

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. They do 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 6 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 6

Classroom Teachers

Deerhurst:

Mrs Cross

Hartpury:

Mrs Barnes & Mrs Dyer

Teaching Partner

Mrs Witcombe & Mrs Lu

SEND Teaching Partners

Mrs Wood & Mrs Mepee

PPA Cover (1 day/fortnight)

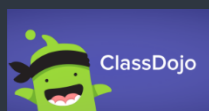
Deerhurst:

Mrs Winchcombe

Year 6 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 6 Team!



Mrs Cross



Mrs Barnes



Mrs Dyer



Mrs Witcombe



Mrs Lu



Mrs Mepee



Mrs Wood



Mrs Mason

Our Spring Term Topics are...Maya and The Amazon

Here's some information about the Maya civilisation:

The Maya are Native Americans of Mexico and Central America. Between about AD 250 and 900, the Maya had a way of life that was very advanced for the time. The Mayan civilization began a fast decline after 900. No one knows for sure why this happened!



As part of our topic on the Maya, the children will be answering the enquiry question – Should we remember the Maya? We will be considering how the past is constructed from different sources, for example artistic representations, and improving our critical literacy by asking questions and judging whether the sources are reliable. We will also be looking at Maya belief systems and social hierarchy.



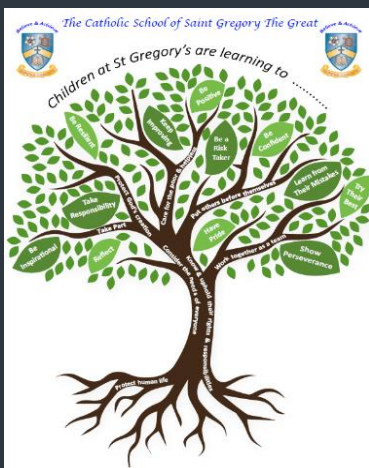
During the second half of the Spring term, we will be learning all about biomes, focusing on the Amazon rainforest. We will be answering the enquiry question – Why does the Amazon rainforest matter?

We will explore different attitudes towards the Amazon rainforest and the impact it has on the environment and different communities.

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 some of the 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. You can even test yourself!

seasonal	longitude	vegetation belts	biome
climate	latitude	bias	civilization
Mesoamerica	ancient	reflection	refraction

Standardised Assessment Tests (SATs) Preparation

As you will be aware, Year 6 children will be sitting external SATs examinations in May. We are working hard to prepare the children for these.

During the Spring Term, all Year 6 children will sit practice SATs tests under the same conditions which they can expect in May. This will help to prepare the children for the official examinations and should relieve some of their anxieties about what the tests will be like. The results from the practice tests will help to inform our teaching in order for us to achieve the best possible outcomes for all children in May.

Based on current guidance, the children will sit their official SATs examinations from 11th to 14th May 2026 and therefore it is crucial that all Year 6 children are in school this week. The children will then have an opportunity to relax and look forward to all the exciting things they have left to enjoy!



Year 6 Production

Yes, it's that time already! We have selected a play for this year's production and will be revealing all later in the month. Auditions for parts in the play will be held on Thursday 12th February and rehearsals will begin around March.

We encourage all children to participate as it provides a valuable opportunity to build confidence and resilience.

We look forward to working with your children and hope that they enjoy every minute.

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 two 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. **We also ask that children are able to remove pierced earrings before PE lessons.**

Remember to name everything that come 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 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.

Maths homework is set every Friday from CanDo Maths booklet and should be handed in the following Friday. Children can also access TTRS to practice fluency and recall of times tables.

Reading Books will be given to your child and changed when they have finished them. We expect your child to read at least 4 times a week. In addition to their school reading book we encourage Y6 to have a different book that they have chosen to read for pleasure. Please encourage your child to bring their own reading book into school.

We may also send home additional revision to help children prepare for end of year assessments.

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?