

The Catholic School of St Gregory the Great

Believe and Achieve

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Welcome Back & Happy New Year!

Happy 2026!

We hope everyone had a happy Christmas and New Year holiday. It did seem to fly by! However, we are glad to be back at school and raring to go with our new units of learning, exciting plans for the term ahead and lots to look forward to! Do let any of your Year 4 team know if you have any queries or concerns and we will be only too happy to chat or arrange a meeting if more time is needed.

Year 4

Classroom Teachers

Bredon:

Mrs Lewis

Naunton:

Mrs Plews

Teaching Partner

Mrs Chamberlain

Pupil Support

Mr Chamberlain & Mrs Phillips

PPA Cover (1 day/fortnight)

Bredon: Miss Kwiatkowska

Naunton: Mrs Winchcombe

Trips and Visits

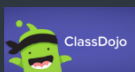
14th Jan- Corinium Museum

Year 4 Information

Class Dojo is one of our communication tools linking together home and school.

Teachers often post class notices/information and the school page is always busy with updates and exciting news. If you are unable to access Class Dojo or have any login issues - please

email parent@st-gregorygreat.gloucs.sch.uk



Your Year 4 Team!



Mrs Lewis



Mrs Plews



Mrs Chamberlain

Our Spring Term Topics are...



Radical Romans

This term we will be learning about the Roman Empire. We are going to be looking at the founding of Rome and then moving on to learn about Roman invasions and the growth of the Roman Empire. We will end our topic by answering our enquiry question: What was the Roman Empire and why was it so powerful?

Linking to this topic, we will be reading '**Escape from Pompeii**' by **Christina Balit** in Guided Reading. Read about this below!

Travel back in time to the days of the Roman Empire and join Tranio, the son of an actor, and his friend Livia, the baker's daughter, in witnessing the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD79.



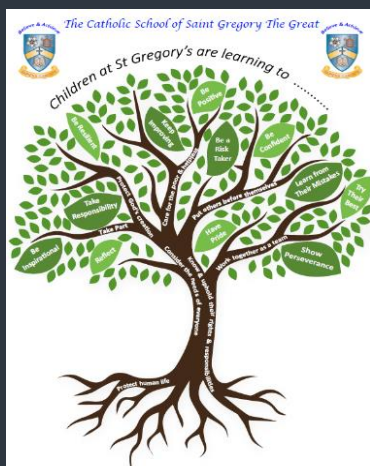
In Term 4 we will complete our geography unit of work focused on volcanoes and earthquakes. We will aim to answer the question, 'Why do volcanoes and earthquakes occur?' by finding out about the structure of the earth, exploring the movement of tectonic plates and considering the impact of volcanic eruptions and earthquakes.

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

The Learner Profile



Our School Rules

Four School Rules



1. Learn well



2. Be safe



3. Respect each other



4. Respect our school



"You get more of the behaviour you notice most!"

Paul Dix

Vocabulary... the Key to Comprehension!



Below is a list of vocabulary that your child will be hearing and using over the term.
Do use the lists to ask your child about the words, what they mean and how they have used them in class.

<u>History</u>		<u>Geography</u>
Age, century, empire, civilisation, settlement, society, culture, conquer, invade, monarchy, primary and secondary source		Hemisphere, longitude, latitude, regions, topographical features, climate zones, trade, natural resources, scale, digital computer mapping
<u>Art</u>	<u>D&T</u>	<u>PE</u>
Lighting, viewpoint, geometric, abstract, technique, style, orientation, composition.	Modify, technique, annotated sketches, innovative, seasonality, savoury/sweet, processed, reared, prepare (food)	Agility, flexibility, opponents, pace, reaction, stamina, formation, rhythm, tactics.
<u>Computing</u>		<u>Science – working scientifically</u>
Design, selection, repetition, software, database, online, offline, applications, video, audio.		Research, scientific enquiry, comparative and fair test, accurate measurements, present, explanations, conclusion, evaluation, instrument, variable

There is a big focus on **times tables in Year 4** and the children will be sitting the government times table test later in this year in June.

In school, we regularly practise times tables with the children using a range of activities, games and teaching strategies. We aim to enable the children to confidently complete their times tables correctly and quickly... they only get 6 seconds to answer a question in the government set test!

Please help us by taking opportunities to rehearse times tables with your child as regularly as possible and ensure that they are regularly completing activities on Times Tables Rock Stars. The 'soundcheck' game is most like the Year 4 government multiplication test.



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/

From little acorns mighty oaks grow!



What Do We Bring to School?

We ask that each child brings in their own reusable water bottle with a sports cap on it **every day**. This bottle must be **clearly named** and taken home every night to be cleaned and refilled with **fresh drinking water only**.

Children have 2 PE lessons every week. They should have a PE kit in school with them every day and all pieces of clothing **must** be clearly labelled and stored in a **soft drawstring bag**. Kit will be sent home before each holiday to be washed. Please make sure your child has appropriate kit for outdoor and indoor sports. This should include, shorts and jogging bottoms. Jewellery should not be worn in PE lessons and long hair should be tied back throughout the school day.

Year 4 children will need their pumps/trainers every day for break and lunch times so that they can use the all-weather pitch.

Remember to name everything that comes into school - particularly school jumpers!

Have you remembered...



Thanks to make you Think!

If elephants ruled the world, what changes would you see?



If I borrow a million pounds, am I a millionaire?



What colour would a zebra be if it lost all it's stripes?



Home Learning!

Spelling activity sheets will be sent home on a **Friday** to be returned and sent in 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.

Times Table Rock Stars Garage Activities will be set weekly and reset at a weekend.

Please read with your child *daily* and sign/record this in your child's planner. The children are expected to read aloud to an adult at home and we ask that at least a signature is made in the children's planners to help monitor their reading.

Oracy is Awesome!



Speaking and Listening is a huge part of your child's daily life and here at school our **oracy** sessions help the children develop their vocabulary and talk with confidence to others.

Oracy is the ability to express yourself clearly and communicate with others effectively through spoken language- a skill your child will use throughout their life. A key part of oracy is for children to think carefully about the language they're using, and tailor it to their subject, purpose and audience. For example, a Year 6 pupil should understand that they need to use simpler words and sentence structures when explaining the rules of a game to a Reception child than they would if they were with their peers.

You can also help- on a car ride, walking to school, eating at the dinner table...whenever you can!

Fun questions you may like to ask your child to encourage language development and thinking skills:

If you could choose just one thing to change about the world, what would it be?

What makes a good friend?

When does loud start?



Where does the sky start?



Is soup a food or a drink?



What is art?