

[St Gregs – Where learning has no limits (stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)](https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/) 12th January 2024

Dear Parents / Carers,

**Y4/5/6 CROSS COUNTRY – Weds 6th Dec Gill High**

Our Cross Country Team had a very slippery run at the local festival at the end of last term, making the route even more demanding than it is normally. They all tried really hard and everyone made it round the course, some of them twice! We were very proud of them all, but special mention must go to the Year 5 Boys’ team, who came second in their event, despite two of them still being in Year 4! Well done to all the children who took part.

**FOXES’ SAMBA PERFORMANCE – Tues 12th Dec**

After a term spent learning the art of Samba Drumming, it was lovely to see Foxes Class put on a very lively (and loud…) concert. Great concentration was shown by everyone and the audience enjoyed watching the children shake, rattle and hit the various authentic instruments. Superbly co-ordinated by Mr Colwell, who kept everyone in time with just a whistle, the children really developed their musicianship skills during the term and presented a very polished performance.



**PRAISE ASSEMBLY – Fri 15th Dec**

We had a very busy Praise Assembly on the last day of term, with certificates and presentations for a wide range of achievements. A large proportion of the children were awarded 100% Attendance Certificates, and it was great to see the children’s hard work in class being acknowledged by their teachers. Many children also shared their successes in out-of-school activities, including Tae-Kwon-Do belts, swimming badges and gymnastics awards.

**LEARNERS OF THE TERM: PEN LICENCEES:**

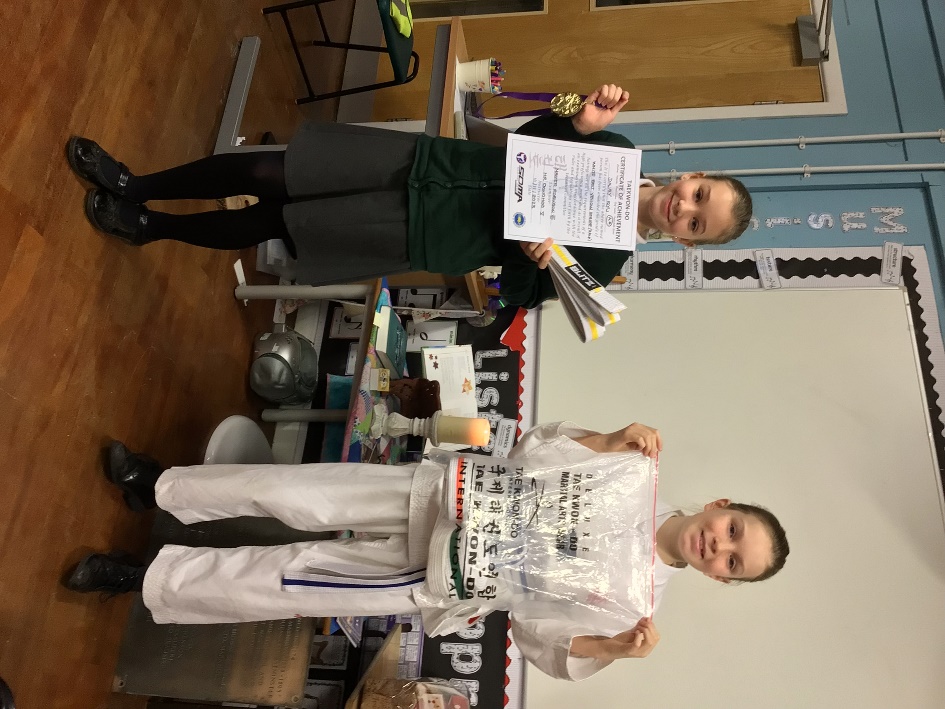


**100% ATTENDANCE:**





**TAE-KWON-DO CHAMPIONS: SWIMMING CHAMPIONS:**



**GYMNASTIC CHAMPIONS:**





**CROSS COUNTRY:**



**CHRISTMAS SCHOOL READING CHALLENGE**

More than half the children completed the school reading challenge over Christmas and were rewarded with an extra-long break! We are planning to make this a regular event and are looking to present each child who takes part with a book of their choice.

**NEW SENDCo - Amanda Solman**

I am delighted to let you know that we have enlisted Ms Solman, an experienced SENDCo, to join our team. Ms Solman has worked in a number of local schools in this capacity and I am looking forward to working with her to ensure all our children receive the support they need. She will be in school on Wednesdays; please contact the school office in the usual way and we will pass on any messages for her.



**EXTRA- CURRICULAR CLUBS**

Following your responses in last term’s Parents’ Questionnaire, we have increased the range of clubs for the children to join. With multi-skills, choir, handball, sewing, percussion band, rugby, colouring and dance on offer, all for free, there should be something for everyone – please encourage your children to sign up to as many as they can.

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**PARENT/CARER QUESTIONNAIRE** - **Results**

Many thanks to all of you who completed the questionnaire last term. The results were very positive overall, with some useful pointers for improvement. The range of clubs available has hopefully been addressed, and we are looking into producing a short attainment and attendance report for you in the Spring Term to keep you up to date with how your children are doing. We are continually working with the children to ensure behaviour continues to improve, and to encourage all the children to share with their teachers **at the time** any concerns they may have. This makes it much easier for us to deal with. Please see the attached summary of the answers and do get in touch with me if you have any questions or suggestions.

**FOREST SCHOOL**

Hedgehogs enjoyed their slightly chilly Forest School and Badgers / Foxes took part in Pound. Badgers are next week. Please do get some waterproof trousers, coats, wellies and warm clothes prepared for this. If you have spares that no longer fit your child then we would be grateful if you bring them to school for others to use.



**TUCK SHOP**

Thank you to Sandy for running this and she will continue every Friday afternoon with treats for the children. On alternate weeks there will be cakes and we would kindly ask that parents help with some baking contributions, starting with **Hedgehogs Friday 2nd Feb / Badgers 23rd Feb / Foxes 8th March**

**Y5&6 Indoor Cricket Tournament - Mon 5/2/24 3.30pm Gill High (Details to follow)**

**BOOK LOOK – Weds 7th Feb 8.45am**

Please come in through the main office entrance, after the children have all come in to school (via their usual route of the playground).

**INTERNET SAFETY DAY – Weds 7th Feb 3pm**

We will be marking this important day with a range of workshops for Key Stage 2 followed by an information session for parents and carers. Run by specially trained personnel from JPMorgan, these sessions are increasingly important for our children to learn how to stay safe on-line, and for the adults around them to understand the potential dangers and how to set controls and boundaries at home. I encourage you to attend if possible.

**SCHOOL ANNIVERSARY – Second School Forum Meeting – Weds 7th Feb 5.30pm**

Arrangement are progressing and as it will be part of their homework this week we are looking forward to seeing the logo designs for all things 150th-related. The winner will receive a special prize and will see their artwork on posters, tea-towels, letters heads and much more!

 **DANCE FESTIVAL – Thurs 8th Feb**

Children in Year 6 have been busy choreographing their own dance for this year’s festival, with nearly a third of the school joining the Dance Club, it should be a great experience for them all.

**PRAISE ASSEMBLY – Tues 6th Feb 2.40pm**

All parents are welcome to help celebrate the children’s achievements this half term, we look forward to seeing you here! We will be giving a performance of the above dance, possibly with a couple of songs by the fledgling choir.

**DISCO - Thurs 8th Feb 3.30-5pm**

Sandy is arranging a disco for the last day of this half term. Tickets will go on sale shortly and if anyone would like to help make this a really fun event for the children please do let her know.



**QUIZ NIGHT – Sat 9th March 7pm**

We are delighted to let you know that we are holding a Quiz Night in the Village Hall on 9th March. With Simon Hoare as Quiz Master and authentic Italian-made Lasagne for supper, generously donated by non other than The Box Pizza! It promises to be an excellent evening raising funds for both our 150th Celebration Sensory Garden and to support the running costs of the school swimming pool this summer.



**NON-UNIFORM & QUIZ DONATIONS DAY -**

**Fri 1st Mar (St David’s Day)**

We will be asking for hamper donations in exchange for a non-school uniform event.



**Y6 LONDON TRIP - London Trip Weds 20th Mar**

I have been working with other headteachers in the area to arrange a trip to London for our children in Year 6. This is an opportunity for them to meet up with some of the children they will be going to school with next year, to see the sights and this year, they are lucky to be able to see The Lion King on stage! In order to reduce the costs per pupil and to give them additional responsibility, they are organizing some fundraising activities which I hope you will be able to support.

**HALF TERM – Fri 9th (Inset Day) to Sun 18th Feb**

There are details listed on the school website for the local area [Things To Do Outside of School – St Gregs (stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)](https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/outsideschool/)

2024 is going to be an exciting year for the children and the school - I do hope you will be able to join us for the festivities.

With best wishes

James Stanford

**Please do use our school website for information.**

**If you have any questions / queries or need to book a time to see me for any other reason, do not hesitate to contact the school office or speak to me on the playground but please notify the office with general messages about your child.**

**Please note, emails and telephone calls will only be responded to within school hours.**

**READING VOLUNTEERS**

We would love to have more people to listen to readers. Please contact the office for a volunteer form, a DBS check will need to be carried out.



**HALL HIRE**

The school hall and field are available to hire for private occasions. Please contact the office for further details

**MUSIC LESSONS – From Y2 upwards**

Please contact the office or see the school webpage, if your child is interested in starting music lessons. [Music – St Gregs (stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)](https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/music/)

**MEDICINES IN SCHOOL / EMERGENCY ASTHMA INHALER – Consent Form Required**

It is vitally important that we have a completed form, if your child needs any medicine to be administered – otherwise we will be unable to do so. Please do not send children in with their own medicine to take – we need to be aware of any medicines in school. [Permission-to-Administer-Medication-Form.pdf (stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk)](https://stgregorymarnhull.dorset.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/Permission-to-Administer-Medication-Form.pdf)

Plus, please keep your child off school if they have been vomiting and/or had diarrhoea for 48 hours after the last episode.

**EASY SCHOOL DONATIONS - Shop & Give Website**

Please sign up to the website and use the following code to find St Greg’s. Donations will be automatically paid to school each time you shop via their website.

School Code – 267421 [TheGivingMachine | Give For Free Every Time You Shop Online](https://shopandgive.thegivingmachine.co.uk/)

**SECOND-HAND UNIFORM**

Please do donate any that are out-grown and still in good condition and do check the rails in reception for any you might need. Please order any name tags for uniforms from [www.mynametags.com](http://www.mynametags.com)

They will donate a % of each sale to school when you use the School ID Code - 22362

**CAR PARKING**

The staff car park is for staff only, any visitor / parent parking is on the road but please do not park on the Bus Stop or Zigzags (this creates a problem for passing traffic as there is nowhere for them to pull in and is enforceable by law). The Crown pub also kindly allow parents to use their car park at drop off and pick up times. If for some reason you need to temporarily park closer to school – then please inform the school office and we will advise you where to park.

**EXTENDED SCHOOL / BREAKFAST & AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS:**

You are able to book in for a half-term at a time. Please ensure that payments are kept up-to-date. You can deposit amounts on your School Ping wallet to spread the cost of this facility.

**ORDER DEADLINE – 2 weeks before**

Please sign up and choose options, if you would like to order school lunches [Dorset Meal Selector | Home](https://dorset.mealselector.co.uk/).

If you do not order in time, please bring in a lunchbox for the first 2 weeks. All children in years R,1,2 are entitled to free hot lunches.

**FREE SCHOOL MEALS**

If your child qualifies for free school meals, not only will they receive a healthy meal on every school day, they’ll also get, access to free holiday clubs, extra money for their school towards more teachers and activities. It’s easy to find out if you qualify - complete our confidential checker at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals or telephone 01305 221090

**PUPIL PREMIUM**

If your child is in reception to year 2 and you receive qualifying benefits, you could get extra £££’s for your school!

Apply for the Pupil Premium at dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/pupil-premium



