

# THE NET

'One Family, Inspired to Learn'



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



- Friday 26th May**  
End of term
- Monday 5th June**  
Start of term
- Friday 9th June**  
Parenting Support Session
- Tuesday 13th June**  
Immunisations
- Tuesday 20th June**  
Immunisations
- Thursday 22nd June**  
Parenting Support Session
- Thursday 29th June**  
Yr10 Engage Evening
- Thursday 20th July**  
End of School Year

## STAFFING

- Farewell to:**
- Mrs Faulke** - Exams Officer
  - Mrs Dutton** - Science Technician
- Welcome to:**
- Mr Fitton** - ICT Network Technician
  - Mrs Walsh** - Attendance Officer
  - Mrs Austin** - Y7 & Y8 Mathematics Lead
  - Mr Barton** - Science Subject Leader
  - Mrs Reed** - Science Technician

## THIS TERMS NEWSLETTER

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Literacy News .....               | 2 |
| LRC News.....                     | 2 |
| Fiction Addiction .....           | 2 |
| Cheshire Book Awards Trip .....   | 2 |
| National Numeracy Day .....       | 2 |
| Word Search.....                  | 3 |
| Signs of Summer.....              | 3 |
| Meet the Teacher - Miss Gaur..... | 3 |
| Photography Competition .....     | 4 |
| Meet the Teacher - Mr Ellis ..... | 5 |
| Open Mic Night .....              | 5 |
| FP & Nutrition .....              | 5 |
| Poetry by Anonymous .....         | 6 |
| Our Revision Tips.....            | 6 |
| Chaplaincy News .....             | 6 |
| Safeguarding .....                | 7 |
| E-book Platform .....             | 8 |
| DT/ Engineering Open Evening..    | 8 |
| Back of the Net.....              | 8 |

## MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD

This term may have been short but it has been full of action and important events for the St. Gregory's community. Yr11 have now completed two weeks of their exam schedule. This all started with a special mass said by Father Dave which was a fitting way to commence such a challenging period for them.

I have been so impressed by the attitude of Yr11 and every one of them will be in our prayers for their successful performance in each subject. We will miss Yr11 when they leave, but we look forward to celebrating with them at their prom and then again on results day as they embark on their new chapters at college or on apprenticeships.

The half term has also been defined as one of 'service' with our pupils once again supporting each other, the wider community and contributing to special events. Our SVP group attended care homes in the local community and our 'wear it green' day was a huge success to support mental health awareness.

Our pupils have been showing their talents beyond their academic abilities too, and no greater example of this is of the whole school photography competition in which we were inundated

with entries. This competition was a wonderful showcase of extra curricular talent and certainly added colour and flair to the school. Pupils have also enjoyed competing in other competitions including languages, attending universities and drama club. Pupils have been out completing the Duke of Edinburgh award and winning awards for MMA.

The coronation of the King took place in early May and St. Gregory's marked the occasion with many events and royal themed food!

The Open Mic night was an incredible showcase of talents, and we clearly have some future start performers in our midst at St. Gregory's.

As you can see, our pupils and staff have been busy this short half term. We take a break for Whit now and look forward to a strong end to the academic year, and look forward to our final half term as we welcome visitors from local primary schools for taster days and transition events.



**Mr McGlinchey**  
Head Teacher

## YEAR 11 MASS AND EXAMS

Our Yr11s attended mass, led by Father Dave, to celebrate and reflect on their time at St. Gregory's this term as they begin their GCSE exams.

We are so proud of all you have achieved in these first few weeks of exams Yr11.



## LITERACY NEWS

| Word of the Week |           |
|------------------|-----------|
| Strategy         | Facetious |
| Genial           | Insidious |
| Embarrass        |           |

### Heroes and Villains Board Game

This term, our Yr7 pupils are having a fantastic time creating board games based on literary heroes and villains during their literacy lessons. We have had some superb ideas including board games based on the Wizard of Oz, Goldfish Boy, The Hunger Games and many more! Pupils are busy devising their own rules and game pieces, demonstrating wonderful creativity inspired by reading. Well done, Yr7!

### Exploring Obsolete Words

Have you ever heard of an oxtter? How about a sluberdegullion? Last half term our Yr8 pupils have learnt

about the way languages change and grow over time. They very much enjoyed exploring the definitions of obsolete vocabulary in the English language - including these two examples!

### Accelerated Reader

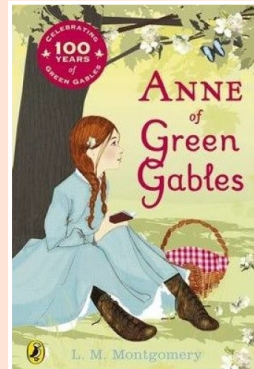
Our Yr7 and Yr8 continue to show ambition and tenacity with their progress on the Accelerated Reader programme. We are delighted to have so many word millionaires and love celebrating the increases in pupil word count on a weekly basis. It is a joy to see pupils engage with reading for pleasure on this scale!

Our current podium leaders for quizzes passed are 7g2 (1,700+), 7s3 (1640+) and 7G4 (1500+), and for words read the top 3 are 7g2 (23,105,600+), 7G1 (22,935,100+) and 7S1 (17,304,000+). Well done!

Dr McCooley-Heap

## FICTION ADDICTION

This terms book review has been written by one of our Yr 8 pupils.



### Anne of Green Gables

Anne of Green Gables, by LM Montgomery, is a coming-of-age novel written in 1908 and the first in a series of eight books. It follows the story of an imaginative orphaned 13-year-old girl who is unexpectedly taken in by an elderly couple who were awaiting a boy, and how she adapts to life in Avonlea. The many themes such as friendship, learning from mistakes, the power of imagination and romance in the later books make me highly recommend this book, and it's impossible not to love Anne with her relatability & charm!

## NATIONAL NUMERACY DAY

St. Gregory's Catholic High School took part in our first 'Big Number Natter' this term. Form groups talked about maths and numbers, staff shared with pupils and each other their thoughts about maths, unusual number facts, tips for solving mathematical problems in exams, and careers involving maths.

All Yr7 and 8 pupils where invited to take part in a 'Number Heroes' competition. The deadline is 31st May and more details can be found here:

[Number Heroes competition](#) | [National Numeracy](#)

All children and adults over the age of 13 can complete a Numeracy challenge available here

[Challenge](#) | [National Numeracy](#)  
This website has a wealth of information that helps to improve maths and numeracy skills for people of all ages.

Thank you to everyone who was involved!

Mrs Holman

## LRC NEWS



### Eplatform rewards

Our e-platform continues to grow from strength to strength with many of our pupils enjoying the benefits of reading their favourite titles as a digital loan. Our top three borrowers were rewarded with a prize and achievement points this term. If you haven't checked already, there are over 1500 titles, with new additions each month.

### Short story competition

May is National Short Story month and with this in mind the LRC launched our own short story

competition. Anyone can enter, the stories must be 500 words or less, and can be on any topic. The closing date is 26th May and your entries can be handed in or emailed to Mrs Huckerby. Good luck!

### Coronation activities

The LRC had its own celebrations ahead of the kings coronation and were joined by the RE department who offered a royal quiz challenge. Thank you to everyone who came and took part.

Mrs Huckerby

## CHESHIRE BOOK AWARDS TRIP

On May 23rd our 'One more chapter' reading club attended the Cheshire schools book award ceremony at Winsford Academy. The event was attended by five of the chosen authors Simon James Green, Kate Martin, Cynthia Murphy, Tom Palmer and Lisa Thompson. It was a fantastic opportunity for our pupils to meet such successful authors and listen to them talk about their books. The schools taking part, including St. Gregory's, were able to read the nominated books and vote for their favourite. The winning book in the older reader category was 'Win Lose Kill Die' by Cynthia Murphy, a

popular choice with St. Gregory's reading group as it was our favourite to win too! Mrs Huckerby



Photographed by Mark, Yr10

# HARRY POTTER AND FANTASTIC BEASTS WORD SEARCH

CREATED BY ONE OF OUR BOOK CLUB MEMBERS

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| F | H | G | C | H | F | T | R | O | M | E | D | L | O | V |
| H | A | R | Y | G | Q | U | E | E | N | I | E | L | M | G |
| A | B | N | D | Z | I | J | Q | M | M | I | P | O | N | R |
| R | O | N | T | E | K | S | P | T | E | T | N | N | J | I |
| R | E | S | C | A | M | A | N | D | E | R | Y | A | I | N |
| Y | N | H | T | N | S | N | A | P | E | W | C | E | R | D |
| P | O | E | X | R | E | T | A | T | R | O | E | N | X | E |
| O | I | D | H | Y | G | R | I | N | B | E | L | W | A | L |
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| E | E | G | B | P | T | B | R | W | X | E | G | O | D | L |
| R | H | A | G | R | I | D | B | Y | S | G | A | E | E | D |
| P | W | W | N | S | A | A | A | Y | A | L | I | S | A | Y |
| S | N | I | E | T | S | D | L | O | G | A | N | I | T | Y |
| T | R | I | W | I | Z | A | R | D | R | Y | R | X | R | S |

FANTASTIC  
BEASTS

TINA  
GOLDSTEIN

HERMIONE

VOLDEMORT

GRINDELWALD

QUEENIE

RON

HAGRID

SCAMANDER

JACOB

SNAPE

DOBBY

DUMBELDORE

HARRY POTTER

TRIWIZARD



## MEET THE TEACHER MISS GAUR



Interviewed by  
Mark Yr10 and  
photographed  
by Beth Yr10.

**What made you want to become a teacher?**

"When I was younger, I had not really decided what I wanted to do. I knew I loved physics, so thought about working with a big aerospace company, but I really liked working with people. I worked for Oxfam for a while and while I was with them, I lead training. People seemed to really like how I did the training sessions, so that's why I decided to go into teaching. My mum and dad are also teachers and they encouraged me as well."

**How long have you been teaching a St. Gregory's**

"This is my 11th year at St. Gregory's as a science teacher."

**Who is your favourite scientist in the world and why?**

"I think it would be Isaac Newton. He asked why things happen, which people didn't really do at the time."

**If you weren't a teacher, then what would you be?**

"I wanted to be an astronaut, but I didn't think I had what it took to be a fighter pilot, Nasa at the time only took people that had experience as a fighter pilot."

**What's your favourite book?**

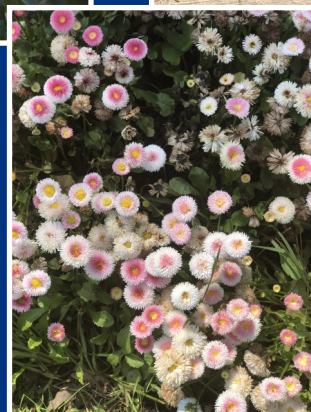
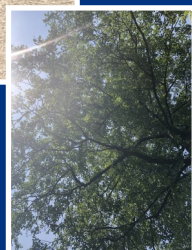
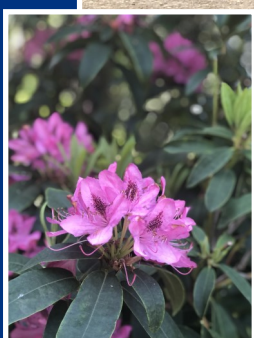
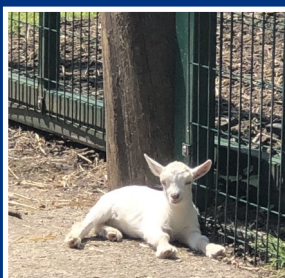
"Anything from Terry Pratchett's Discworld series"

**What football team do you support?**

"Westham United!"

## WALTON GARDENS - SIGNS OF SUMMER

One of our Yr10 student Beth, who recently visited Walton Gardens and captured the start of Summer. Excellent photography skills!



# PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Wow! We had over 90 images submitted for the Spring photography competition and we at St. Gregory's are so proud of all those that entered and of how amazing your photographs are! Here are our winning entries.

## 1st Place



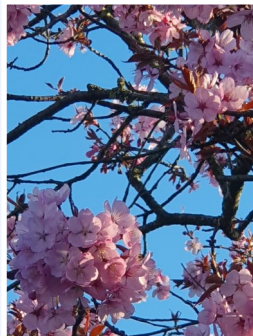
By Oliver Yr. 7

## Teacher's Choice



By Jacob Yr. 7

## Pupil's Choice



By Izabela Yr. 9

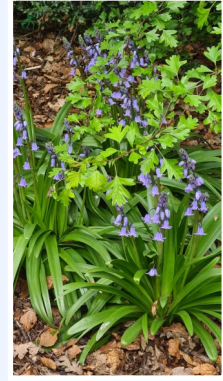
## 2nd Place



By Daniel Yr. 8



By Leon Yr. 11

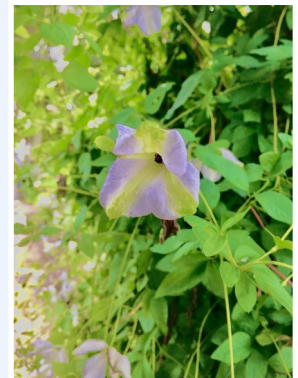


By Alice Yr. 8

## 3rd Place



By George Yr. 9



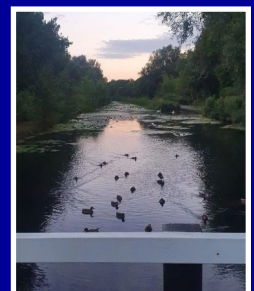
By Beth Yr. 10



By Serena Yr. 7

A big thank you to everyone that joined in. Here are just a few of the other beautiful images entered.

Mrs Hennessey





## MEET THE TEACHER MR ELLIS



Interviewed and photographed by Leo Yr10

### Who inspired you to teach?

"My science teachers when I was at school. I picked my A-level sciences because of my inspirational teachers. I really enjoyed going to the lessons."

### What subjects did you take at school?

"The three Sciences, Geography and French"

### What made you choose teaching as a career?

"Well, I worked with some youth groups and enjoyed working with young people, I also took my degree in science. I originally worked in a lab, but it's a lonely job. I have always loved science and working with children, so I decided to put the two together and become a teacher."

### Other than being a teacher, what job would you like to do?

"I always liked the idea of becoming a gardener or a landscaper"

### What was your favourite book?

"I like reading historical fiction & historical books by an author Bernard Cornwell. He has written books about the American Civil war, the Vikings and series of books called Sharpe."

### Why or what makes you enjoy teaching?

"Every day is different, you all keep me on my toes! I like the fact that at St. Gregory's you have lots of pupils that love science. You all ask a lot of interesting questions."

### In your opinion, is a Jaffa Cake a biscuit or a cake?

"It's a cake."

## OPEN MIC NIGHT



We were delighted to deliver our very first St Gregory's Open Mic Night – what a

family!

Special thanks to our wonderful presenters Max (Yr10) and Coco (Yr10) who have made our show even more fun and exciting!

Thanks to our fantastic sound and lighting technician – George (Yr9)! Huge well done and congratulations to Elliot (Yr9) who wrote and performed his own original song 'What can I do for you?'

And of course, congratulations to all our AMAZING performers:

Emily (Yr8), Anna (Yr10), Max (Yr10), Olivia (Yr10), Kadance (Yr9), Sasha (Yr9), Brice (Yr8), Amy (Yr10), Scarlett (Yr7), Tia (Y7), Melissa (Yr10) and Coco (Yr10).

Keep your eyes peeled because the Open Mic Night is coming back soon!

You do not want to miss it!

The next Open Mic Night is going to be even bigger!

Miss Krusinskyte

On 9th May Tuesday, St. Gregory's Music Department and its most committed musicians presented a delightful afternoon filled with wonderful music! It was truly inspiring to watch all of our performers from Yr7 to Yr10 performing with so much confidence and demonstrating excellent stage presence. Our performers prepared a variety of genres with a carefully selected repertoire from original songs to famous artists such as Sam Fender and Adele, from solos to duets, from peaceful and lyrical songs to entertaining acts! The music department is truly blessed to have so many talented young musicians and we are always looking forward to welcome new members to our Musical Theatre



## FOOD PREPARATION AND NUTRITION

Yr9 have been busy making fibre rich biscuits in their practical's. Great job Yr9!



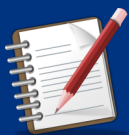
## OUR REVISION TIPS

Written by Emma and Brannagh Yr10

After revising and sitting mock exams this year we found these 6 extremely useful ways to study for an exam where the most effective. They are:

### Number 1 – Blurting

This technique includes reading a page from a textbook and studying it until you're confident. Next, you put that page out of sight and write on paper how much you remember. This way you can compare and recognise the areas you aren't as familiar with.



### Number 2 – Past Papers

Printing off past papers and working through them can be useful. You could do this in exam conditions with the recommended time or at a slow pace to properly work through the questions.

### Number 3 – Online Resources

There are many useful online resources. Some are provided by St.

Gregory's and others you can find online, these include Seneca, Quizlet, Mathswatch, GCSE pod, method maths and BBC Bitesize.

### Number 4 – Repetition

Repetition is extremely helpful. You can execute this strategy by re-reading notes, explaining topics to various people or even make useful posters and place them around your house, such as in your bedroom, to be constantly accessible.

### Number 5 – Flashcards/ Revision Cards

Flashcards/ revision cards are very useful, especially when focusing on key facts and events or a way to answer questions quickly you simply write a question on one side and the answer on the other. You can always ask a friend to quiz you!

### Number 6 – Key Words

When it comes to key words, you could also invent songs/ rhymes to remember key information. Other

ways to remember them include doing word searches or crosswords, using actions for each one, making match up games for word and descriptions and using acrostic poems to allow you to remember the words.

### Always remember -

#### Give yourself time.....

Make sure you are taking breaks and stay hydrated when you are revising to help you retain information and to stop you from getting tired. It's also very important to not leave revision until the last minute or to revise late at night. This will make revision much more stressful and rushed and potentially affect your sleep, and it's important to have a good night's sleep before an exam.

We would recommend revising a little every day, even if it's only for a few minutes. It makes revision much easier and far less stressful!



## POETRY BY ANONYMOUS

Written by a St. Gregory's Yr. 10 pupil

### When I grow up

When I grow up, I'll go out and earn money,  
I'll get a husband, get a house, and I'll even buy a bunny,  
When I grow up, I won't even need to go to school, I'll wear my own clothes, wear my shades, and I'll always look cool,  
When I grow up, I'll live next door to my best friend,  
We'll see each other every day, the fun will never end,  
When I grow up, I will have all the latest things,  
The newest iPhone, one that doesn't crash when it dings,  
I can't wait to be an adult,  
I can't wait to grow up.

When I was young, I used to get pocket money,  
Now I don't even laugh when I find something funny,  
When I was young, I used to go to school,  
I learnt new things every day and it was really cool,  
When I was young, I used to have lots of cool things,  
Now I have an old phone, that doesn't even ding.  
I wish I was young again.

## CHAPLAINCY NEWS



### Woodleigh Care Home

Some of the Yr 7 and 8 chaplaincy teams as well as some from our SVP group went on a visit to Woodleigh Care Home last week.

They got to have tea and biscuits with the residents and learn all about what they did for jobs and their favourite things to do in their spare time. All the students and residents really enjoyed the afternoon, and we hope to visit again soon!



### Faith in Action

A total of 12 students have all completed their portfolios this month to complete their Faith in Action Award. Students from Yr7-9 have been working hard all year round both in school and in their local community in order to complete the award. They have all been invited to the awards ceremony, taking place in St Helens in June.

### Primary School Visits

Mrs Whitlow has also thoroughly enjoyed visiting some of our partner primary schools, St Joseph's and Sacred Heart this year to help Yr6 also complete their Faith in Action Award.

Mrs Whitlow



## SAFEGUARDING

### Attendance & Punctuality

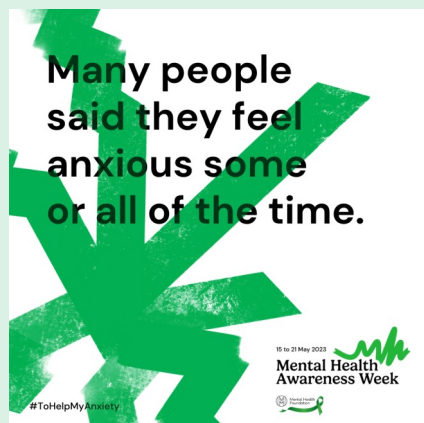


At St Gregory's Catholic High School, we set a target of 97% attendance to ensure that pupils are in school and making the most of their learning, as well as to encourage them to develop good habits for life. We are very pleased with the attendance and punctuality of the vast majority of our pupils, and this is celebrated with them through weekly 100% attendance rewards. Parents are able to see their child's attendance and punctuality as well as the number of achievement and behaviour points on SIMS parent app.

If your child is unwell and unable to attend school, then please remember that you must contact the school absence line to inform school of this. This should be done in advance of 8.40am and must be done on each day of absence. If school have not heard from you, a text message will be sent to your mobile number informing you that your child/ward is absent – this is part of our Safeguarding procedures.

All pupils should arrive at school no later than 8.40am so that they are ready and in their form rooms by 8.45am. It is important that pupils are in form on time as this ensures a positive start to the day and pupils are present to take part in collective worship and hear notices that are being given out.

### Mental Health Awareness Week



Anxiety was the theme for this year's mental health awareness week which ran from 15th – 21st May. Lots of

things can make us feel anxious and at this time of year and exams can cause feelings of anxiety. Feeling anxious is a normal emotion but it can get out of control and the hope is that by raising people's awareness and understanding of anxiety we can support people in how to cope with their feelings. On Friday 21st May we held a bake sale and pupils were encouraged to wear it green.

For further information on how to cope with anxiety or support others please follow the link:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/our-work/public-engagement/mental-health-awareness-week>

If you have other concerns about your child's mental health, Liverpool CAMHS website has a lot of information and support that you can access:

<https://www.liverpoolcamhs.com/parents-carers/>

### ChatHealth - Text support service for parents, carers and teens (11-19 years)

Is a service that provides a new line of communication. The service does not aim to replace face to face contacts, rather increase choice for service users about how they access advice from a health professional.



Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust's secure text messaging service has 3 text numbers:

**11 - 19 Young People's Service – 07507 330101**  
**0 - 5 Parents Service – 07507 327981**  
**5 - 19 Parents Service – 07480 635994**

The service operates Monday-Friday from 9am until 5pm. Messages will be responded to within 24 hours during this period. Outside these hours, service users will receive a 'bounce back' text message indicating that they will receive a response when the line re-opens.

ChatHealth is not an emergency

service, and accordingly parents will be instructed to follow usual advice in seeking urgent medical attention. For more information visit the website

<https://bridgewater.nhs.uk/latest-news/text-support-service-launches-for-boroughs-parents-carers-and-teens/>

### National Online Safety



St Gregory's prides itself on its pastoral and Safeguarding care. To support us (and you) in keeping our young people safe we are a member of National Online Safety which is a platform that offers support, advice and guidance to teachers and parents with regards to how to keep our young people safe online.

It is very pleasing to see the large number of parents that have joined the platform. If you have not yet done so, please follow the link below and follow the instructions to sign in as a parent.

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/st-gregory-s-high-school>

Once logged in, you will find a wealth of guides covering topics from 'What parents need to know about scam emails', 'How to set up parental controls to limit age-inappropriate content' to 'What parents need to know about snapchat' as well as many more. There are also parental courses, webinars, explainer videos as well as monthly updates. In addition to this, once you have logged in you will be able to download the app to your smart phone.

As we know, it is more important than ever for young people and families to have easy access to support, particularly with reduced face to face interaction.

Mrs McKenna

## E-BOOK PLATFORM

Would you like your child to have access to books 24/7?

Try our e-platform! How do I access it?

Click here or login to RM Unify and click on the eplatform tile from the launch pad.

How do I read them?

On a computer, laptop, or through the free App for tablets or smartphones.

To download the App

Search "eplatform" in the App store and download.

Search for St. Gregory's Catholic High School library.

Click the 3 little lines in the top left corner and select sign in. Enter the username and password surname: Student email Password: password (once signed in change the password)

Once downloaded the book can be read on all devices without the need for internet connection.

Any problems?

Please contact Mrs Huckerby



## BACK OF THE NET

### DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD

Some of our Yr10s have been taking part in the Duke of Edinburgh



programme this term as they build confidence and self-esteem completing physical tasks and learning new life-skills. The Duke of Edinburgh Award is a life changing experience that offers



the chance to pupils to learn new interests and discover new talents. It's a chance for students

to develop new skills for life and work.

Well done Yr10 for all of your hard work.

Mr Parry



## DT/ ENGINEERING OPEN EVENING

Aprils DT Exhibition showcased all of the amazing work that our KS3 classes have been working on over the last term. Thank you to all those that supported and attended. It was an outstanding event!

Mr McMorine



Photographed by George Yr9



Produced by St. Gregory's Media Team  
Edited by Daniel Yr8 & George Yr9

## SAFEGUARDING

DSL  
Mrs McKenna (Deputy Head Teacher)

Safeguarding Governor  
Mr Roger Harrison.

Safeguarding Advice: 01925 444140

Cheshire Constabulary:101

Social Work Teams: 01925 446257

Out of Hours: 01925 443322

ChildLine: 0800 1111