JK/DM/Newsletter 15th April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

School closes on Thursday 18th April 2019 and re-opens on Monday 29th April 2019. Weather permitting, the children can return in their summer school uniform.

The presentation assemblies are on the following dates at 9.10 am in the main hall:

**Tuesday 16th April 2019 EYFS and Year 1**

**Wednesday 17th April 2019 Years 2,3 & 4**

**Thursday 18th April 2019 Years 5 & 6**

You are of course very welcome to attend the assemblies; I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attendance at all our class assemblies throughout the year. The children really appreciate it when their parents attend.

The Easter Vigil Mass is at St Richard’s church on Saturday 20th April at 7.30pm. Our older children will be singing in the choir.

Recently you had the opportunity to meet with your child’s teacher, so I hope you are fully informed about your child’s progress. If you do however, have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me. At the end of next term, you will receive a written report which again will inform you of your child’s progress over the academic year.

The children have been involved in many activities this term. The **GLOBAL DAY** last Thursday was a huge success and once again, the children and staff responded with great enthusiasm and innovative ideas. Many thanks to Ms Cartney, Miss McKnight and Miss Corrigan. Our Year 2 and Reception children had an exciting day at Lyme Park, participating in geography workshops. We have had a superb magician Robert Newgrosh working with some Year 5 pupils and they put on a superb magic show last Friday for parents, staff and pupils. On the same day, a musical company called Rock Steady also performed a brilliant workshop with all the classes from Reception to Year 6.

**NEW WEBSITE !! Please take a look at our new website that will be launched by tomorrow! Thank you to Ms Kenneally who has ensured it’s easy to navigate, highlighting lots of news, photos and information celebrating school life at St. Richard’s. The home page is a painting of our playground school wall that was completed on Friday by Marvellous Murals and celebrates St. Richard’s anniversary and legacy over the past 50 years, since the school opened in 1969. PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE WEBSITE AND THE WALL !!**

Many thanks to all parents and children for their donations towards the Creme Egg appeal in support of Francis House. We managed to collect 3381 eggs! Mrs Bentley was delighted with this enormous number and the eggs are currently being sold in businesses and schools across Manchester. Francis House visited the children to outline the fantastic work that they do for terminally ill children and your kind donations will go a long way to support them with this. Class 5 and Class 11 won the competition and celebrated with a film afternoon and own clothes day. We have been selling the chicks in school and have managed to raise nearly £800 so far. Once again, many thanks for all of your generous donations.

Thank you also for your kind efforts with the St. Joseph’s Penny boxes and we would be grateful if they could be brought in by the last day this week. However, they can still be collected on the first day back after the Easter holiday on the 29th.

Well done to the 12 Year Five pupils who went with Mrs. Kelly to a multi-sports day at Platt Lane sports complex. The children enjoyed a fun-packed day playing football, basketball, handball, futsol and dance workshop. They represented the school really well and made some new friends from the other schools.

SPORTS NEWS: The hockey team finished 5th in the City Finals in March, which was a great achievement. Our girls’ football team have qualified for the City Finals in April. Miss McKnight took 10 children to a Change4Life festival at Platt Lane. And the Year 4 girls played in their first football competition at the Armitage Centre. Thank you to Mr Neilson for organising these events. Mr Sullivan is also very pleased with the progress made with the pupils in the rock climbing club.

I would like to thank the many families who do not take family holidays in term time. We have excellent attendance at St Richard’s and this is a significant contributory factor in the success of our school. When children are absent they miss out on significant lessons which can have an impact on their progress.

I look forward to seeing the children return to school on Monday 29th April, which is also the start date for the new Headteacher, Mr Murray. As current Headteacher for the past two terms since September, I would particularly like to thank Mrs Toal and Mrs Kelly, for stepping up and doing an excellent job in their roles as Deputy Head and Assistant Head respectively; they have played a key role in maintaining our Outstanding practice.

I would like to wish you all an enjoyable Easter break.

Kind regards,

J.Keyworth

Headteacher