

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## WEEKLY BULLETIN

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Issue 32

### Head Lines

Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of Pentecost, it is sometimes known as the birthday of the Church. It is the day when the Holy Spirit appeared to the apostles and they were given special gifts. This week's Values session, delivered by tutors, has focused on these gifts and the fruits of the Holy Spirit. The seven gifts of the Spirit are: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgement, Courage, Knowledge, Piety (Obedience) and Reverence (Respect). Students have been exploring how we can exercise these gifts in our daily lives in order to further develop our character.

Each morning students begin the day with a prayer and next week we will be introducing the new school prayer. There has been a working party made up of representatives from across the school who have been revisiting the school mission statement and prayer. I would like to finish now with this prayer as we look forward to future and build on all our successes.

God our Father,  
we ask you to bless us and our school.  
Send your Holy Spirit to guide us on our journey and  
help us to walk in your ways,  
where together  
we live,  
love,  
learn and celebrate.  
Through Jesus Christ your Son.  
Amen.

*Mr. S. Tucker (Acting Head of School)*

### Assembly this week

The theme of this week's assembly has been the feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles. Students have been reflecting upon the gifts and fruits of the Spirit and how we see them being used here in our school community.



Jesus told his disciples when He went up to be with his Father in heaven (the Ascension) that he would not leave them alone but leave them a guide, a councillor, and the Feast of Pentecost is when we celebrate that helper arriving. The disciples were all together in a private room when all of a sudden there was a strong wind that came rushing through. Flames appeared on the disciples' heads and they were filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to speak different languages and their words could be understood by others hearing their own languages spoken.

St Gregory the Great Catholic School

 01865 749933  [www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk)  [stgregory@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:stgregory@dbmac.org.uk)

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## PiXL Maths

A big well done to all PiXL Maths App users! We are ranked No.1 in our region for the first time ever. This is based on average questions answered per pupil, and great news leading into exams. The next goal is to break in to the national top three, so keep up the good work!

Rank	School	Qu Answered
1	Ken Stimpson Community School	726.5
2	Collingwood College	626.7
3	Lees Brook Community School	454.1



Results ranking based on average number of questions answered per user:

Region 1	
Rank	School
1	Lees Brook Community School
2	Four Dwellings Academy
3	Wednesfield High Specialist Engineering Acade

Region 2	
Rank	School
1	Westbourne Academy
2	Forest Hall School
3	Attleborough Academy

Region 3	
Rank	School
1	West Hill School
2	Oulder Hill High School
3	Westleigh High School

Region 4	
Rank	School
1	Ken Stimpson Community School
2	Latimer Arts College (The)
3	Stratford-upon-Avon School

Region 5	
Rank	School
1	St Gregory the Great Catholic School
2	Didcot Girls School
3	Challney High School for Boys

Region 6	
Rank	School
1	Grange Technology College
2	Kenton School
3	Dixons Allerton Academy

Region 7	
Rank	School
1	Whitby High School (The)
2	Fulwood Academy
3	St Michaels Church of England High School

Region 8	
Rank	School
1	Hillview School for Girls
2	High Weald Academy (The)
3	Gatwick School (The)

## Half term revision sessions

There will be Maths Revision on the Wednesday in half term (30th May at 10.00 am). Students will have the opportunity to sit a maths paper 2 in exam conditions, have a short break and then go over the paper to see how to guide their final days of revision. We will require pupils to sign up for this - details for this will be given out in tutor time.

Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	BANK HOLIDAY	
Tuesday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	GCSE ENGLISH	9.00 – 3.00pm
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> May	GCSE MATHS	10.00 – 2.00pm
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	GCSE HISTORY A Level MEDIA	9.00 – 2.30pm 10.00 – 12.00

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Teacher Profile – Mr Berry

### Job title – IT Support Technician

I have almost completed my first year as an IT Support Technician at St Gregory's. As most of you know, I used to attend St Gregory's as a student. I have always had a passion about IT, and have always wanted to work with computers at some point in my life, and my role here at St Gregory's has given me an amazing opportunity to do so.

No two days are the same in IT. We have many different IT related problems, requests and issues that arise on a daily basis, but it never gets boring because you are on an endless mission, investigating the cause of many issues.

Besides IT, I have many other interests, including swimming, cycling, website design and photography. I am currently developing my own educational IT platform, which will be publicly available in the coming months.

If there's one thing that I've learned from my time here at St Gregory's, it's that success comes to those who work for it, not wish for it. Life does, and will, get tough – but there's always a bright side to every situation.

If you have any interest in IT, or want to learn more about it, come along to DT6 on a Monday afterschool until 4.10, where I will be teaching about the fundamentals of IT. This is a club for Years 7 – 9 students. For more information, visit me in my office in the Admin Corridor during break or lunch time.

## English Awards

The English department have nominated students for their termly awards. Ms McCabe and the English teachers are really pleased with the continued progress and excellent work of many, but those who deserve a special mention are: Melisa Begu, Joshua Stevens, Aman Kaith, Lily Oates, Jake Francis, Aisha Seguya, Kamille Kvedaravicuite, Novdeep Singh, Oj Levene, Holly Steele and Maicey Ward.

## Mental Health Awareness Week

Last week was Mental Health Awareness Week. The School ran a number of events aimed at encouraging students to talk about Mental Health and gain support. Pastoral Managers ran week long drop in sessions for students, each tutor group took part in a number of activities as part of there Values sessions and the week culminated in a Mental Health Information Fair. Students had the opportunity to speak to professionals from around Oxford including Restore, Donnington Doorstep, NCS, NHS, Viva and Mind.

All Students are encouraged to speak to there Tutor, Pastoral Managers or the School Nurse if they are concerned about there emotional well being.

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Good Shepherd Mass

On Wednesday we celebrated the annual Good Shepherd Mass where the family of diocesan schools gathered together at Corpus Christi church to celebrate. Lily oates writes:

“The Good Shepherd Mass was a great experience. The atmosphere felt very comfortable and relaxed; it really did feel like a community coming together. I really enjoyed listening to the prepared music sung by the primary schools and watching each school come together to present their charitable donations. I hope we can do the same next year!”



## Year 12 & 13 Attendance and Examination Requirements

All students are required to attend lessons until they have sat the final exam for that subject, there is no study leave. Students will be given authorised leave from lessons the afternoon prior to a morning exam and the morning off timetable prior to an afternoon exam.

AS students will return to A2 study on Monday 18th June. Attendance from this date is compulsory for all students until Tuesday 24th July.

## Dance Club

Every Thursday lunchtime in the dance studio there will be a dance club for Years 7 and 8 girls. Look forward to seeing you there. *Miss Szekely*

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Design & Technology - MINI PLANT TOUR



St Gregs Year 10 Product Design students went on a tour of the Mini Plant this week on 23/05/18. Mr Johnson and Mr Thornhill brought two groups during the day and they hope that it will support their coursework and enhance their understanding of many topics associated within the new curriculum. It was also a valuable and fun learning experience in a leading company – a chance to see what they are learning put into practice. Students were amazed by the “RISE OF THE MACHINES” and had many questioning future jobs and opportunities.

## Year 11 Thanksgiving Assembly

As we get closer to Year 11 thanksgiving assembly, 12pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018, it would be fantastic if I could have photographs of your child starting school, either going to primary or secondary school. This will be for the presentation at the assembly.

If you could email any photos or videos to [s.mcevoy@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:s.mcevoy@dbmac.org.uk) that would be great.

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Summer Garden Party



## Chaplaincy News

**Year 9 Retreat to Soli House 6th - 8th June 2018**

Letters have been given out for this Retreat in tutor time. We highly recommend that all year 9 students consider attending this retreat. Spaces are still available.

For more information please contact Fran Walsh [f.walsh@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:f.walsh@dbmac.org.uk)

St Gregory the Great Catholic School

☎ 01865 749933 📧 [www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk) ✉ [stgregory@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:stgregory@dbmac.org.uk)

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Homework Club

JOIN US IN INCLUSION, EVERY MONDAY  
AND  
WEDNESDAY AT 3.15 TO 4PM FOR  
HOMEWORK HANGOUT!

You will receive support and guidance, plus help  
with access to relevant online resources.  
All welcome, refreshments provided.

SEE YOU THERE!!



If you would like a place to catch up with homework, read a book  
or receive help in any area where you need extra support, then  
please come along to: **Homework Hangout**.  
Monday and Thursday Morning before school 8.15-8.45 in the  
Canteen

**Jacari** are running FREE English language classes for  
women this Summer term 2018.

Tuesdays 9-10am: New Marston Primary School

Thursdays 9-10am: East Oxford Primary School

**All levels and abilities welcome! No need to book, just turn up!**

Any questions please email: [mothersclasses@jacari.org](mailto:mothersclasses@jacari.org)

St Gregory the Great Catholic School

☎ 01865 749933 📧 [www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk) ✉ [stgregory@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:stgregory@dbmac.org.uk)

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## Year 11 GCSE Revision sessions

Each student should attend at least three revision sessions per week. At the end of your revision session make sure you get your revision booklet signed.

	Before school ( 8.00 – 8.45 )	Lunchtime (1.40 – 2.05)	After school (3.15-4.15)
<b>Monday</b>		Art	Maths Sport BTEC
<b>Tuesday</b>	Geography English intervention	Art	Science Sociology
<b>Wednesday</b>	Art	Art	D & T – Product Design / Food Technology Sport BTEC Business Studies Art (Mr Strongitharm) Performing Arts German
<b>Thursday</b>	English intervention Science – 6+ only (8.10 – 8.35 Mr Price)	Art	English History IT Art (Mrs Bunch) Performing Arts
<b>Friday</b>		Art	RE French Art (Mr Cerioni)

The Summer Exam Timetable is available on the School Website.



St Grege are delighted to announce the Year 11 Prom tickets are now on Sale. You can either purchase them through the school Parentpay £25 or can pay cash to Ms Pauline Read or Miss Jewell (we are happy to take instalments) Please email any questions or concerns to: [d.jewell@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:d.jewell@dbmac.org.uk)

St Gregory the Great Catholic School

☎ 01865 749933 📧 [www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.stgregory.oxon.sch.uk) ✉ [stgregory@dbmac.org.uk](mailto:stgregory@dbmac.org.uk)

# St Gregory the Great Catholic School

## EAL & Homework Club

EAL Club runs every Tuesday after school from 3.10 - 4.00 pm and anybody with an EAL background is more than welcome to come along for help with homework. They can pick up a consent letter from EAL.

If anyone has any good used foreign language dictionaries in good condition at home which are no longer used, please would you consider donating them to the school to help our young learners?

## Important dates:

Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 1 <sup>st</sup> June	May Half term Holiday
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> – Fri - 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 9 Retreat to Soli House
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Year 11 Leavers Service (12 noon)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Yr 13 Prom
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Feast of Ss Peter & Paul (Whole school Mass)
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Garden Party (6 – 9pm)
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	Yr 11 Prom
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> July	Last Day of School Year (early closure - midday)

## Attendance

Please note that St Gregory the Great Catholic School does not give permission for leave of absence. Please arrange any holidays outside of school term time. Likewise where possible please ensure dentist and doctor appointments are made outside of the school day. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. Every day lost in education has a negative impact on student achievement and we want to do the very best for all of our students.

## Uniform

It's great to see students arriving each day looking smart and ready for school in their navy blue St Gregory's uniform. Thanks to parents and carers for supporting our new uniform. Can I please ask that all students wear appropriate coats to school. Hoodies are not part of the school uniform and if an extra layer is needed under blazers only the official school jumpers are allowed to be worn.

If you are thinking of purchasing new footwear for school, please buy black leather school shoes *not* trainers. Trainers are only worn for PE lessons.

Remember that students not in correct uniform will be sent home to change, or will work in isolation from other students. We also have a ready supply of second hand uniform which we can provide on a temporary basis if necessary. If your child arrives out of uniform, her/his Head of Year will follow this up with you.