



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2019



Thursday 14th November 2019

THE WEDNESDAY WORD

The Catholic Bishops of England & Wales have designated 2020 as a Year of the Word. Partly in acknowledgement of this (and partly to encourage more prayerful reflection on the Word of God generally) and starting on Wednesday 27th November, Key Stage 2 (Y3 – Y6) children will be bringing 'The Wednesday Word' leaflet home from school every week. The Wednesday Word is a gift to you and your family because of your connection with our Catholic school. Every Wednesday, a word (inspired by the following Sunday's Gospel) will be suggested for you and your family to talk about at home. Evidence shows that Gospel values really do help family relationships to thrive.

It would be marvellous if as many families as possible began to regularly read and share The Wednesday Word together at home. We hope you enjoy reading The Wednesday Word and sharing a special time together with your child(ren) each week.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD UPDATE

Thank you very much to everyone who has gone to the considerable effort to support Operation Christmas Child this year by packing a shoe box full of joy. We are very close to our target of 50 shoe boxes (which is an amazing number). The closing date to drop these off at school is tomorrow, Friday 15th November. Unfortunately, we won't be able to receive any more after this date.

ST RICHARD'S CHRISTMAS FAIR

The St Richard's Christmas Fair is a vital source of income to our parish and we would ask all parents to actively support this year's fair. The fair will take place on Sunday 8th December 2019 from noon onwards in St Richard's Hall. We would like pupils to wear non-uniform on Friday 15th (tomorrow), 22nd and 29th November in exchange for a £1 contribution in support of the fair. We would like pupils to also wear non-uniform on Friday 6th December in exchange for a donation of chocolate for the fair's chocolate tombola. Many thanks in advance for your support.

NON-UNIFORM DAY TOMORROW

As mentioned above, tomorrow (and the three Fridays after that) are non-uniform days in exchange for contributions towards the Christmas Fair. Please ensure that your child dresses in **appropriate** non-uniform so that they are still able to undertake the full range of activities which they usually would do on a Friday. Please also see related item immediately below.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK: WEAR ODD SOCKS THIS FRIDAY

This week has been national Anti-Bullying Week. As well as wearing non-uniform tomorrow, we would encourage all our pupils to wear odd socks. Odd Socks Day (which was celebrated nationally on Tuesday this week) is designed to be a fun way of encouraging our pupils to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and symbolise what makes us all unique! Odd Socks Day is also intended to help raise awareness of bullying...

We are fortunate at St Richard's to have very little bullying but we know that it occurs from time to time and we are determined to deal with it pro-actively. Whether it is verbal, physical, online or in person, bullying can have a significant and detrimental impact on a child's life well into adulthood. By making small, simple changes we can **all** play a part in breaking this cycle and create a safe environment for everyone. Together we can and must challenge bullying. Change often starts with a conversation. Please talk to your child(ren) about the lasting and negative effects of bullying.

THE WAY WE TALK TO EACH OTHER

There have been at least two unfortunate incidents of 'road rage' this week just outside our school which have left people feeling upset. Based on the comments above about bullying, it is vital that we all model appropriate behaviour in front of each other and our children and that we are safe, considerate and courteous in our parking and driving on the roads around school, as well as further afield.

On a related note, if your child has a disagreement with another child in school it is essential that parents do not approach or attempt to reprimand other people's children – instead, please always speak to staff in school as soon as possible.

THE WAY WE TALK TO EACH OTHER (CONTINUED)

On a further related note, please ensure that you address school staff with the respect which they deserve, as the overwhelming majority of parents always do. We will not tolerate school staff being spoken to in an aggressive manner. Thank you in advance for your cooperation at all times.

SCHOOL UNIFORM REMINDER: EARRINGS

The governors of St Richard's have adopted a policy for school uniform where the wearing of jewellery (including earrings) is not permitted in school. Where there is a significant or recurrent breach of any part of the school's uniform policy (including pupils wearing earrings) which is not remedied by parents when requested by school staff, then a pupil will remain indoors during all break and lunchtimes until the breach is remedied.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:	
Friday 15 th November	Non-uniform day in return for £1 for Christmas Fair funds. Odd Sock Day to promote Anti-Bullying.
Friday 22 nd November	Non-uniform day in return for £1 for Christmas Fair funds.
Friday 29 th November	Non-uniform day in return for £1 for Christmas Fair funds.
Friday 6 th December	Non-uniform day in return for chocolate donation for Christmas Fair's chocolate tombola.
Friday 6 th December	Advent Celebration in church – all are warmly welcome to attend
Sunday 8 th December	St Richard's Parish Christmas Fair in St Richard's Hall from 12 noon onwards.
Wednesday 11 th December	Nursery Christmas Concert at 9.30am
Wednesday 11 th December	Year 1 Christmas Concert at 2.30pm
Thursday 12 th December	Reception Christmas Concert at 9.30am
Thursday 12 th December	Year 2 Christmas Concert at 2.30pm
Tuesday 17 th December	Pupils' Christmas lunch
Wednesday 18 th December	Year 1 and Year 2 to Romiley Forum for Christmas Pantomime
Friday 20 th December	Pupils break up for Christmas holidays

DOES YOUR CHILD HAVE ASTHMA?

To ensure all our medical records are up to date, parents are asked to inform the school in writing of any changes to their child's health throughout the year. We are currently updating our asthma care plans and emergency inhaler consent list. If your child has an inhaler in school and you have not returned the legally required parental consent form, please do so, as soon as possible, to your child's class teacher.

PARENTS' AFTERNOONS AND EVENING

Many thanks to everyone who attended Parents' Evening (and/or afternoons) this week in order to meet teachers and find out about your child(ren)'s progress and achievements. Your support is very much appreciated and is indeed fundamental to how well your child will achieve at St Richard's and in to later life. Many thanks are also due to our very hard-working and dedicated staff who made these sessions run so smoothly.

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher

St Richard's RC Primary School