



The Catholic School of St Gregory the Great

Believe and Achieve

St James Square, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3QG
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Welcome Back Everyone!

We hope you had a lovely Easter and that you enjoyed the holidays!
We are now back into Terms 5 and 6 - the final terms of this academic year. It promises to be a busy time; we have lots to get through before we start looking at preparations beyond July and getting children ready to move up the school. There are lots of fantastic lessons and activities planned and we can't wait to get started!
Please do contact any of the Year 1 team should you have any queries and we will do our best to answer your questions.

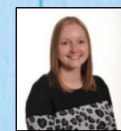
Your Year 1 Team!



Mrs Paddock
Key Stage 1 Phase Leader



Miss Elliott



Miss Aldred



Mrs George



Mrs Hope



Miss Farnacio



Mrs Mason

Year 1

Classroom Teachers

Honeybourne:

Mrs Paddock
Miss Elliott

Butterwell:

Miss Aldred

Teaching Partners:

Mrs George (Teacher Training)
Mrs Hope

Pupil Support:

Miss Farnacio

PPA Cover (1 day/fortnight):

Honeybourne: Miss Elliott
Butterwell: Miss Kwiatkowska
(Thurs)

Our Summer Term Topic is...

This term our History topic will be '*The Great Fire of London!*'

The children will be answering the enquiry question 'Why did the Great Fire of London destroy so much of the city?'. They will be travelling back in time to 1666 to study the events leading up to and during the Great Fire of London. This will include looking at different source material, using maps and exploring materials. As the children will be becoming historians and using source material (a very important skill) to find out what happened, please don't tell them too much in advance!



We have an educational drama workshop this term for you to note:
Tuesday 28th April 2026 (in school).

Our Geography topic will be '**Kenya**'.

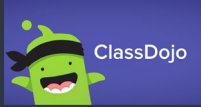


The children will be answering the enquiry question 'What is it like in Matuu, Kenya?'. They will be locating Matuu in the world and making comparisons with what we have already found out about Cheltenham. They will be using their skills as geographers to find out about this country and what it is like there.



Don't forget to look at the Year 1 pages of the school website to find out about all the areas of learning for this term.

<https://www.st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk/year-1-1/>



We would encourage you to check in regularly to Class Dojo as teachers will post key information and reminders there for you.

If you have a question or need to share something with your child's class teacher, please email parent@st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk

The St Gregory's School Prayer

Help us all, teachers and pupils

To value our friendships
To support and love each
other

And help us to remember
that

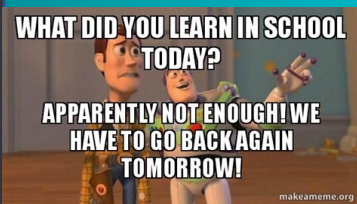
You are always by our side
Our greatest friend.

Amen

How Was Your Day?

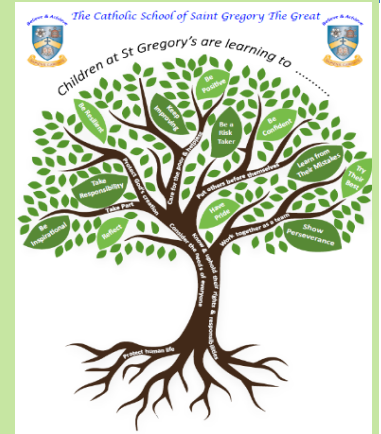
If finding out about your child's day at school is mission: impossible, try these alternative conversation starters.

- Tell me one thing you've learned today that you didn't know this morning.
- What did you do today that made your brain work really hard?
- Who made you laugh the most? Who was kind today?
- What did you do today that made you feel proud?



What Is A St Gregory's Learner Like?

The **St Gregory's Learner Profile** has become a very important aspect of our school. In striving for academic excellence, we are also unapologetic for the focus given to the characteristics we seek to develop in each and every member of our school community. These characteristics, which include Catholic Social Teaching principles, threading through all we do, are the key to developing lifelong learners and global citizens. The characteristics outlined in our learner profile are of great value to us and as such, permeate our entire curriculum.



Our Learner Profile tree is up in every classroom and your children work daily on:

reflecting, improving, being risk takers, being confident, being positive, showing resilience, being inspirational, taking responsibility, learning from mistakes, showing perseverance, trying their best and having pride.

How could you help promote these characteristics at home?



From little acorns mighty oaks grOW!



Moving On Up! How Can You Help?

At The Catholic School of St Gregory the Great, we recognise how well your children have done in settling into Year 1, making new friends and developing their skills and knowledge across the curriculum. In Term 6, we will start making preparations for the children's move into Year 2. As a school, we know how important a transition is - for the children, their teachers and also for you.



Here are some things you might want to do to help:

- ✓ Talk about what is coming up in September. The summer holiday is a longer one, so it helps to keep the changes fresh in your child's mind. Talk about their new teacher and what they are looking forward to in Year 2
- ✓ Read, read, read. Reading with and to your child is the single most powerful thing you can do to support their learning and progress at school
- ✓ Encourage your child to write, but make it fun and meaningful. For example, writing a shopping list for a meal they have chosen, writing a holiday diary or sending a postcard to Granny and Grandad
- ✓ Plan in some relaxed time at home each evening so that your child still has opportunities for undirected 'play' time
- ✓ Try to help your child meet challenges more independently; don't jump in as soon as they say they are stuck, but ask them what they think they could do

For more information on how our school manages your child's transition to their new year group, please refer to our Transition Policy on the school website:

<https://www.st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk/policiesreportslinks/>

Also... Don't forget to check our school website for all diary dates, policies and important information! It is updated regularly. www.st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk/



Summer Sunshine...We Are Ready!

As normal, all children should be bringing a **named, reusable water bottle** to school every day. It is to be taken home every night and refilled with **fresh drinking water only**. Please be sure to do this as the weather gets warmer.

Children require a **PE kit** in school with them every day, with all clothing clearly named and stored in a soft, drawstring bag. Please remember that jewellery should not be worn in PE lessons and long hair should be tied back.

As the weather hopefully becomes hotter, the children will be heading outside a lot more. Therefore everyone should have a **named hat or cap** with them in school for sun protection. Caps can be bought in the school office for £4.50. **We advise parents to put sun cream on your children before coming to school.**

Please don't feed our lost property! Everything that comes into school must be clearly named.



Home Learning!



Spelling Activity Sheets will be sent home on a **Friday** to be returned the **following Friday**. Please do remind children to work on learning their spelling words throughout the week, perhaps in short bursts rather than one long session, and in whatever way helps the children to recall the sounds and spelling patterns

Numbots is our online maths home learning challenge programme. Your child's Numbots login details can be found in their reading records.

Please read with your child **daily** and sign/record this in your child's reading record. The children are expected to be heard read at home at least **4 times** a week and we ask that comments are made in the children's reading records to help monitor their progress.

Don't forget to read 4 times a week so that your child can receive a raffle ticket!



Have you remembered...



Here's some vocabulary to learn for this term!

absorbent

able to soak up liquid



The sponge is absorbent.

opaque

cannot be seen through



She is hidden by the opaque screen.

transparent

can be seen through



This glass is transparent.

waterproof

repels water and liquids



A waterproof coat.

Man-Made Materials

Natural Materials

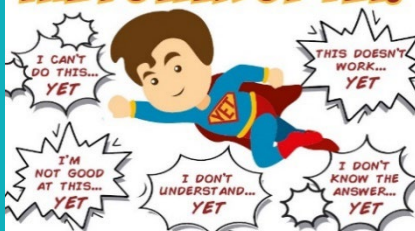


We're All About Growing... A Growth Mindset!

MINDSET MATTERS



THE POWER OF YET!



Have you ever looked back on your education and thought 'I wasn't really good at Maths,' or 'I am not really an 'art-person', I'm better with less creative things!' or even 'I really wasn't into sports - PE lessons were not my thing'. We all have areas that we are perhaps less confident in, but here at St Greg's we believe that learning and intelligence is not fixed.

Back in 2016 we launched our St Gregory's **Growth Mindset** concept with children, staff and parents. Since then, we have continued to adhere to the belief that our intelligence and abilities can grow and improve, so we look for ways to keep improving. We look for real challenges and build resilience, because we know that with determination we can achieve whatever we want!

2 Things to remember:

- **The power of YET**
- **Mistakes help us learn!**

If parents want to give their children a gift, the best thing they can do is to teach their children to love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort, and keep on learning. That way, their children don't have to be slaves of praise. They will have a lifelong way to build and repair their own confidence."

- Carol S. Dweck