

Dear Parents and Carers,

First of all can I say "Well Done" to all of our Y6 children who worked so hard last week and really did give of their best - no one could ask for more. Thanks also to our teachers and CA staff led by Miss Carrahar who managed what is a complex task, strictly timetabled across the week. We are always happy to see the papers collected and off to the markers as quickly as possible and by Friday, they were all gone, so that was good news. Thanks to parents and carers too for getting children into school in good time and supporting them all so well. It is always a real team effort.

On a different note it is almost a year since the dreadful attack in Manchester that took so many lives and this anniversary is something that families will mark with sadness and regret for the loss of loved ones. Of course all of us across South Tyneside and the North East were deeply touched when we heard that two of the victims, Liam and Chloe, were a couple that so many people knew and liked, including many of our past pupils and those attending St Wilfrid's. To think that two young lives could be taken so cruelly and wickedly, gives us all pause for thought.

The "Chloe and Liam Together Forever Trust" set up in their memories is going from strength to strength and many across our community and further afield are looking to do something to raise funds for the cause. Here at St Gregory's we do our best to fundraise whenever we can for all sorts of good causes and whilst it is impossible to ask our community to give again and again, there is a lot of support for this local cause. On Friday then, we will have a non-uniform day, pink and blue are the special colours associated with Chloe and Liam and perhaps you have something in the wardrobe that might fit the bill? Ribbons are absolutely fine. It will be 50p per child if you would like to donate. We will see that the total is donated to the fund as quickly as we can.

There are a number of other forms being distributed this evening or tomorrow and I would ask you to read these carefully and to return the two privacy / agreement slips as soon as you can. GDPR is affecting all of us in some way or another and schools are no different. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

A reminder that we do not return to school until Tuesday June 5<sup>th</sup> and that day we have a special Mass to celebrate our First Communicants who were absolutely fantastic on Saturday - it was a lovely occasion. We would ask all of them to come to school in their First Communion attire so that we can celebrate again at this special Mass (9.30am - All Welcome).

Have a lovely Half Term.

Best Wishes,

Yours sincerely,

KJ Smithson: Head Teacher.