

Parent Newsletter

Week Ending: 12th December 2025 (A)

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Celebration of the Word Years 7 and 8 Sacrament of Reconciliation Taking Place Year Group Mass' Taking Place Throughout the Day	Celebration of the Word Years 11, 12 and 13	Celebration of the Word Years 9 and 10 Sacrament of Reconciliation Taking Place Year Group Mass' Taking Place Throughout the Day	Whole School Reading Slot	PSHE Christmas Liturgies Taking Place Throughout the Day

Attendance – The top attending forms for week beginning 1st December 2025

Gold – 7B

Silver – 7H

Bronze – 7A

Commendations -Form points for week beginning 1st December 2025

Gold – 8J

Silver – 9H

Bronze – 7J

Catholic Social Teaching Focus

As we continue our focus on solidarity and peace this half-term, the second week of Advent reminds us that preparing for Christ means standing with others in love and unity.

Catholic Social Teaching encourages us to recognise that every person is our brother or sister, and that true peace grows when we care for one another.

During this season of preparation, we are invited to look around our school community at St Gregory's and notice who might need support, kindness, or simply someone to listen. Advent calls us not only to wait for Jesus, but to act in ways that bring His peace into our relationships.

When we include others, speak kindly, and stand up for those who feel alone, we live out real solidarity. These small but powerful everyday choices help build a school where everyone feels valued and supported.

By choosing peace in these simple ways, we prepare our hearts for Christ and help shape the world He calls us to build.

Sunday 7th December - Gospel Focus

Matthew 3:1-12

In due course John the Baptist appeared; he preached in the wilderness of Judaea and this was his message: 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' This was the man the prophet Isaiah spoke of when he said:

A voice cries in the wilderness:

Prepare a way for the Lord,

make his paths straight.

This man John wore a garment made of camel-hair with a leather belt round his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judaea and the whole Jordan district made their way to him, and as they were baptised by him in the river Jordan they confessed their sins. But when he saw a number of Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism he said to them, 'Brood of vipers, who warned you to fly from the retribution that is coming? But if you are repentant, produce the appropriate fruit, and do not presume to tell yourselves, "We have Abraham for our father," because, I tell you, God can raise children for Abraham from these stones. Even now the axe is laid to the roots of the trees, so that any tree which fails to produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown on the fire. I baptise you in water for repentance, but the one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals; he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing-fan is in his hand; he will clear his threshing-floor and gather his wheat into the barn; but the chaff he will burn in a fire that will never go out.'

Gospel Reflection

In the second week of Advent, the week of peace and preparation, Sunday's Gospel about John the Baptist reminds us that preparing for Jesus starts in the heart. John calls the people to change, to "make straight the path," and to show their faith through actions that bear good fruit.

At St Gregory's, we are encouraged to do the same, to reflect on how we treat one another, to choose kindness, and to help build a school where peace is something we create together each day. Advent is not only a season of waiting, but also a time to make space for God through patience, honesty, and compassion. Even small acts of

peace in our school, our homes, and our daily routines help prepare the way for Christ.

Lord Jesus,

As we celebrate the second week of Advent, fill our hearts with your peace.

Help us prepare for your coming by choosing kindness and compassion.

Guide us to bring calm where there is worry and friendship where there is loneliness.

Teach us to make room for you in our words, actions, and thoughts.

Come, Lord Jesus, and lead us in the way of peace.

Amen.