

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School

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www.stgregoryscatholicprimaryschool.org.uk



Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for all of your support this term. It has been a busy term with so much to be proud of.

We are delighted to have had our very first Spelling Bee Finals this week. Congratulations to our winners: Nona from year 1, Elliott from year 2, Ceres from year 3, and Alannah and Ethan from year 5 who won the Upper KS2 competition. I am really proud of all of our pupils who took part and thankful to the parents who supported them in preparation for the competition.

I am also really proud of the children who participated in our Easter production of Roll Back the Stone and for the wonderful artwork prepared for our Easter reflection on Tuesday.

Our sports teams are continuing to fare well in all competitions with year 3 & 4 winning at last week's athletics tournament and their girl's football tournament at Boothville on Wednesday. Thanks to the parents attending the parent and child fitness group on Tuesdays. There are spaces available if anyone else would like to sign up.

I am really proud of all of our year 2 and 6 children who have been working hard to develop their reading, arithmetic and problem solving skills to help them in their upcoming SATS tests. I have been really impressed with their positive attitudes, resilience and desire to be the very best they can be.

I have also been really proud of the way year 1 have been learning about Missio – a charity that exists to support with the faith development of children around the world. You can [learn more about this charity here](#).

Finally, despite the colder, temperamental weather, it is actually springtime, a time when nature is even more beautiful and inspiring than usual. To celebrate this, we are launching our annual Awe and Wonder photo competition this Easter. Children are asked to photograph something they see which fills them with Awe or Wonder. They can either write something about their photo or should be able to explain it to us when they return. The 12 winning photos will not only be displayed in school but will also make up a school calendar which will be available for purchase from school.

I wish you a joyful and blessed Easter,

Niamh Rolph

Upcoming Events

April 5

School and Nursery close to pupils until 23rd April

April 19

Good Friday

April 21

Easter Sunday

April 22

Easter Monday

April 23

School and Nursery open to pupils until 23rd April

April 23

Saints Study Centre Induction Day

Year 1 Announcement

Thank you for your support of your child's project in collecting for Missio. Please remember there's no pressure about the amount of money in their boxes; we just wanted the children to begin thinking about sharing what they own with others. You can send in the box with your child the day they return to school. Thank you again for your support.

More Important News

Easter Liturgy

Each school class and the nursery had a station to present in their chosen way to the whole school. During our Easter assembly our classes sat together in a group, rather than the usual rows, we sat not in year group order but the station order. When the cross came to our class we presented our station in the format we had prepared – words, actions, art, prayer or scripture. The Nursery presented 'The Resurrection' to the whole school with an amazing dance with colourful ribbons. The children were very brave and the older year groups felt very proud of them. It was a varied and beautiful assembly.

"Learning about the Stations of the Cross was actually interesting. We learnt about Jesus' journey carrying the Cross. Jesus felt miserable and angry because he didn't do a thing wrong. I learnt Jesus was in pain and His feet and hands were dripping in blood." - Anjali

"Learning about the Stations of the Cross was fun. We learnt about how Jesus felt about carrying the Cross. I thought these lessons were very interesting. I and my classmates did Conscious Alley focusing on the emotions and feelings of Jesus while He struggled carrying the Cross." – Emily



PTFA

Thank you to our PTFA for providing our pupils with an Easter colouring competition and the chance for two pupils from each class, from Nursery to Year 6, to win a yummy Easter egg.

Winners were announced in the end of term Celebration Assembly on Friday. Well done to everyone who took part, it was a really difficult decision to pick the winners!

PTFA Under 3s Group

This term, we have continued our weekly Baby and Under 3s Group thanks to our PTFA volunteers Kim and Tina. Next term our Nursery and Foundation Stage teachers will host some rhyme time and mud kitchen activities. The group meet on Wednesdays during term time in our Emmaus Room 9:15 –10:15 a.m. Anyone with a child under 3 is welcome to attend – you can be a grandparent, uncle, aunt etc. If you would like to be involved and help on a regular basis we would welcome this but would need to apply for a DBS Check. For more information contact Kim by email:

st.gregoryspfta@gmail.com

Stations of the Cross at St Gregory's Church

On the evening of Friday 29th March we attended St Gregory the Great Catholic Church to lead the Stations of the Cross. Photos from the event can be seen on [our school website](#).

"At St Gregory's Church for the Stations of the Cross, it was a dream come true because I was so happy to be part of it. It also tells us the stations Jesus went through on His journey. It taught me how He loves all of us equally. Jesus sacrificed His life for us." – Lily

"I liked the Stations of the Cross in St Gregory's Church because learning about the Stations was really fun. I enjoyed that the Stations at St Gregory's included an opportunity to sing. The event helped me to reflect on the different stages before Jesus died. Being part of the evening strengthened my confidence to speak about the Stations of the Cross in front of other people." – Year 4 pupil

Lenten Community Spirit

We would like to say a huge thank you to the staff and all the families that joined us while supporting the Friends of Eastfield Park on Saturday 6th April, during their 'Spring Clean'. It was a wonderful way to do something for others in our local community during our Lenten journey.

Many that supported on the day had not been to the park for a long while and had forgot quite how big or beautiful it is. The event was very well organised by [the Friends of Eastfield Park \(FOEP\)](#) and Northampton Borough Council and we all had fun while doing some good, see [our photo gallery here](#).

"We received this world as an inheritance from past generations, but also as a loan from future generations, to whom we will have to return it!"
Pope Francis, Ecuador 2015.

Thank you again to all who attended, your efforts were very gratefully received by FOEP and we are so proud to have so much support that the school was represented at both the morning and afternoon session.



Year 2

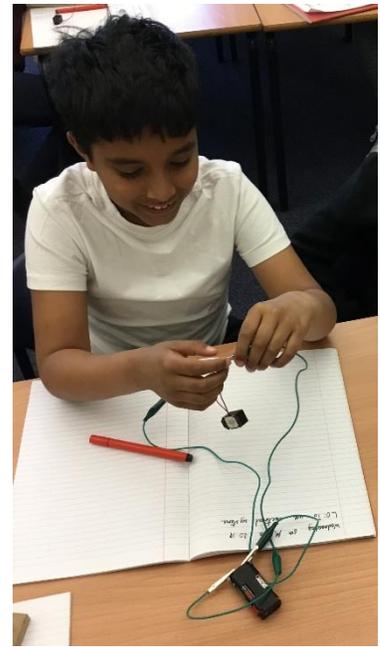
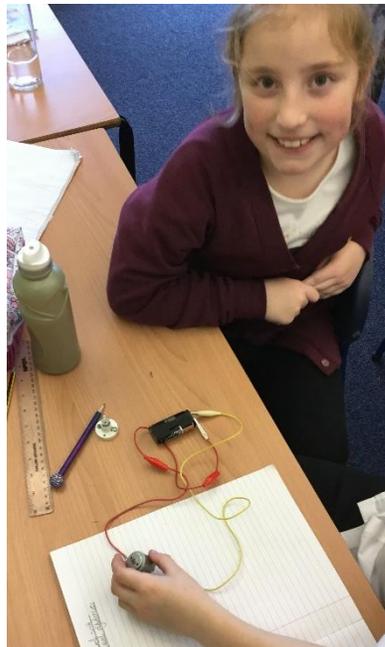
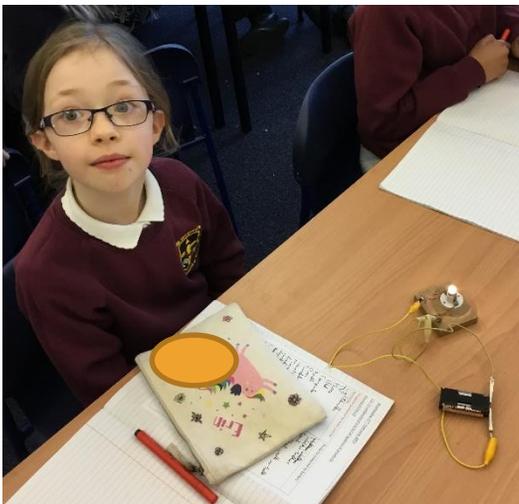
This term year 2 have been focusing a lot on their maths, reading and grammar skills in preparation for their SATs in May. We have been having our usual maths and literacy lessons in the morning and having a big focus on reading and arithmetic in the afternoons. The children have worked so hard with this and are all aiming to be the best they can be. I am so proud of them all. In addition to this we have been learning about Nelson Mandela as part of our Africa topic. The children were very enthusiastic about this and have written letters to Nelson Mandela using their amazing writing skills. We have been using music in the class to not only develop our musical skills but also to think about how we can stay calm and relaxed in the classroom. We have been doing some Zumba and sound journeys. The children have worked so hard this term and are really working on their handwriting, I hope to be able to give out some more sparkly pencils and also pen licences next term.

Miss Earl, Year 2 Class Teacher

Science in Year 4

"This term in science, we have been learning about electrical circuits. We also have learnt how they work and what to use. We have tried using them in different ways to make the bulb light up. In our lessons, we talked about how the electricity goes through the wires. Furthermore, we took a test with many materials to see which can complete the circuit and make a bulb light. Not all of them worked, it taught me which materials can and cannot conduct electricity." - Kayla

"This term in science we've been learning about electricity. We've been learning about electrical circuits and conducting electricity. We drew pictures of our electrical circuits. We did an experiment about what materials conduct electricity and it was very fun. The science lessons we've had made me feel happy." – Erin



Year 6

Year Six have had a super busy term with preparing for their SATs tests which take place on the week commencing of 13th May. We have been fully engaged in making sure that all areas of grammar are secure as well as understanding different reading skills. In maths, we have been reviewing and revising a variety of areas of maths, including ratio and shapes, and have been securing our knowledge with arithmetic skills.



Year Six have been looking at the design and structure of World War One planes in their art lessons and have made scaled models of these. Come and check them out outside the year six classrooms.

Mrs. Reeves and Miss Wright
Year 6 Class Teachers



Pacesetter Games Tournaments

Our school were represented by the Years 3 and 4 teams and Years 5 and 6 teams, on the 29th March and 5th April respectively, at the Pacesetter Sports Athletics Tournaments held at Benham Sports Arena. Both were fantastic days with the children experiencing a competitive level in the following disciplines and many more: long jump, triple jump, discus, javelin, hurdles and running races.

Some of us learned not to let the doubts creep in to our thoughts before a difficult race, but to have faith and try our best - when we do this we can't let anyone down.

In fact the person concerned amazed himself and achieved a first place in their running race!



We were delighted with a 1st place position from the Years 3 and 4 teams on 29th March. The children's score exceeded any other school on the day and they showed great comradery in their support for each other. That's yet another piece of silverware for the trophy shelf!

On 5th April Years 5 and 6 had some brilliant individual achievements but the final score meant we

just missed out on a top 3 placing. Mr. Anthony and Mr. Williams were very proud of the teams and in particular of Bobby and Isaac for representing the school in an exemplary fashion; and for Henry, Fatima, Condy and Mesoma each for their sporting excellence.

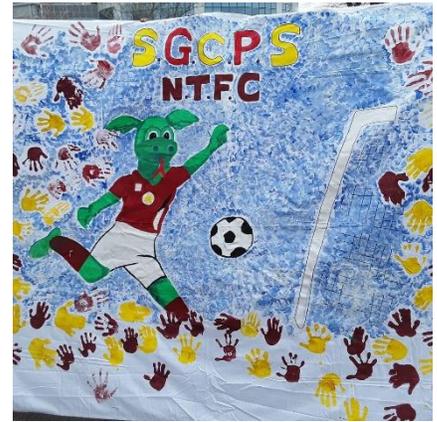
Well done to everyone who has took part in and contributed toward a magnificent score, from several tournaments held since autumn term. Thank you too to our staff and Mr. Anthony who have trained with, supervised and supported the children at the events. Our school is only 2 points behind St Mary's Catholic Primary School and everything is to play for! The next event before the Finals is the Foundation Stage Multi-Skills Tournament on 24th May. Come on Foundation Stage, you can do it!

Northampton Town Football Club Match Day Experience

For those of you who follow us on Twitter and Instagram you might have already seen the news that on Saturday 30th March we were guests of the Northampton Town Football Club Community Trust, at their Community Day, held at the PTS Stadium.

We also entered a schools competition to design a banner for Northampton Town Football Club (NTFC) and are extremely proud to announce that we won 1st place!

Our children will receive a visit from the NTFC mascot Clarence the Dragon and hopefully a player, in the near future. The children also participated in a pre-match lap of honour around the football pitch with other community groups including the Northampton Town Ladies' Team, the NTFC multi-disability teams and the NTFC walking football team.



At half time local restaurant Bella Italia and Batman delivered a pizza to the stadium in a competition for the fans with the loudest cheer. Guess who won!

See our photos on [the school website](#) and also [click here](#) to be taken to our Twitter account to see a video of our lap of honour.

Well done to all our Premier League Primary Star Readers for a fantastic term and especially to those that have won additional prizes from our tutor Jamie for their hard work and achievements.

Term Dates

Please remember we are back to school on Tuesday 23rd April. The term dates for this and the next academic year are available on [the school website](#).

We wish you a restful break and a Happy Easter.

See you when School and Nursery reopen on Tuesday 23rd April.