

Newsletter

Weekly News Digest



Little Way Catholic
Educational Trust

FEB (3) 2026

HOUSE POINTS
WINNER

COOL CATS
100%
ATTENDANCE

POSITIVE MIND
VIBES



**"Dream big, stay
positive, work
hard, and enjoy
the journey."**

— Urijah Faber



St Gregory's
[Virtual Library](#)



A beautiful smart, tidy
uniform.

APP SAFETY GUIDES
[CLICK HERE](#)

Welcome back to TERM 4

Welcome back to Term 4. I hope you all enjoyed half-term and had a well deserved rest. This is a five week term one of the shortest terms we have but we still have lots going on. Please make sure you keep reading our Newsletter and checking the [website calendar](#) so that you are not missing any events.

IMPORTANT DATES

- Please book your child's PTR meeting on your EdulinkOne app. Tues 24th March and Thurs 26th March
- Class & Y6 Leavers Photo Wed 25th March. Please make sure uniforms are perfect and come to school with your most beautiful smile.

Exciting News

The CEO of LWCET Mrs Blanch is delighted to share that the Bishop and Diocesan Academy Board has approved the on-boarding of both St Peter's High School and Sixth Form Centre and St Joseph's Catholic College with a view to them joining us in Little Way CET on 1st September 2026.

We are excited to welcome our colleagues to the 'inner fold' of LWCET and know this will strengthen Catholic education and outcomes for our young people into the future.

Attendance

Matters: Holidays in Term Time

With the Spring and Summer on the way taking holidays in term time may seem convenient, but even short absences can significantly disrupt learning.

Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) states that parents must ensure regular attendance, and holidays are only authorised in exceptional circumstances*. Missing lessons creates gaps in understanding that affect progress, confidence, and long term achievement.

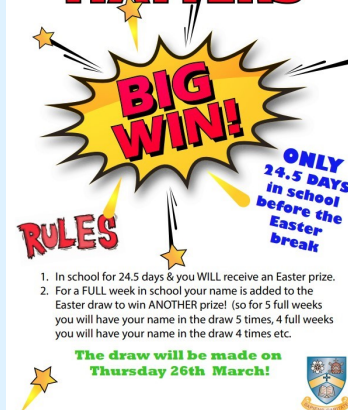
Unauthorised term-time holidays can result in Penalty Notices from GCC. Each parent may be fined £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days, issued when a child has 10 or more unauthorised sessions (5 days).

Gloucestershire guidance reinforces that holidays during term time are not a right and may lead to fines or further action if absences continue.

See our
Attendance
Matters Big Win
event.

*Exceptional circumstances are rare, significant, unavoidable, and short-term events, such as a bereavement of a close relative, funerals, a housing crisis, or, occasionally, for parents in the armed forces with restricted leave.

ATTENDANCE MATTERS





Newsletter—Weekly News Digest

Staffing News

As many of you know, Mrs Howland will soon be beginning her maternity leave after Easter. We are thrilled for her as she prepares for this exciting new chapter and the wonderful adventure ahead. We can't wait to meet baby Howland and share in the joy of this very special time with her family.

During Mrs Howland's maternity leave, we are pleased to welcome Miss Noakes, who will be teaching Year 3 Kemble after Easter. Miss Noakes joins us as a very experienced and dedicated teacher, bringing a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm to the role. We are confident that she will provide continuity, care and high-quality learning for the children, and we look forward to her becoming part of our school community.

In some sadder news, Mrs Ashcroft will be leaving us in early March. Mrs Ashcroft has been an unwavering supporter of our Catholic mission and a valued member of our school family. Her dedication, faith-filled service and commitment to our children have made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed by staff, pupils and families alike.

We thank Mrs Ashcroft sincerely for all she has given to our school and wish her every blessing for the future.



You Made this Happen!

You might remember that before Christmas our pupils took part in a Santa Run from Cheltenham to the North Pole to help raise funds for new school sports tops. We are delighted to share that the tops have now arrived — and they look fantastic. A huge thank you to everyone who donated; your generosity made this possible. Our Cross Country team proudly wore the new kit at yesterday's event, and they represented our school brilliantly.

Sporting News

Another fantastic win for our girls 2-0 against Rowanfield. Well done girls you were brilliant.

Our Cross country runners did so well on Thursday. We were so proud of everyone, well done!

And finally a huge congratulations to Great Britain's athletes, they smashed their gold medal record at the Winter Olympics 2026. In equalling their record haul of five medals, they have also officially delivered the most successful games in Team GB history.





The Catholic School of Saint Gregory The Great

Part of the Little Way Catholic Educational Trust



Newsletter—Weekly News Digest

Food Parcels

We understand that families can sometimes face financial difficulties, and we want to ensure that support is available when it's needed most. If you would benefit from receiving a weekly food parcel, please sign up via EdulinkOne under "Forms." This process is completely confidential, and parcels can be collected every Tuesday. We kindly ask that any families who are already receiving a food parcel and wish to continue also complete the form.



We are incredibly grateful to our school parents and wider community for their generous donations, which make our Food Parcels possible. As we are a nut free school, we would like to remind families that we are unable to check every donated item for nuts or other allergens. If you or your child has any allergies, please ensure you carefully check all items included in your parcel before use.



The Catholic School of Saint Gregory The Great

Believe & Achieve

Come join our wonderful school community

The Catholic School of Saint Gregory the Great Primary School is a warm, vibrant, and nurturing place where every child is encouraged to thrive. With dedicated staff, a rich and engaging curriculum, and a strong sense of community, we create an environment where children feel safe, supported, and inspired to achieve their best. We are proud of the happy, confident learners who walk through our doors each day. We currently have a small number of spaces available in different year groups, and we would be delighted to welcome new families who are looking for a school that truly puts children at the heart of everything it does. If you know of anyone who would be interested please get them to contact the school office for more information 01242 513 659.



St James Square, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 3QG
admin@st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk, www.st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk
01242 513659



Cheltenham Town Women FC's Sunday home fixtures this March.

Three upcoming HOME matches

Tickets can be bought [HERE](#), or on the gate. All matches will be held at Kayte Lane Stadium, GL52 3PD.

A quick guide to the new Ofsted report cards

Ofsted has recently changed how it reports the outcomes of school inspections, with parents and carers in mind. The new approach is designed to give a clearer and more balanced picture of what is working well in a school and where there may be areas to improve.

Ofsted has created a short video illustrating the new ‘Report Card’ system for parents & carers which we recommend you watch:

[Click here to watch Ofsted’s explainer video](#)

What’s changed?

Schools are no longer given one overall judgement such as *Outstanding* or *Good*. Instead, inspection outcomes are shown on a report card, with separate colour-coded grades for key areas of school life, including:

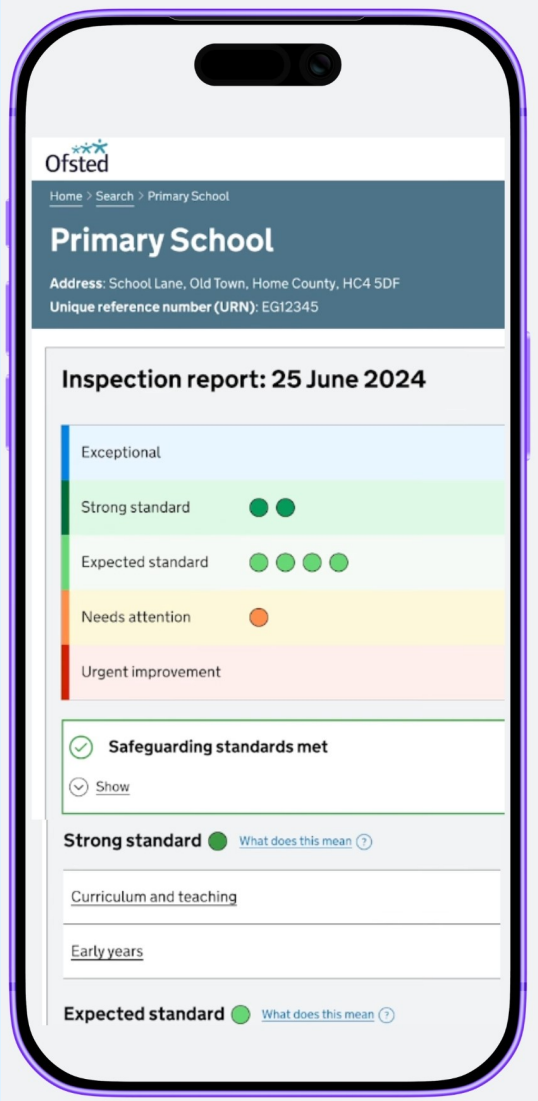
- Attendance and behaviour
- Achievement
- Personal development and wellbeing
- Inclusion (how well the school meets the needs of all pupils)
- Curriculum and teaching
- Leadership and governance

Safeguarding is also reported clearly as either “met” or “not met”.

Understanding the grades

Each area is graded using a new scale:

- Exceptional
- Strong standard
- Expected standard
- Needs attention
- Urgent improvement



An expected standard is a high bar and means the school is doing everything it should be doing for pupils.

Grades above this recognise excellent or exceptional practice and carries an expectation for the school to share its best practice with other schools.

A grade of needs attention is *not* a failure – it highlights areas that need focus before problems grow. It is entirely normal for a school to be stronger in some areas than others and it is becoming common for many schools to have areas that need attention due to the changing expectations on schools nowadays.

What parents will see

Alongside the grades, report cards also include clear, detailed explanations of what inspectors found and what it is like to be a pupil at the school, helping parents understand the full picture.

What this means for our school

For our school, this new approach means inspections focus more clearly on the day-to-day experience of pupils, rather than a single headline judgement. It allows us to celebrate strengths in specific areas, while being open and transparent about where we are continuing to improve. Most importantly, it helps parents see how we support children’s learning, wellbeing and inclusion, and reassures families that high expectations remain at the heart of our work.



EYFS	Iris & Jordan
Y1	Arabella & Tomas
Y2	Rose & Seamus
Y3	Surya
Y4	Lily
Y5	Lena
Y6	Lottie & Damian

Attention Y5— Grammar Tests—Key Dates for Sep-tember 2027 Entry

Registration Opens: Monday, May 18, 2026 (noon).

Book Drive

Bring in your quality preloved or new children's books and the Children's Book Project will gift them to a child in need.

23rd February - 7th March



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OPTICIANS

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region34uk@gkrkarate.com
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HOCKEY

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Cheltenham Junior Hockey Club

REGISTER HERE



Starts 18th April
Venue: CLC Health & Fitness Centre
Time: 08:30-09:30am