



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2020



Thursday 17th
September 2020

COVID-19 UPDATE AT ST RICHARD'S

We have been informed that a member of our school community has tested positive for COVID-19. As a precaution – and pending further advice from Public Health England – school made the decision to ask one class (who may have been in close contact with this individual) to self-isolate. Bubbles will always be informed immediately when this is the case.

There are things we can all do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- maintain an appropriate social distance with non-household members of over 2 metres whenever possible.

SCHOOL GAMES GOLD AWARD

We are delighted to have retained our School Games **GOLD AWARD** for the academic year 2019-20. This is a fantastic achievement and we want to thank Mr Neilson and all the staff team who have contributed to organising and attending school games – as well as to all our pupils who always participate with a great sporting attitude. Well done everyone!

FREE PRIZE DRAW TO WIN A BRAND NEW LAPTOP!

The closing date to enter the competition draw to win a brand new laptop is 4pm today. Many thanks to everyone who has responded to the questionnaire so far. This will help us to know whether our pupils have access to a computer or tablet at home, along with a reliable internet connection. This information will help us design and provide the best possible home learning solution for the pupils of St Richard's in case we ever have to self-isolate or lockdown in the future. If you still have not entered (separate entries for each of your children at St Richard's) please [click here](#) in order to complete and submit the very short questionnaire by 4pm today. Good luck everyone!

KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our risk assessment and whole school reopening procedures are available to read on the home page of the school website at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/>. Please read both documents carefully as they contain important and useful information about how St Richard's is currently operating.

NO PARENTS/CARERS ON SITE AT THE MOMENT

At the moment, parents and carers are not allowed on the school site. This is in order to minimize mixing and therefore prevent the spread of COVID-19. It is therefore vital that parents wait outside school as safely and as socially distanced as possible.

Please ensure that only one parent or carer per household comes to school to pick up your child. Parents/carers should consider wearing a mask whilst they wait. A distance of one metre plus (ideally two metres) should be observed at all times.

STAYING IN TOUCH AND INFORMED

It is vitally important that parents receive and read the newsletter every week. It can be accessed on the school's website every Thursday afternoon. If you wish to receive the newsletter directly every week by email, then simply send:

1. Your full name
2. Name(s) and class(es) of your child(ren) at our school
3. Preferred email address
4. The message 'I consent to school using my email address in order to send me a copy of the newsletter each week of term'.

to comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk and you will be added to the mailing list.

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

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Smart black school shoes (no boots or trainers) are required at all times for pupils at St Richard's. Please also ensure that – if your child is in winter uniform – that they wear a school tie in a smart fashion. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word team continue to support families with free online editions of the Wednesday Word. These are available every Wednesday by visiting www.wednesdayword.org, clicking "Schools please enter here for the Primary School version" and then following the link. This Wednesday's Word is **GENEROUS**.

NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS FOR THE TIME BEING

Until further notice, our before-school breakfast club has been suspended. No after-school clubs will run until further notice either. We are hopeful that swimming for Year 3 pupils will commence before Christmas. Parents will receive a separate letter when this is the case.

SAFE DROP-OFF AND PICK UP OF CHILDREN

It is not safe or acceptable for parents who drive their children to school to stop their car in the middle of the road and expect children to step into the road and then make it to school. Please give yourself enough time to park up (preferably a bit further away from school in order to avoid congestion) and then calmly walk the rest of the way to school. This will have a positive impact on everyone and is much safer for your child. Many thanks in advance for your full cooperation.

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

Parents of pupils who are currently in Year 6 must apply for a secondary school place by the closing date of 5pm on Monday 2nd November 2020. The application portal opened on 1st July 2020 at https://lealive.manchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en Information about secondary school open mornings and evenings is available at www.manchester.gov.uk/schools

APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The application round for Reception 2021 opened 17th August 2020. The closing date for Reception 2021 school applications is 5pm on Friday 15 January 2021. The application portal opened on 1st July 2020 at https://lealive.manchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en. You can change your application up to the closing date, but not after. You must apply on time to be considered for your preferred schools.

SCHOOL PAYMENTS ARE TO MOVE ONLINE

As a result of the pandemic (cash handling can help the virus to spread) we will be moving to an online cashless payment system at St Richard's for all payments (school meals, milk and school trips etc). This will take place after October half-term 2020 and a more detailed letter will follow. This is advance notice that – if you need to make payments to school after October half-term – you will have to have a bank account as we will not be accepting cash after Friday 23rd October 2020.

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School