

Newsletter

Weekly News Digest



Little Way Catholic
Educational Trust

DEC (3) 2025

HOUSE POINTS WINNER

St Bernadette

COOL CATS 100% ATTENDANCE

Kemerton



POSITIVE MIND VIBES

**May the divine
love of God
descend into your
home to make it a
piece of heaven.
This Christmas,
we wish you find
peace &
prosperity. Merry
Christmas!**



A beautiful smart, tidy
uniform.

APP SAFETY GUIDES
[CLICK HERE](#)

A Christmas Message

We know at this time of year there is a pressure to create a perfect magical Christmas for your family. We know that you want to give them the magic of Santa and ensure he brings the best gifts and sometimes that means a lot of stress for you, but I'm writing to tell you something. I wanted to tell you that every January when your child comes back to school they tell their teacher all about ...

- the Christmas holidays
- the days when everyone stayed indoors and watched TV
- the walk in the freezing cold to get a bag of chips
- baking at home
- playing board games and popping out for a walk around in the dark to count the lights outside houses
- how you let them snuggle in your bed for a story
- playing cards and taking them swimming
- a visit to a friend's house on New Year's Eve and how they stayed up really late
- staying in their PJ's some days and a trip out another day.

For them Christmas is YOU and YOUR love and time and routines and feeling safe. YOU are their favourite thing!

Merry Christmas to each and every one of you —let your presence be their present this Christmas!

God Bless you all.
Have a wonderful Christmas holiday.

From all the staff of The Catholic School of St Gregory the Great



Carols by Candlelight

We hope you all enjoyed our Christmas Carol Service. We are so proud of the children and think they did a wonderful job....we hope you did too!



Christmas Shoe Box Appeal



We had over 60 shoe boxes donated to our two charities this Christmas time: St Vincent de Paul and Nelson Trust. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

We were so surprised to see a very friend face come to see all our shoe boxes.



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*"God grant you
the light in Christmas, which is
faith;
the warmth of Christmas,
which is love;
the radiance of Christmas,
which is purity;
the righteousness of
Christmas, which is justice;
the belief in Christmas, which
is truth;
the all of Christmas, which is
Christ."*



EYFS	Flinders & Harshiv
Y1	Willow & Helena B
Y2	Aaden & Freddie
Y3	Adam & Autumn
Y4	Omar & Gus
Y5	Arlo & Leanne
Y6	Zsuliett & Anna

Julia Donaldson

KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR Julia Donaldson film adaptations of her classic children's books, they will be coming to BBC this Christmas, from The Gruffalo, Stickman, Zog, Flying Doctors and more.

Don't forget to have your book so you can read along with the film!

Important

Over Christmas many of our children will be receiving new devices so can we please remind you to KEEP SAFE WHEN USING APPS. Visit our [Online Safety webpage](#) for information and links to help you.



CHRISTMAS MASS – DRESSING UP AND HELPING OUT



The first Mass of Christmas will be 5pm on Christmas Eve in St Gregory's church. This will be a very special Family Mass. All children are encouraged to come to the Mass dressed as a Nativity

character- Mary, Joseph, angels, shepherds, the inn-keeper, sheep, cows, donkeys, stars, Roman soldiers or even the Three Kings. Everyone is more welcome to join this celebration, even if you haven't been to church for a while or, indeed, ever. If any child or young adult would like to help with the Offertory or with reading at this Mass, please email: josephandvyvian@hotmail.co.uk.



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Catholic Social Teaching & Christmas

As we approach the end of a truly busy term and anticipate the arrival of the Baby Jesus at Christmas, we may be forgiven for just wanting to relax and enjoy spending time with our loved ones.

However, Catholic Social Teaching Principles are relevant every day of the year so I thought we might briefly look at how they might apply at Christmas:

1. **Human life is precious – Everybody deserves to be treated with respect, as we are all made in God's image. Do we know someone who is unable to participate in the celebration of Christmas because of a mental or physical disability? Could we help them in any way? – for example by taking a Christmas meal to them or giving them a phone call? Do you know someone who may struggle to get to Mass this year? Could you help?**
2. **Working together as a team – We are asked to recognise that Jesus is present in everyone, especially the poorest. We have worked incredibly hard to offer donations during Christmas collections and collect shoebox gifts for those in need. Organisations such as the St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) work hard to provide extra help to poor families at Christmas – is this something you could help with?**
3. **Consider the needs of everyone – We are called to recognise that the Earth and all its resources belong to every human being – not just the lucky few who are wealthy. Is there an opportunity over Christmas to reflect for a moment on the blessings we have received and consider ways of sharing our wealth with others? Our time is a gift too.**
4. **Care for the poor and helpless– God's love is for everyone but he doesn't side with the rich and the powerful. In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus told us that 'the poor in Spirit were blessed as were the meek and the downtrodden'. We might be sending or planning to send Christmas cards and presents to people we love. Do our plans include anything for the poorest in our community?**
5. **Taking part – We recognise every single person has a special part to play in our St Gregory's community. This has been evident this Advent with acts of kindness happening both in and out of school. Take a moment to look at your own child and think about the special part they play in our school community. Perhaps you could tell them or write in a letter the reasons they are special.**
6. **Care and protection of God's creation – God created this wonderful world in which we all live and we have a duty to look after it responsibly. Christmas can be a time of heightened consumption, can we think about our choices of what we buy and how we dispose of things?**
7. **Put others before yourself – The Church has long taught about the importance of protecting workers' rights where they risk being exploited. Can we increase our understanding of the conditions experienced by the people who produce what we eat and who produce the presents we give and receive? Better still, can we use such insights to influence our decisions so that we act in such a way as to improve the lives of workers and their families?**
8. **Rights and responsibilities – At Christmas time there are often family gatherings. Is there an opportunity for us to make ourselves open to God's healing love when we meet people we have fallen out with?**

Each year we hear the Christmas story afresh even if it is exceedingly familiar. This is captured rather beautifully in a line from the carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" where we sing:

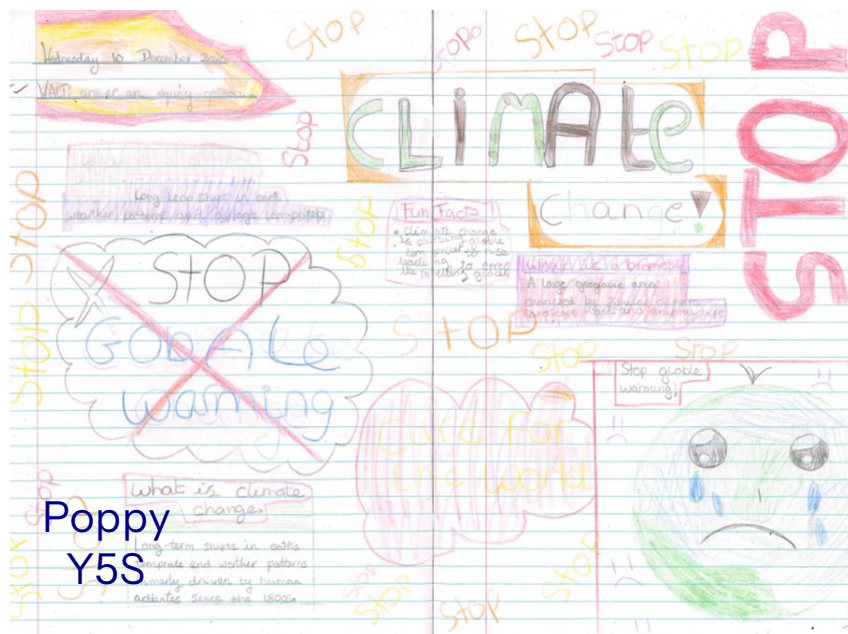
"The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight."

These emotions have been more to the forefront in the last two years than previously and the hope provided by Christmas is more welcomed than ever before.

We hope reading the above has helped you to reflect a little bit on your own perspectives in relation to Catholic Social Teaching and Christmas and serves as something helpful to meditate on.

God Bless our St Gregory's Family!

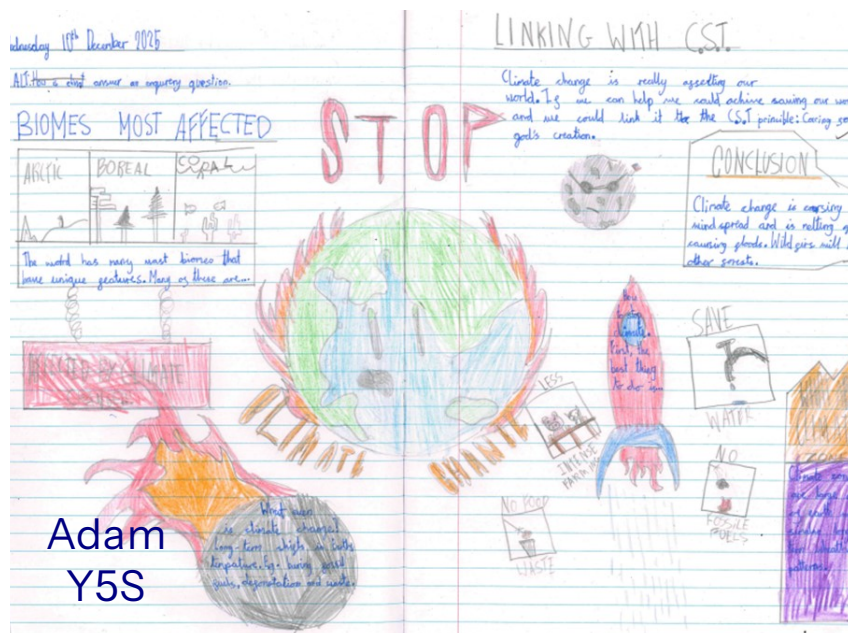
Our wonderful Y5 Climate Change Posters



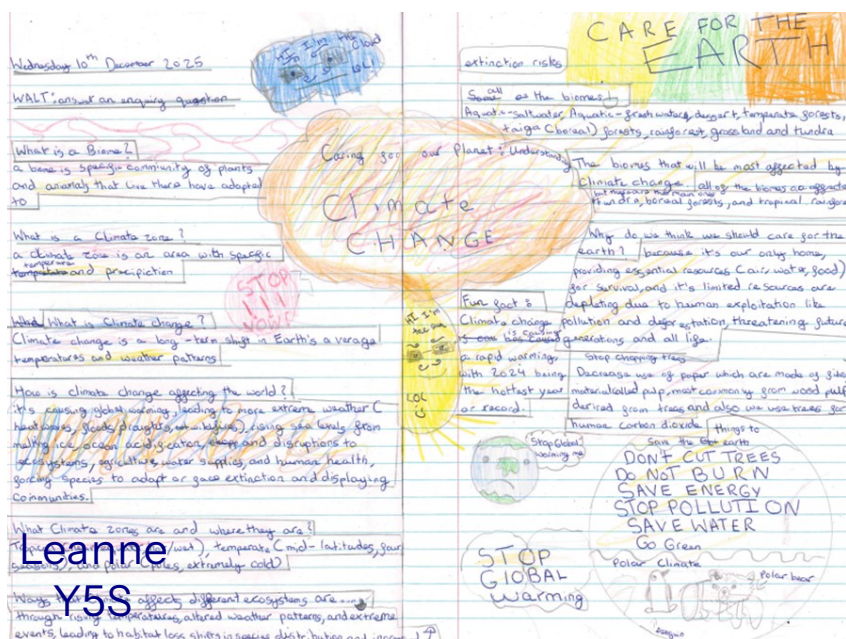
Poppy
Y5S

"We are at a unique stage in our history. Never before have we had such an awareness of what we are doing to the planet, and never before have we had the power to do something about that"

David Attenborough



Adam
Y5S



Leanne
Y5S



THANK YOU
FOR BEE-ING



SO AMAZING

Thank you Mrs Lines— We will miss you

There are so many wonderful things that can be said about Mrs Lines and all that she has done for staff, pupils and the local community.

Most of all we wanted to say a huge thank you for the difference you have made here at St Gregory's! Good Luck for the future and thank you for shaping all of our lives.

St Greg's Choir

Last Tuesday, St Greg's school choir joined the Golden Voices choir (for those living with dementia and their carers) for a special singing session at Waitrose. It was such a joy to see generations come together through music! Our choir has been fortunate to be able to work alongside Caroline from the Everyman Choirs for this collaboration and we're excited for many more creative projects when the Everyman Education Centre opens in Grove Street; we'll be neighbours!



Thank you to both Caroline and Mrs Mason for leading the choirs and bringing them together for this special performance and to all of the families and friends who came to support our children.



Y6

Children from Year 6 visited One Bayshill Road retirement home earlier this week. They entertained residents with some joyful Christmas singing, enjoyed refreshments together and shared Christmas cards they had made for them.

You are invited to

THE CALM CLUB'S HAF WINTER YOGA & CRAFT CAMPS!

Cheltenham
Ages 4-11
Mon 29th Tues 30th Dec
and Fri 2nd Jan at
Springbank Resource
Centre

FREE **THIS**
OR PAID **WINTER**
HOLIDAYS

09.00 AM - 2.00 PM

FUN ACTIVITIES:

- Yoga & Yoga Games
- Seasonal crafts
- Outdoor play & walk
- Warm lunch included

SCAN FOR PAID SPACES

SCAN FOR HAF SPACES

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

gloucestershire
HAF
Helping children & families

THE CALM CLUB
your space and mindfulness



Coffee Morning with our new Headteacher



You're warmly invited to join us for a hot drink and conversation with our new Headteacher, Mrs Penney. Come and say hello!

Friday 9th January 2026 after school drop off.



Safeguarding Message

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been made aware that several titles in the '*According to Humphrey*' series contain a weblink at the back of the book that no longer directs people to information about the books. Instead, the link has been compromised and now leads to inappropriate and unsafe material that should not be accessed by children at any age.

Below are images of some of the front covers in the series to help you identify the books should you have any at home. The link can be found on the back cover or may be also included on a page inside.

For clarity and reassurance, we are not aware of any children who have accessed this link at our school and have removed copies of the book with the weblink from school circulation.

Actions and Next Steps:

- If you have any of these books at home, we advise you to remove them immediately or remove the page with the weblink.
- Be extra-vigilant with all children's books that contain links and ensure that they are checked by an adult.

We are grateful for your continued support in working together to keep our children safe.

