



St. Richard's RC Primary Holy Week Newsletter 2021

Wednesday 31st March
2021

PLEASE DO NOT HAND

THIS WEEK IS HOLY WEEK

Holy Week began on Palm Sunday. During Holy Week in school, we have been recalling the events leading up to Jesus' death whilst also looking forward to His Resurrection, which we celebrate this coming Sunday. This Friday is Good Friday, when Christians commemorate Jesus' suffering and death on the cross. It is traditionally a day of sorrow, penance, and fasting. We wish all our families the peace, holiness, hope and joy of the Easter season.



Holy Week

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION UPDATE

As you are aware, the Sacramental Programme has not taken place so far this year. However, when the time comes and it is once again safe to meet together to prepare your child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion, we will need to know the number of children who will be taking part in the programme. A letter should have reached the relevant parents this week, inviting you to enroll your child on the next Parish Sacramental Programme.

We do not know, as yet, when or how many meetings will be held or the dates of church celebrations. We will let you know as soon as we can. If you wish your child to receive these sacraments and have not received a letter inviting you to enroll then please phone the school office as soon as possible.

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. Until Wednesday 14th April, the Wednesday Word will be in its Lent and Easter Booklet version. Please make good use of this fantastic resource throughout Holy Week and the Easter break.

IF A PUPIL DISPLAYS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

It is important to remember that parents and carers **must** keep children at home (or come to school immediately and collect them) if they display ANY of the symptoms of COVID-19. The household must then self-isolate and arrange for a PCR test. The child may return to school if the test result is negative.

FOOD BANK IN LEVENSCHULME

iCare Food Hub, based at the Madina Masjid & Community Centre, Barlow Road, Levenshulme M19 3DJ, is a free food hub for anyone in need. Donations are also welcome. Distribution of food parcels takes place on the last Sunday of every month, from 2pm to 3:30pm. For more information, please contact: Masjid Office 0161 224 5143 or Waqas Ahmed 07581 256 306 or Shujaat Hussain 07974 135 116. Alternatively, email Madinamasjid.mcr@ukim.org

REVISED PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS FOR Y2 PUPILS

From now on, parents of pupils in Year 2 should come to the main gate on Sutcliffe Avenue to pick up their child at the end of the school day. The staff car park will no longer be open to parents of Year 2 pupils at the end of each day. Parents should not walk through the staff car park from now on. Please stay away from staff cars and ensure that your children do too. Please be respectful of the church lawn and gardens. Please also be considerate and safe in your parking near school. Please do not block neighbours' drive ways or the entrance or exit to the staff car parks. Many thanks in advance for your full cooperation.

ANYTHING TO STAFF ON THE GATE

Please do not ask staff on duty at school entrances at the start of the day to pass any of your child's items on. Staff have been instructed not to receive any such items. Please plan ahead and give these to your child instead. Many thanks in advance.

SUMMER UNIFORM RULES AFTER EASTER

From Monday 12th April when we return to school, and as an alternative to winter uniform, pupils may wear summer uniform. Summer uniform may be worn until the October half-term holidays. For girls, summer uniform consists of blue and white gingham dress. Girls may also wear white tights or black, white or grey socks as part of summer uniform. Boys' summer uniform consists of dark grey trousers or shorts, light blue polo shirt and plain navy school sweatshirt (preferably with the school logo and no other logo allowed).

NOTIFYING SCHOOL OF POSITIVE TEST RESULTS FOR COVID-19 OVER THE EASTER HOLIDAYS

Until 3.30pm on Monday 5th April, if your child has been in school and subsequently tests positive for COVID-19, parents are asked to notify school via an email to comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk. The school will then identify possible close contacts of your child in school and – if necessary - advise self-isolation for other pupils and staff (as your child may have been infectious whilst in school). This advice to self-isolate will be via a ParentMail text. The above email address will not be monitored after 3.30pm on Monday 5th April. During this period, school staff will not be on-call at all times. After 3.30pm on Monday 5th April, **the school must not be contacted**. Instead, parents and carers must contact NHS Test and Trace. If this happens, school do not need to be informed about an absence until the first day of the new term (Monday 12th April 2021).

LUNCHTIME ORGANISER VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a lunch time organiser at St Richard's, starting on Monday 7th June. Please phone the school office as soon as possible on 0161 224 5552 if you would like to be sent the application pack. The closing date for applications is noon on Friday 16th April 2021.

RETURNING SCHOOL LAPTOPS

Many thanks to all parents who have already returned the laptop which was loaned during lockdown. Letters will be sent out tomorrow to those households who have still not returned this loaned equipment.

NO MORE BIRTHDAY SWEETS IN SCHOOL

This is a reminder that - until further notice - no sweets, chocolates or other gifts can be brought into school on the occasion of a child's birthday. This is another way to help limit the transmission of COVID-19.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Thursday 1 st April (Maundy Thursday)	School breaks up for Easter Holidays
Friday 2 nd April	Good Friday
Sunday 4 th April	Easter Sunday
Monday 5 th April	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
Monday 12 th April	School reopens following Easter holidays
Monday 12 th April	Ramadan begins
Friday 16 th April	Deadline for lunchtime organiser applications (noon)
Friday 23 rd April	Saint George's Day

With every best wish for Easter and hoping that you all stay safe and well,

Mr J Murray
Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School