



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2020

Friday 29th May 2020

REOPENING OF SCHOOL TO MORE PUPILS

Following the Government's confirmation yesterday evening that schools should begin wider re-opening, I am writing to inform you of our plan. Please be aware that even this plan is subject to change, pending any new developments with the Covid-19 situation or as a result of any new guidance. Our plan is:

On **Monday 8th June**, vulnerable pupils and pupils of key workers who have already been attending school during the lockdown period will return to school from 8.30am until 3.30pm until the school breaks up for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July.

On **Monday 15th June**, Year 6 pupils will return to school from 8.30am until 2.30pm. They will be taught in groups ('bubbles') of 6 pupils maximum per classroom until school breaks up for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July. Year 6 will be taught in either the Olympic Building or the Main Building.

No sooner than **Monday 22nd June**, Year 1 pupils will return to school from 9am until 3pm until school breaks up for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July. Year 1 will be taught in groups ('bubbles') of 10 pupils maximum. Year 1 pupils will be taught in St Richard's Building.

No sooner than **Monday 29th June**, Reception pupils will return to school from 9.30am until 3.30pm until school breaks up for the summer holidays on Friday 17th July. They will be taught in groups ('bubbles') of 12 pupils maximum. Reception pupils will be taught in the EYFS Building.

No other year groups (including Nursery) will be able to return to St Richard's until after the Summer holidays

A copy of our detailed risk assessment for the wider reopening of St Richard's can be found on the home page of our website www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk. Please read this risk assessment in order to help you make an informed decision about whether you send your child back to school this term or not. Please also read the **Headteacher's letter on the wider reopening of St Richard's school - 29th May 2020** and **Revised School Procedures** (which will be available from Wednesday 3rd June). All three of these documents must be read in full if you are thinking about sending your child back to school. All three contain essential information.

You will not be pressured to send your child back to school this term and the government has said that there will be no fines issued to parents of children not attending school. Please note:

- All **Clinically Extremely Vulnerable** pupils are required to self-isolate and must not attend school.
- All pupils who live with a person who is Clinically Extremely Vulnerable must also not attend school.
- All pupils, or persons within their household that have COVID 19 symptoms must not attend school.

I need to make it clear that if you send your child back to St Richard's in June, it will be a very different experience from the one they are used to.

Only if you send the email (or phone school if you have no access to email) mentioned in the Headteacher's letter on the wider re-opening of St Richard's school **before 8th June** will your child be able to return to school on their year group's designated re-start date.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word team continue to support families during lockdown with **free** online editions of the Wednesday Word. These are available every Wednesday by visiting www.wednesdayword.org, clicking "Schools please click here for the Primary School version" and then following the link. The Wednesday Word this week is still the bumper three-week edition, in recognition of the Whitsuntide holiday.

THIS SUNDAY IS PENTECOST

Pentecost (also known as Whitsun or Whitsuntide) is celebrated every year in the Christian faith. Fifty days after the Resurrection, and ten days after the Ascension of the Lord, God sent his Holy Spirit to be with the apostles, who were hiding and waiting. The Spirit filled them with the courage to emerge from their self-confinement and to go and spread the word of God – first to the people gathered in Jerusalem and later to the whole world. For this reason, Pentecost is often known as 'the Birthday of the Church'.



We ask that we are open to that same Spirit this weekend and in the weeks ahead and that we bear the fruits of that Spirit, which St Paul tells us are love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

HAPPY EID AL-FITR

We hope that everyone (especially all our Muslim families) enjoyed a very happy, holy Eid al-Fitr last weekend.

ONLINE RESOURCES ON THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

There will be no fortnightly home learning plans posted on the school website for Monday 1st June until Friday 12th June. This is in acknowledgement of the half-term holiday. If you would like your child to continue with their home studies in this period, please use the other resources sign-posted on our website such as Oak National Academy and BBC Bitesize. We will resume our bespoke St Richard's fortnightly Home Learning Plans from Monday 15th June and these will continue to be available on the website until we break up for the Summer holidays on Friday 17th July.

STAYING IN TOUCH AND INFORMED WHILE WE ARE CLOSED

Remember, if you need any support from school, please let us know by emailing comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk. You are welcome to share any questions or concerns using the above email address and we will endeavour to respond. During the closure period, some families will also receive phone calls from school staff to have a chat about how things are going. Please make a habit of visiting the home page of the school website (www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk) regularly for updates on the coronavirus situation as it impacts on our school community (Thursday afternoon is a particularly good time to do this). We will continue to use ParentMail texts as well as the weekly newsletter in order to communicate important information while we are closed. The weekly newsletter will be available every Thursday afternoon at: www.st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/letters-reports/



Back to school?



Is your child going back to school?

If possible walk or cycle.

STAY ALERT • CONTROL THE VIRUS • SAVE LIVES

With every best wish,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School