception /KS1)

Tuesday – Football (Y3/Y4 mixed)

Wednesday – Boxercise (KS2)

Thursday – Choir (KS2)

Thursday – Football (Y5/Y6 mixed)

Friday – Football (KS1)

Thank you to our parents for supporting our clubs this half term.



Children in Year 5 will continue their swimming lessons on Monday 6th November. The class have two more lessons.

All children must take part in swimming lessons, as part of the curriculum, unless a medical exemption certificate is provided.

Clubs Survey

This week, we sent parents a survey to complete, with regards to clubs available at St.Gregory's.

We would like to discover from parents your thoughts on the current clubs that we run and any ideas for future clubs that your child has expressed interests in.

Clubs are wonderful for the children, and staff give up a lot of their own time to run and organise the clubs. If you have the skills and qualifications to run a club in school – maybe an artist, yoga teacher, computer whiz and have time to commit to run an after school club, please speak to Mrs King.

We would appreciate your feedback on our clubs.

Reception/Year 6 Height and Weight Programme

Children in Reception Class and Year 6 Class will receive a visit from the school nurse team, to check their height and weight on Monday 6th November. Parents have been informed of this previously.

Year 1 Croxteth Farm Visit

Children in Year 1 will be visiting Croxteth Farm on Thursday 9th November.

The coach will be leaving school around 9.15am and will return for normal school finish time. Children will need their full school uniform, packed lunch and a waterproof coat for this trip.

Enjoy your farm visit Year 1!

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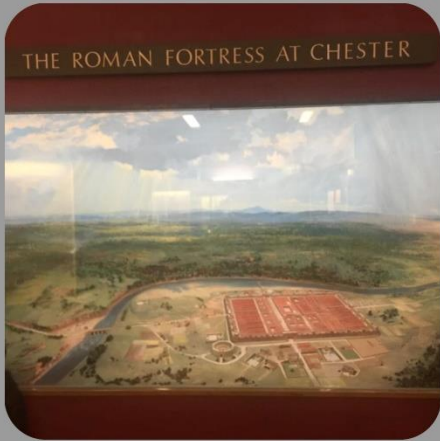
Year 2 Trip

Roman Experience

Children in Year 2 visited Grosvenor Museum in Chester this week, to experience life during Roman times. The children learned lots of interesting facts about Roman Chester and enjoyed looking at Roman artifacts.



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The children marched to the amphitheatre to re-enact some battle formation and tactics with shields.

The children thoroughly enjoyed their role play experience!

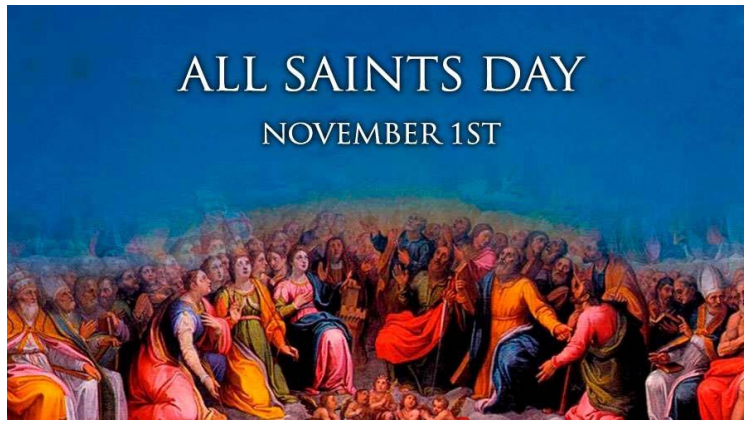
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During the classroom session, the children discovered all about primary and secondary sources. They had to think about objects which were from Roman times and replicas of Roman artifacts, which were made later on.

They had so much fun learning how the Romans lived and what they did when they came to Britain.

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Children from Years 4, 5 and 6 visited St. Gregory's Church on Wednesday this week, for All Saints' Day parish Mass.

All Saints' Day is a Christian festival in honour of all the saints in heaven. It is held on the 1st of November. The day originated in May 609, when Pope Boniface IV dedicated the Pantheon in Rome to the Blessed Virgin Mary.



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

We sent home application forms for parents to apply for the two vacancies and were overwhelmed with the response – we have received 7 applications. We will now be going to a ballot system.

During next week, a letter will be sent home, via one member of each family at school, with personal statements attached from all applicants.

There will 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. This 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.

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.



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.