



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2020

Thursday 8th October 2020

WEEKLY COVID-19 UPDATE AT ST RICHARD'S

Whenever we have information of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in school then all other pupils and staff in the same class bubble will always be informed as soon as possible. We will also use this section of the newsletter to keep the rest of the school community updated, on a weekly basis. **There have been no further confirmed cases and no classes sent home from St Richard's since last week's newsletter.** 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 as a result of households mixing- (according to the Manchester Evening News)
- **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 **INVITATION**.

NO CROSSING PATROLLER FOR NEXT 6 WEEKS

We have been informed that there will be no crossing patroller outside Crowcroft Park school for the next 6 weeks or so. Please exercise additional caution when crossing the roads around school.

FLU VACCINATIONS AUTUMN 2020

Those pupils who returned the consent forms will be receiving their flu vaccinations in their class from Intrahealth staff on Monday 12th October.

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.

THANK YOU FROM CARITAS

A message from Rachel Taylor at Caritas Diocese of Salford, following our St Joseph's Penny fund-raising earlier in the year:

'Thank you for sending in a cheque for £307.33 for this year's St Joseph's Penny Appeal. Your generous gift means that the services operated by Caritas Diocese of Salford, working throughout Lancashire and Greater Manchester, can continue to offer a much needed response to individuals and families who are experiencing poverty, loneliness and marginalisation... We would like to thank all of the children, families and staff members for all of their support over the years; it makes such a difference. Thank you again to the whole school family for sharing what you have with those in need. Together, we will ensure that no one is left behind.'

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