

**Autumn Term 2021**

Each term The St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy Trust will publish some of the exciting news that is happening within the Trust and all its Academies.

If you have any news that you would like publishing in the next SGTGCAT newsletter, please email [l.edson@sgtgcats.org.uk](mailto:l.edson@sgtgcats.org.uk)



The  
**St Gregory the Great**  
Catholic Academy Trust

# Newsletter

*'The proof of love is in the works'*

## In this Newsletter...

- A Message from the CSEL
- Ofsted Inspection Results
- Thank You to Angela Cox
- New Chair and Vice Chair of the Trust Board
- New Academy Council Chairs
- Head of School Secondment at HRSA
- New Trust Finance Apprentice
- All the Best, Rosie
- New Trust Website
- "Marching on Together", to Sustainability
- Going Green with Solar Panels
- Messages from Our Schools
- Foundation Governors Vacancies
- Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

## Our Schools



**Christ the King**  
Catholic Primary School  
Bramley, Leeds



**Immaculate Heart of Mary**  
Catholic Primary School  
Moortown, Leeds



**Holy Rosary and St Anne's**  
Catholic Primary School  
Chapeltown, Leeds



**Sacred Heart Catholic Primary**  
School  
Kirkstall, Leeds



**St Augustine's Catholic Primary**  
School  
Roundhay, Leeds



**Corpus Christi Catholic College**  
Halton Moor, Leeds



**St. Urban's Catholic Primary**  
School  
Meanwood, Leeds



**St Paul's Catholic Primary School**  
Alwoodley, Leeds

## A message from the Catholic Senior Executive Leader

As we come to the end of our Autumn Term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all staff, parents/carers, Governors and Directors for their hard work and support this term. Staff and students have all had a busy and productive term, with plenty to challenge and inspire our young learners – you can keep up to date with the school highlights on our new Trust website.

Teacher training and mentoring continue at pace across the Trust, working with our partner Leeds Trinity, enabling and developing our senior leaders, teachers, trainees and support staff to share best practice and strive for the best in all our schools. A number of positive inspections have taken place across our schools this term, highlighting the commitment and achievements of our staff and our students. I have been fortunate to visit all the schools and discuss school priorities and improvement plans – there are lots of really exciting plans in place and lots to look forward to.



Peter Hughes

I would like to wish you a very peaceful and happy Christmas and I hope you all have a wonderful New Year!

## Ofsted Inspection Results

**Congratulations to Christ The King, and St Paul's, on their Ofsted result they received in the Autumn Term.**

Thank you to Phil Bowker, Anne-Marie Waide, Dee Gaffey, and all the staff at Christ The King and St Paul's, who pulled together to achieve the well-deserved results from the two days of rigorous inspections.



## Thank You to Angela Cox



This October, Angela Cox resigned from the board of The St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy Trust.

It goes without saying that her dedication to the development of the Trust was invaluable. Thank you, Angela, on behalf of the Trust and its schools, we wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

## New Chair and Vice Chair of the Trust Board

**John Weaving and Edwin Kirkwood were Elected in October as the new Chair, and Vice-Chair of the Trust Board.**

Both John and Edwin are very experienced, knowledgeable and committed individuals, who will prove to be fantastic assets to the Trust in their positions as Chair and Vice-Chair. Edwin joined the Trust Board this September, along with another new Director, Shaun Vickers. Shaun joined the Board following his recent role as Chair of the Academy Council at St Paul's. Shaun, as with the other Directors, is very experienced, particularly in the remit of GDPR and Data Protection, which he kindly supported the Trust with before he was made a Director. Shaun is now a member of the Audit and Risk Committee.

Here are a few words from John Weaving, Chair of the Trust Board;

*"I would like to take the opportunity presented by this Autumn Newsletter to say hello to everyone associated with the St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy Trust and the wider community. It is a privilege to have been appointed as Chair of the Trust and a great responsibility too.*

*The Trust has firm foundations in place as a result of all the work undertaken by Angela Cox, her team and you the schools. There is a strong and supportive central team in place led by Peter Hughes, along with a very experienced Board of Trustees, and I look forward to working with you all as we jointly build a Trust that is the best it can be and delivers the best outcomes for our students, staff and school communities.*

*The pandemic has made it harder to make visits over the last couple of years but I intend to come out to visit all the schools as soon as possible in the New Year to get to know you and your schools personally.*

*In the meantime, I hope you are able to enjoy the Christmas holidays with your families and I wish you all every blessing. Here's looking forward to 2022!"*

## New Academy Council Chairs



This Academic year we have seen some changes to the Academy Councils. Welcome to the new Chairs of the Academy Councils; Junier Brown, Fr Pat and Julie Muddiman.

Alongside the Academy Council meetings, the Chairs of each Academy Council are invited to three Chairs meetings per Academic year. The Chairs meetings are held at Hinsley Hall, and are an opportunity for the Chairs of each schools' Academy Council to meet together, with the Trust Senior Executives, Chair, Vice-Chair and Directors. The meetings are held as an open forum for important discussion, feedback and direct support from the Trust to the Academy Councils.

Thank you, to the Trust Board and all of the Academy Council Chairs, foundation governors, staff and parent Governors. Your contributions serve to further the mission of the Trust

## Head of School Secondment at HRSA

**Congratulations to Paul Whitehead who has joined the fabulous team at Holy Rosary and St Anne's after being successfully selected to become Head of School on a secondment opportunity.**

*"I am delighted to be able to be part of this fantastic school and community. I feel extremely honoured and privileged to have been chosen to continue to build upon the success the school has already achieved under the leadership of Mrs McDonagh-Smith and Mrs Nichol.*

*I have had an extremely positive first couple of weeks at Holy Rosary and St Anne's. The children and staff have been so welcoming and I feel at home already. The needs of the children*

*are always paramount in the life and decision making within a school. I strongly believe in providing the children with exciting, creative and meaningful learning experiences, which build their enthusiasm for learning and help them to grow and develop positively in a variety of ways. I hope I can share these values with a new community and contribute to this already fantastic school."*

Mr Paul Whitehead.



## New Trust Finance Apprentice

We are pleased to announce a new member of the Trust team, Kieran Ward, who joined in November as the Finance Apprentice. He will be assisting the team with day to day operations whilst he completes his level 2 AAT Finance Course at Leeds City College. Kieran has settled in well to his role and is a valued member of the SGTG Central Team.

## All the best, Rosie

The Central Team are wishing the best of luck to Rosie (SGTG Central team- Finance Controller) in her future endeavours. Not only has she been fantastic within her role, her positive and bubbly attitude has made her a joy to be around. The Central Team bid you a happy and successful future in your new role, they are lucky to have you!

### **Here is what Jason, our CFO had to say upon Rosie's resignation;**

*"It is with great sadness and best wishes that I write to you all to let you know that Rosie will be leaving the Trust early in the new year. Rosie has been a crucial part of the Trust's development from her time at Christ the King to the Trust that we have become now. It has been a pleasure to work with her and the Trust is in a better place as a result of her expertise in financial and other matters. We have just received a clean financial audit and much of the credit for this goes to Rosie.*

*We have already started the search for a suitable person to fill Rosie's shoes and are working with the Diocesan Trusts, amongst others, to ensure that we continue to have robust financial processes in place for the days, months and years ahead.*

*I am sure you will all join me in wishing Rosie the best for the future and to thank her for her enormous contribution to the Trust."*

## New Trust Website

Thank you to the headteachers and school staff for being so accommodating in October when Nick from Vector photography came into the schools to take pictures and footage of the schools for Trust promotional purposes.

The Trust website has been updated, which showcases the images and the Trust promotional video, please follow the link <https://www.stgregorythegreatacademytrust.org.uk/>

## “Marching on Together,” to Sustainability

Leeds United’s star striker, Patrick Bamford, spoke to the pupils of Christ the King about the Importance of sustainability. The pupils had the opportunity to interview him as part of their workshop and asked some very important questions about the future of our planet. Pupils had to consider how they can become more sustainable and environmentally friendly in their own lives.



## Going Green with Solar Panels



**Sacred Heart recently gained approval in principle from the SGTG Finance Committee to have solar panels fitted at their school. Here is what the school’s business manager, David Hubbard had to say on the matter;**

*“Works to replace the flat roof at Sacred Heart have been ongoing since July 2021 and are expected to complete in January 2022. The existing 1960s roof was in an advanced state of deterioration, with water damage spoiling classrooms and disrupting school life. The new high performance roof will have a design life of 35 years, securing the school buildings for generations of children to come and enabling us to move on to our next exciting project: solar panels!*

*By Easter 2022, and with the support of the Academy Trust, we plan to have around 150 solar panels on our roof, stopping tonnes of CO2 emissions, inspiring our children with energy learning opportunities, saving £100,000 over the lifetime of the system with free electricity, and joining the fight against climate change as we work towards being carbon neutral.”*

## Other Messages from Our Schools

### Holy Rosary and St Anne's Primary School

Holy Rosery had 'Support our Heroes day': with children and staff wearing colours in support of emergency services

School attended the Irish Health & Homes Christmas Party on Monday 6th December to sing Christmas Carols and bring festivities. The children prepared Christmas cards for them to send with their Hampers to all their lovely members.



### Christ The King Primary School

*Thank you to all staff, children and families for obtaining the 'Good' Ofsted result.*

*Photo: Bishop's visit to Christ The King Parish meeting with Leaders.*

### St Augustine's Primary School

**Harvest Festival** - Collection of tins and dried foods. Unfortunately, due to covid, Mass was cancelled but we still managed to collect a substantial amount which was distributed to St Augustine's SVP for Christmas food hampers and our local food bank.

**Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Appeal** - Pupils, parents and staff very generously donated enough items to fill 57 shoe boxes. Each class also held various fundraising events and raised £419.00. This was enough to send all 57 (£5 each) boxes and a generous donation also!



## Foundation Governor Vacancies

Some of our schools have vacancies within their Academy Councils.



Being a Foundation Governor is a fantastic way to play a part in changing pupil's lives for the better. Could you be contemplating a career in education? Then becoming a Foundation Governor is fantastic experience, giving a comprehensive insight into the workings of a school.

At each meeting you will be discussing key concerns and making essential decisions for the school.

Members of the Academy Councils for schools will feed information through to the Trust Board; if you want to be in a position where you can influence and be a part of implementing positive change at any of our Academies, please contact the Diocese of Leeds on:

### St Paul's Primary School

*Thanking staff, children and families for Ofsted result.*

*There has been some recent outdoor development work at St Pauls with new hedge laying, bird hides and additional seating areas.*

*Congratulations to Oliver C from St Paul's who won the under 11s cross country race at Roundhay School, part of the 2021 school sport games. A great result, beating over 100 other runners to come in first place.*



0113 261 8040

[education.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk](mailto:education.admin@dioceseofleeds.org.uk)

For more information about Governor roles:

[www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/education/education/education-education/governance-education/governor-responsibilities](http://www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/education/education/education-education/governance-education/governor-responsibilities)

## Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

As term comes to an end and we begin our festivities the Trust would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, we look forward to continuing to deliver the Trust's vision into 2022.

## Trust Prayer



*O God, you care for your people  
with gentleness and rule them in  
love, through the intercession of Pope  
Saint Gregory,*

*endow, we pray, with a spirit of  
wisdom those to whom you have  
given authority to govern,*

*that the flourishing of a holy flock  
may become the eternal joy of the  
shepherds through our Lord Jesus  
Christ your Son, who lives and reigns  
with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever*



## Thank You to all the staff

On behalf of our executive lead and the Trust Directors, we want to take the opportunity to say a huge and heartfelt thank you to all of our amazing headteachers, teachers, teaching assistants, school support staff and the Trust's central team who every day make a real and vital difference to the lives of our children and young people.

Their passion, commitment and drive to inspire our young people is something we are extremely proud of and grateful for – especially so this year – and we want to pay tribute to them for their hard work and dedication during what has been a difficult and challenging time for all schools, school staff and pupils.

## Thank You for Reading

If you have any news that you would like publishing in the next SGTGCAT newsletter, please email [l.edson@sgtgc.org.uk](mailto:l.edson@sgtgc.org.uk)



**The St Gregory the Great Catholic Academy Trust** is a charity and a company limited by guarantee.

Registered in England and Wales.

Company number 10785982

Registered office Holy Rosary and St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Leopold Street, Leeds, LS7 4AW

Website: [stgregorythegreatacademytrust.org.uk](http://stgregorythegreatacademytrust.org.uk)

Tel: 0113 8246360

Email: [info@sgtgcat.org.uk](mailto:info@sgtgcat.org.uk)

CSEL: Mr Peter Hughes NLE

Chair of the Trust Board: Mr John Weaving