



'Working & learning together with Jesus as one family'

HEADTEACHER NEWS LETTER
Friday 8th September 2017

Welcome back to school and to the start of the new academic year at St. Gregory's!

We hope that pupils and families enjoyed a relaxing break over the holiday period and benefited from spending time together.

We are looking forward to the year of learning ahead and are confident that we will continue to raise standards in Teaching & Learning by working in partnership with you.

The children have returned to school looking smart and ready for the challenge of the new term. It was a pleasure to address classes in assembly on the first day back when we reflected upon the excitement of new learning and recalled how Jesus helps each and every one of us particularly when we encounter difficulties.

New Members of Staff –

We warmly welcome our newly appointed members of staff :

Miss. Carol Murphy – School Business Manager.

This is a new post– Miss. Murphy will be responsible for the management of all 'non-teaching' aspects of school life ensuring that the school functions effectively on an organizational, financial and administrative level.

Reception : Ms. Lynas and Mrs. Wilkinson

Year 1 : Mrs. Ellis, Miss. Laskey and Miss. Andre

Year 2 : Miss. Chalk

Year 4 : Miss. Parmar

We have also appointed a number of new Teaching Assistants who will be working closely with classroom teachers to maximize learning progress for our pupils.

This year, most short-term teacher absences will be covered internally –agency supply staff can be less effective in delivering a day's learning than our Senior Teaching Assistants who are familiar with pupils and our curriculum. Agency teaching staff will continue to be used for long-term absence covers. This will also enable the school to manage costs more effectively.

YEAR GROUP CURRICULUM INFORMATION EVENINGS –

Please make a note of your child's year group evening and keep the date free in your diary – it is important that parents are involved in pupil learning and aware of the keys skills which are being developed over the course of the academic year.

Meetings will be held in the school hall. **Please note these are for parents only (pupils should not attend).**

Year 6 Curriculum Information meeting High School Transfer Meeting	Monday 18 th September 6-6.30 pm 6.30-7pm
Year 5 Curriculum Information Meeting	Wednesday 20 th September 6pm
Year 4 Curriculum Information Meeting	Thursday 21 st September 6pm
Year 3 Curriculum Information Meeting	Monday 25 th September 6pm
Year 2 Curriculum Information Meeting	Wednesday 27 th September 6pm
Year 1 Curriculum Information Meeting	Thursday 28 th September 6pm

HIGH SCHOOL TRANSFERS – notice for Year 6 parents

High schools are holding parent information evenings in September and October. Details are available on the Local Authority Website and individual school websites.

Cardinal Wiseman School's evening takes place on Thursday 14th September 5.30-8.30 pm.

We will be holding a High School Transfer Information Evening at St. Gregory's on Monday 18th September (marked in red above). We strongly urge all Year 6 parents to attend!

J+C BREAKFAST AND AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS – school hall + grounds

We are pleased that the new clubs have got off to a great start. Children are clearly delighted with the provision and we are confident that numbers will continue to grow! If you would like to find out about registration/cost details, please use the link on our website to contact J+C Academy. Leaflets are also available in the foyer and directly from the club in the hall.

SCHOOL BIKING PROVISION

We are hoping to maintain this excellent provision for all pupils. Please help us by making a voluntary, termly donation of £3.50 for your child's biking lessons. See attached letter for details.

HEALTHY EATING = HEALTHY LIVING

We are a healthy school!

If your child has a packed lunch, please provide a balance of nutritious, wholesome food including a piece of fresh fruit/vegetables. No chocolate, sweets, fizzy drinks or crisps. Your child's lunch is fuel for the afternoon – food items containing high sugar levels and additives have a detrimental effect on health and learning. And finally, we are a nut-free school.

SCHOOL SITE UPDATES

We have made a number of school improvements made over the summer :

- Reception/foyer - extended and refurbished.
- Sections of the school have been repainted (KS1 Corridor & Hall)
- Guided Reading Library installed in Upper KS2 corridor

NEW WEBSITE

We are pleased to announce the **launch of our new school website on Monday 11th September.**

Do take a look! We are confident that stakeholders will find the website user-friendly and a pleasure to view. We are continuing to add new information to a number of sections (some work still in progress and due to be completed this half term).

PTA UPDATES

St Gregory's PTA AGM

The St Gregory's PTA Annual General Meeting will take place [at 8pm on Wednesday 13th September](#) in The School Hall. The election of the new PTA committee members will take place and everyone is welcome.

Ealing Half Marathon

A team of parents are running in this year's Ealing Half Marathon [on Sunday 24th September](#) to raise money for the school. If you would like to sponsor them, you can donate using the following website: www.everyclick.com/stgregoryshalfmarathon. They will also be delighted if you can cheer them from the sidelines.