



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2020

Thursday 15th October 2020

WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE AT ST RICHARD'S

A member of our school community in Class 11 has tested positive for COVID 19 this week. We notified Public Health England and followed their guidance. The children who have been in close contact with the individual who tested positive have all received communication from school informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days. Remote learning will be provided for all these pupils.

The school remains open and children who are not in Class 11 should continue to attend as normal, as long as they remain well. There are many things that we can all do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19:

- **Not mixing households:** Longsight and North Levenshulme currently have one of the highest COVID-19 transmission rates in Greater Manchester and Greater Manchester has one of the highest rates in the country.
- **Wash your hands** with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds and as soon as you get home
- **Use hand sanitiser gel** if soap and water are not available
- **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze. Use a face mask when required.
- **Maintain an appropriate social distance** with non-household members of over 2 metres whenever possible.

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

ST PETER'S RC HIGH SCHOOL GUIDED TOURS

All our Year 6 parents ought to have received a letter with details of the open morning guided tours which our feeder Catholic secondary school, St Peter's RC High School, will be running until Friday 16th October. This is a great opportunity for parents to see St Peter's in action, get details of the admissions process and see St Peter's students happy and engaged in their studies. Thank you for continuing to support St Peter's RC High School.

APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION FOR SEPTEMBER 2021

The application round for Reception 2021 opened on 17th August 2020. The closing date for Reception 2021 school applications is 5pm on Friday 15th January 2021. The application portal is 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. **Having a Nursery place at St Richard's in no way guarantees a place in our Reception class. Please apply on time.**

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word team continues 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 **GRATITUDE**.

NO CROSSING PATROLLER FOR NEXT 5 WEEKS

We have been informed that there will be no crossing patroller outside Crowcroft Park school for the next 5 weeks or so. Please exercise additional caution when crossing the roads around school.

FLU VACCINATIONS AUTUMN 2020 WERE POSTPONED

Unfortunately, flu vaccinations could not take place on Monday 12th October due to staff shortages with IntraHealth, the company that provides the service. We hope to have a re-arranged date very soon.

NO IN-SCHOOL PARENTS' EVENING AFTER HALF-TERM

Unfortunately, there will be no face-to-face Autumn term 2020 Parents' Evening in school due to COVID-19. Instead, in the week of 9th November, parents will receive (through the post) a short written report detailing how your child has settled in to their new class. The envelope may include other important information so please take the time to read it all carefully.

NO CHRISTMAS CONCERTS IN SCHOOL THIS YEAR

We have taken the sad decision not to have Christmas concerts and performances in school this year. This is unfortunate but necessary during a time of pandemic when we are seeking to minimise mixing in order to halt the spread of COVID-19. Please find an updated holiday list for the current academic year on the second page of this newsletter. Please bear in mind that even the events listed here are subject to postponement or cancellation, depending on the rate of spread of the virus at the time.

YEAR 6 GEARS AND LEVERS WITH AMANDA MORROW

Jason in C12 writes, 'Class 12 did a Design & Technology project on making and designing a car with a motor. We learned about pulleys, motors and gears and how they work inside the machines. I enjoyed the design part because it allowed us to be creative. Overall, I thought it was incredible.'

ADVANCE NOTICE: STAFF INSET DAYS THIS TERM

St Richard's will be closed to all pupils on Friday 20th November and Monday 23rd November 2020. These are allocated INSET days for staff professional development and no pupils should come to school on these days.

OUR HOME LEARNING POLICY OCTOBER 2020 ONWARDS

It is vital that children at St Richard's continue to make excellent progress in their learning in the event of the need to self-isolate or if we were closed to most pupils in the event of any future lockdown. We have therefore published updated home-learning resources on our website this week. We are recommending a **minimum of two hours** of good-quality home learning per pupil per day whilst children are not in school.

Our COVID-19 Home Learning Policy is available here: <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/Home-Learning-Policy-October-2020.pdf> The main points are:

Internet-based home learning for self-isolation or lockdown: St Richard's will be using the Education City platform to allow our teachers to set, monitor and mark tasks on a daily basis for pupils in their class. Children have been shown how to access these resources.

Internet-based home learning for a child exhibiting

symptoms: Individual children who are sent home with symptoms of COVID-19 and who subsequently test positive may still be well enough to learn from home during their period of self-isolation. In this case, they should complete the self-isolation paper booklet given to them by their teacher and use the online resources from Oak National Academy and the BBC's Bitesize education package (links are on our Home Learning page).

Self-isolation paper-based home learning: In the case of a class bubble having to self-isolate, the class teacher will distribute a paper booklet with a sufficient amount of work to last for 10 school days. We are asking parents to support, mark and comment on their child(ren)'s work, and ensure that the work is returned to school as soon as their child(ren)'s self-isolation period ends.

Lockdown paper-based home learning: If we go into a whole-school lockdown, children will bring home published CGP books with a greater quantity of work than the self-isolation booklet. There are answers at the back of most CGP books, as well as a comments sheet at the front. We are asking parents to use both to monitor their child(ren)'s efforts. House points will be awarded for returned work.

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School



**ST RICHARD'S R C PRIMARY SCHOOL
HOLIDAY LIST FOR 2020/2021**



Autumn Term 2020			
Staff In-Service Day	Tuesday	1st September	9am – 4pm
Staff In-Service Day	Wednesday	2nd September	9am – 4pm
Pupils start	Thursday	3rd September	8.58 am
Nursery pupils staggered intake days		8 th , 15 th , 22 nd , 29 th September	8.50 am
Mid-Term School closes	Friday	23rd October	3.30 pm
Pupil re-start	Monday	2nd November	8.58 am
Staff In-Service Day	Friday	20th November	School closed
Staff In-Service Day	Monday	23rd November	School closed
Pupils Christmas Dinner	Tuesday	15th December	12 noon
Term Ends	Friday	18th December	3.30pm
Staff In-Service Day	Monday	21st December	9am – 4pm

Spring Term 2021			
Pupils re-start	Wednesday	6th January	8.58 am
Test Week: Rec, Yrs 1, 3, 4 & 5	Week beginning	3rd February	
Mid-Term School closes	Friday	12th February	3.30 pm
Staff In-Service Day	Monday	22nd February	9am – 4pm
Pupils re-start	Tuesday	23rd February	8.58am
Parents Evening	Wednesday	24th March	3.45pm–6.45pm
Term Ends	Thursday	1st April	3.30 pm
Easter Vigil Mass	Saturday	3rd April	7.30 pm

Summer Term 2021			
Pupils re-start	Monday	12th April	8.58am
Bank Holiday	Monday	3rd May	School closed
SATs (Year 2)		Throughout May	
SATs (Year 6)	Week beginning	10th May	
Mid-Term School closes	Friday	21st May	3.30 pm
Pupils re-start	Monday	7th June	8.58 am
Class photographs	Tuesday	TBA	
Test Week: Rec, Yrs 1, 3, 4 & 5	Week beginning	TBA	
Reports issued to Parents	Friday	9th July	
Term Ends	Wednesday	21st July	3.30 pm
Staff In-Service Day	Thursday	22nd July	9 am – 4 pm

HOLIDAYS & REQUESTS FOR EXTENDED LEAVE IN TERM TIME WILL NOT BE AUTHORISED