



# St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2019



Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## HAVE A VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS

We break up for the Christmas holidays tomorrow, Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, at 3.30pm. We return to school on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020 (school will be closed to all pupils on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020). Many thanks for all your support in 2019. We wish all our pupils, parents and staff a very safe, happy and holy Christmas holiday and a very successful start to 2020.



## FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS AT ST RICHARD'S

The first mass of Christmas will be celebrated at St Richard's RC Church on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December, starting at 7pm. We would be delighted if you could make every effort to attend this mass with your child(ren). Up to date information about all the masses and special services over the Christmas period at St Richard's is available at [www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/about-us/st-richards-parish-church/](http://www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/about-us/st-richards-parish-church/)

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY PATTERN 2020-21

Last week, all parents should have received a paper copy of the approved holiday pattern for next academic year (2020-2021). If not, check your child's school bag and if it's not there please pop into the school office to request a copy. Alternatively, go onto the school website ([www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/calendar/](http://www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/calendar/)) where the holiday pattern is also available to view, download and print off. Please remember that holidays and requests for extended leave in term time will not be authorised and are likely to lead to a penalty notice and fine.

## IF YOUR CHILD HAS VOMITING AND/OR DIARRHOEA

Manchester Health and Care Commissioning guidance is that – because schools are common sites for the transmission of infections – we must always adhere to the recommended exclusion period when a child has vomiting and/or diarrhoea. For children, the exclusion period from school is **48 hours** from the **last** episode of diarrhoea/vomiting.

## SAFE AND CONSIDERATE PARKING

Parents and carers must never park or drop off children on the zig-zag yellow lines outside school's entrances. Equally, parents and carers must never block the driveways of our neighbours on any of the roads surrounding school. Please be courteous and considerate towards the school's neighbours at all times. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

## YEAR ONE FRESHWATER THEATRE WORKSHOPS

The whole of Class 2 wrote the following article together, following their Freshwater Theatre workshop last Thursday afternoon: 'Last week we learned all about the weather in different countries around the world. We went on a trip to Africa, the North Pole, South Pole, India and the United Kingdom and when we were there, we saw animals that could survive in that type of weather. We had so much fun!'

## CHANGES TO NURSERY STAFF FOR JANUARY 2020

We are sad to announce that Mrs Rhodes will be leaving St Richard's when we break up for Christmas tomorrow. Mrs Rhodes has been at our school since September 2010 so I am sure that you will join us all in thanking her for her many contributions to the life of the school and in wishing her all the best for the future. From 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020, when we return from the Christmas break, Mrs Kelly will be joining the other Nursery staff and will be the acting Early Years Foundation Stage Leader.

## CHRISTMAS CONCERTS 2019

Many thanks for attending any of our Christmas concerts last week. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our very talented pupils and staff on how fantastic the performances were. Many thanks and well done to all involved. **£352** was raised in total from ticket and programme sales and this will be donated to Francis House Children's Hospice in Didsbury.

## Y1 AND Y2 VISIT TO THE PANTOMIME

All our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils and staff went to the pantomime at Romiley Forum yesterday. They really enjoyed their morning out to see 'Dick Whittington'.

Daniella writes: 'We went to the pantomime. We watched Dick Whittington. We went on a big coach and we were able to sit upstairs. We sang lots of songs on the journey. The panto was fun. We had to shout 'boo' to the evil rat queen.' Salar writes: 'I enjoyed it when they thought Dick Whittington had stolen money when really he hadn't. Dick and Tom helped everybody by killing the rats and saving the day.' Ellie writes, 'I enjoyed the panto. I loved the singing and dancing. My favourite part was when the cat got rid of all the rats, even the queen rat.'

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 & 6 Awards Assembly at 9.10am
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils break up for Christmas holidays at 3.30pm
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	First Mass of Christmas at St Richard's Church at 7pm
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	School closed to pupils: Staff INSET
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	School open to pupils from 8.30am

## CONFIRMED AND FINAL KS2 DATA FOR 2019

Our KS2 SATs results from Summer 2019 have now been finalised by the DfE and are available on the school website at [www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/sats-results/](http://www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/sats-results/) These are excellent results (even better than the provisional data) and are a testament to how hard our staff and pupils work – well done and thank-you everyone!

## WINTER UNIFORM IN JANUARY 2020

This is a reminder that, from Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2020, all our pupils **must** still be in winter uniform. This consists of:

**GIRLS' WINTER UNIFORM:** Dark grey skirt or pinafore dress, blue blouse, school tie, school sweatshirt or cardigan (plain navy, preferably with the school logo. No other logo is allowed). Girls are allowed to wear grey or black tights or grey, black or white socks. Girls may wear dark grey school trousers.

**BOYS' WINTER UNIFORM:** Dark grey school trousers, blue shirt, school tie, school sweatshirt (plain navy, preferably with the school logo. No other logo is allowed).

St Richard's school ties are available from the school office priced £3 each.

**We are very grateful for parental assistance in making sure that school shirts and ties are always worn smartly.**

## CORNERSTONE HANDBAG & BACKPACK APPEAL

Mrs Bentley and the Caritas Ambassadors took a total of 31 backpacks and handbags filled with useful items down to Cornerstone yesterday as part of our collective effort to help the homeless this Advent season. Many thanks to everyone who contributed in any way.

## RESPONDING TO THE NEWSLETTER

We are always happy to receive comments, observations or suggestions about the newsletter or any aspect of school life in general. Any such comments will be read and considered. These can be emailed to: [comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk)

With many thanks for your continuing support and wishing you all a happy Christmas,

*Mr J Murray*

Headteacher

St Richard's RC Primary School