



3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023.

## *Message from Mrs Albon.....*

Dear School Community,

Another busy week at school with so many activities going on! From baking to football matches, to World Book Day - it's exciting being a member of our school community!

In a world where not all value the work that goes on in schools, may I send my sincere thanks to all our Staff, who always go the extra mile for our children, and in a week that celebrated the unpaid work of Governors, with a National Governors' Day, we also thank all our Governors for their commitment and hard work at St. Gregory's.

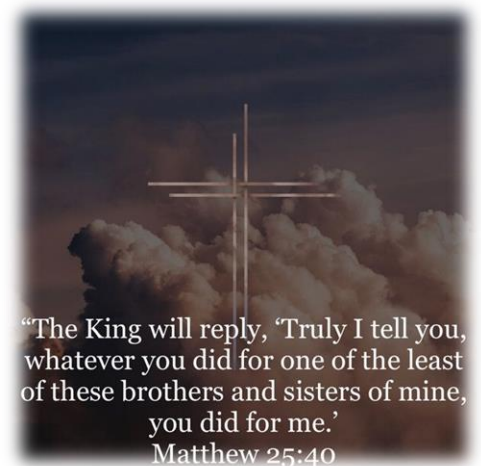
### **Prayer and Liturgy**

This week, we were blessed to celebrate the Monday Parish Mass in our school hall with Father Grant, parents and parishioners. Year 4, 5, and 6 were in attendance and their prayerful presence set the tone for us all.

The theme of the Mass was looking out for the needs of others, based on the Gospel of the day from St. Matthew.

In Lent, we are asked to do three things - **Give, Act and Pray**, and Father Grant helped us to focus on how we can reach out to those in need during Lent.

All other prayer times this week took up this theme, and the children had several moments of quiet reflection on how we can answer the call of Lent this year.



"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'  
Matthew 25:40

All being well, the next Parish Mass in school will be on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March, when Year 1 and Year 2 will be in attendance. All Parents and Grandparents are warmly invited to join us.

### **Attendance Review meetings**

This week, we had a visit from a Sefton Attendance Officer to review our overall attendance and to look at individual children whose attendance is a concern. Whilst our overall attendance is good compared to other local schools, it is still below the National Average. Currently, our overall attendance is 94.8% and the expected target for attendance is 96.7%. The Government and Local Authority are placing a renewed focus on improving attendance after Covid, and as such, I am now required to look carefully at all children whose attendance falls below 90%, who are classed as a Persistent Absentee, and if appropriate, have an Attendance review meeting where support and targets are discussed.

At the staff meeting this week, we discussed our list of Persistent Absentees and highlighted the reasons behind the absences. Of course, we do not want really sick children to come to school and spread their illness through the class, but when we look carefully at some of our children, we see patterns emerging. For these children, a discussion is sometimes needed to look carefully at how we can support in getting all our children into school each day.

### **Parents' Evenings**

The spring Parents' Evenings will take place on **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March**. Mrs King will be in touch with a booking form shortly, and as previously stated, all parents attending will be required to sign up to a **Parents' Code of Conduct** to safeguard staff.

### **Mothers' Day Celebrations**

We are delighted to be able to invite our Mums, or a significant adult, to a Mothers' Day assembly in March for Early Years and Key Stage One Mums.

**Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2 Mums/Significant Adults** are invited on **Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am** in the school hall. We hope you will be able to join us!

## **Lenten Fundraising - GIVE**

There is of course no obligation to support any fundraising activities within Lent, however, we have now decided on two fundraising opportunities during Lent for those who wish to get involved.

In the penultimate week of the term, week commencing 20<sup>th</sup> March, each of the Key Stage 2 classes will be invited to hold a fund-raising event during one playtime, Monday to Thursday, when they can work in groups to raise money. Activities in the past have included a bake sale, name the teddy, find the treasure and other very imaginative activities! Children will be discussing activities in class over the coming weeks.

Our other fundraiser will be for CAFOD. We are organising a family sponsored walk on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> March in aid of CAFOD, when we will be walking the **Lydiate Loop for Lent**. The walk will begin straight after the 11.00am St. Gregory's mass. We can park at school and walk to the start of the walk at Sumner's Turn Bridge on Bell's Lane. It is about a 6 mile walk and will be muddy in parts! We hope you will be able to join us, in what should be a lovely community event. Please look out for a flyer with greater details next week.

Thank you all once again for all your support, have a lovely weekend.

With kind regards,

*Deborah Albon*

Headteacher

# Weekly Newsletter

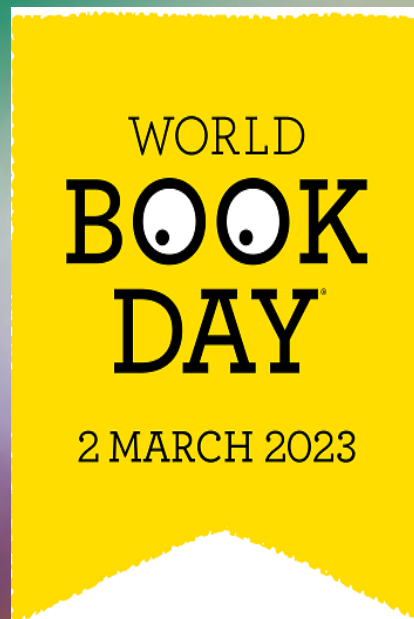


3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2023.

**St. Gregory's**  
Catholic Primary School

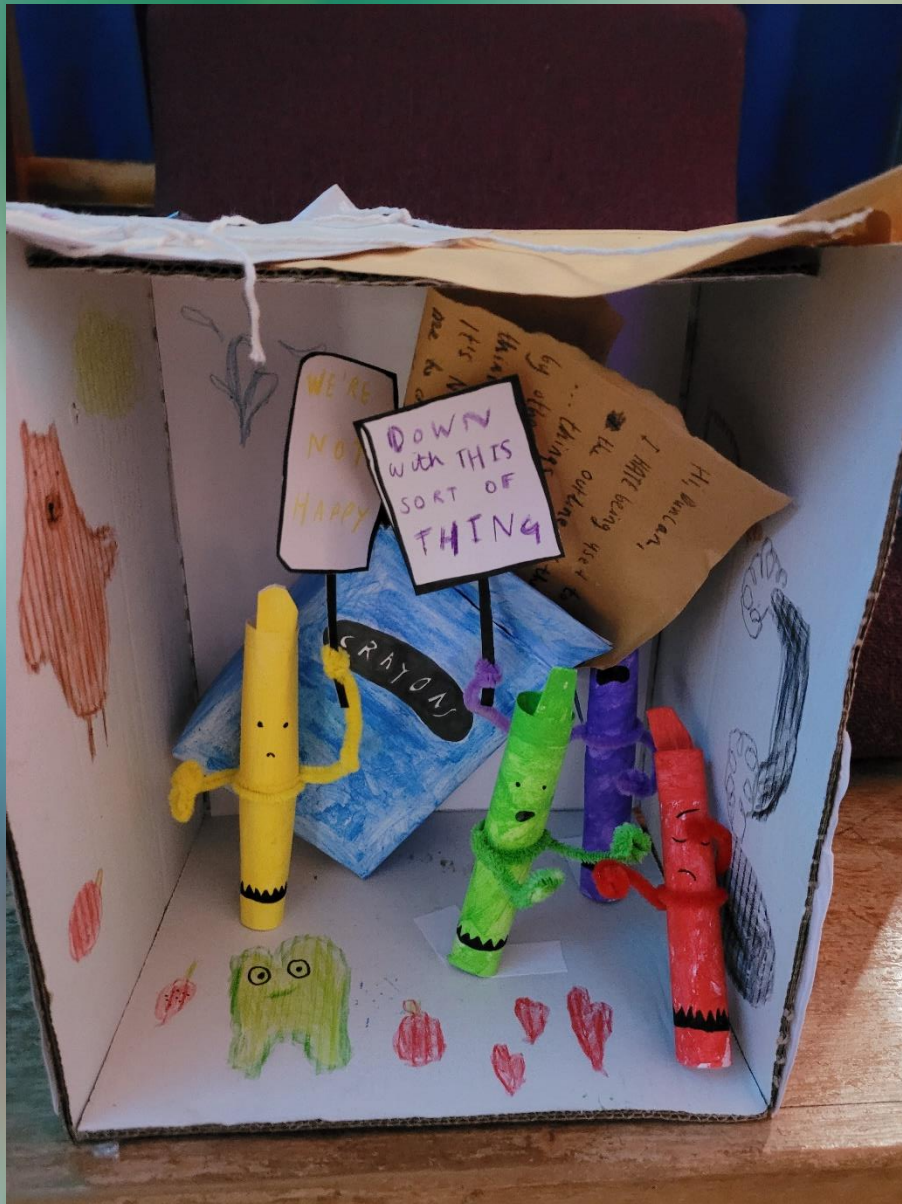
St. Gregory's Catholic Primary School celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2023.

Children from Foundation Stage, Reception and Key Stage 1 classes all wore their pyjamas and brought their favourite book to school. There was lots of excitement and the children all enjoyed reading their books with their friends from other classes.



Key Stage 2 classes came into school dressed as adjectives! The children all looked amazing and really used their imagination. We would like to thank all our parents for supporting this event.







Some of the children created their own 'book in a box'. Showing wonderful creativity and imagination, the boxes really told the story.



Lots of sticking, gluing and painting has been going on at home, to create these wonderful pieces of artwork. (Thanks, families!)



Well done to Robert, Ben, Grace, Alice, Esme and Noah for all their hard work in creating their own book in a box.



WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023





Year 5 and Year 6 children paired up with our Nursery and Reception class children for story time.



The younger children really enjoyed listening to the narrating skills of our Key Stage 2 children.





WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023





WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023



WORLD  
**BOOK DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023





It was wonderful listening to our Key Stage 2 children reading to our younger children and really throwing themselves into character, using wonderful expression and actions to help our youngest pupils understand.

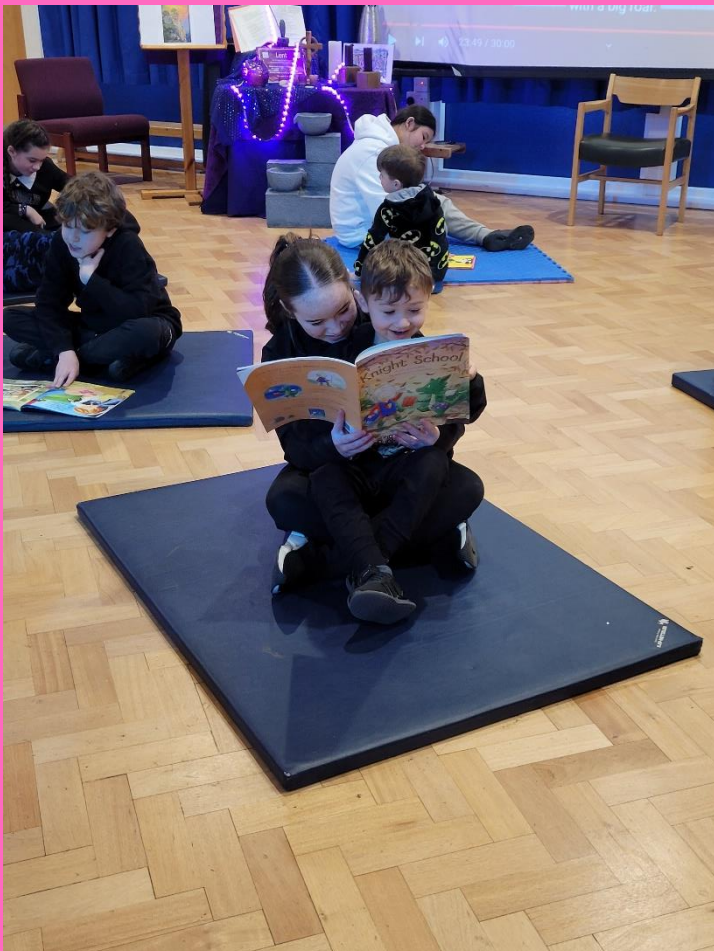


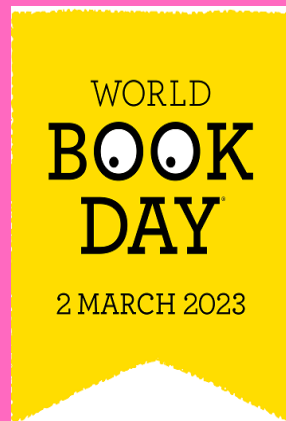
WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023






WORLD  
**BOOK  
DAY**  
2 MARCH 2023





Congratulations to Katy and Oliver (Year 5) who created their own book in a box, displaying the magical theme of Harry Potter and a fitting tribute to the autobiography of Mo Salah (who plays for a certain football team in Merseyside!)





# Mothers' Day Assembly

*We would like to welcome Mums, Nanas, Nans, Grandmas, and aunties (or any significant adult!) of children in our Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes to our Mothers' Day Assembly on*

*Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March at 9.15am*

*The children have all been learning songs and poems and have extra special treats for their mums!*

*Please come along and enjoy the celebration of Mothers' Day.*



# Special Mention Award

Congratulations to the children who won the Special Mention Award this week.



Brooklyn  
Lottie

Mia  
Oscar

# Special Mention Award

Congratulations to the children who won the  
Special Mention Award this week.

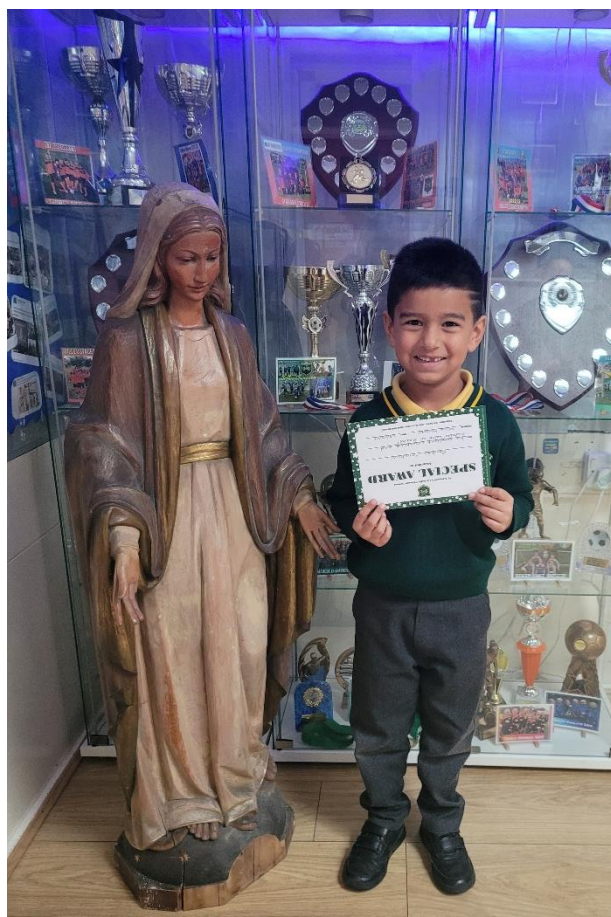


Louis

Nora

# Special Mention Award

Congratulations to the children who won the  
Special Mention Award this week.



Rowhan

Ellie

# Gold Medal Award

Congratulations to the children who won the Gold Medal Award this week.



Jacob  
Archie



Isaac

# Gold Medal Award

Congratulations to the children who won the Gold Medal Award this week.



Erin

Charlotte

# Gold Medal Award

Congratulations to the children who won the Gold Medal Award this week.



Billy

Jude

# Best Book Award

Congratulations to our Best Book Award winners this week.



Thomas

Zoe

# Best Book Award

Congratulations to our Best Book Award winners this week.



Percy

Louisa



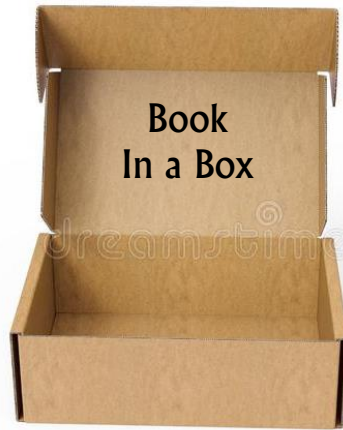
# Best Book Award

Congratulations to our Best Book Award winners this week.



Esme

(aided by her lovely  
friend Eryn)



What wonderful boxes the children made for our Book in a Box challenge for World Book Day. All the boxes were amazing and really told the story.

Well done – Robert, Ben, Oliver, Katy, Esme, Grace, Alice, James, and Ivy.





# Attendance Information



The Department of Education have released new guidelines with regards to school attendance:

'Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend, or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school'.

Any child whose attendance falls below 90% will be closely monitored and parents may be called into school for a meeting, resulting in a support plan being put into place.

An example of how missing school can have an effect on a child's learning and developing is:

A child who has an attendance record of 80% = 38 days absent = 200 lessons

The new guidelines received asks the following of parents/schools:

- To only keep your child off school if your child is really not well enough to attend
- To not take unauthorised holidays during term time – this can result in a fine being issued
- If your child has an appointment, parents/carers **MUST** provide evidence of the appointment

We want to work closely with our families and we understand that there will be times when children cannot attend school. Authorised absences will be given to children in exceptional circumstances.

If your child's attendance during the school year is:	Your child would have lost approximately:	Or they would have missed approximately:
95%	9 Days from School	50 Lessons
90%	19 Days from School	100 Lessons
85%	29 Days from School	150 Lessons
80%	38 Days from School	200 Lessons
75%	48 Days from School	250 Lessons



# Attendance this week



RECEPTION	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	YEAR 5	YEAR 6
96.6%	98.7%	98.7%	<b>99.4%</b>	98.7%	91.3%	94%

Congratulations to Year 3 on winning the Attendance Cup this week!



Our overall attendance for this week is 96.8%, which is above the national average of 96.7%