



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2021

Thursday 8th July 2021

FURTHER BUBBLE CLOSURE AT ST RICHARD'S

On Friday 2nd July our Reception 2 class bubble was sent home as a result of a member of class testing positive for COVID-19. This means that R2 will have to self-isolate and learn from home using paper based resources and Google Classroom until **Monday 12th July**. Many thanks for your understanding and cooperation. We appreciate the stress and disruption that bubble closures cause but we must abide by local and national regulations and guidance in order to halt the transmission of COVID-19. Class 7 staff and pupils should return to school on **Friday 9th July**.

NATIONAL RESTRICTIONS SET TO END ON 19th JULY

On Monday 5th July the Prime Minister indicated that the majority of restrictions associated with COVID-19 will come to an end on Monday 19th July and that those restrictions currently in place will be replaced by individual judgement and all of us 'learning to live with the virus'. This final easing of restrictions will only be confirmed on 12th July, following a review of the latest data. Our pupils break up for the Summer holidays on Wednesday 21st July and so it makes little sense to change any of our systems of control so close to the end of the school year.

At St Richard's, all current protective measures will therefore remain in place until we break up for the Summer holidays.

On Tuesday 6th July the Education Secretary announced that from **16th August 2021 onwards**, under 18 year olds in England will no longer have to self-isolate if they have been in contact with a positive COVID-19 case (but that they will have to self-isolate if they test positive themselves). We hope that - from the Autumn term 2021 onwards - this change in government policy will significantly reduce the disruption and loss of learning that all pupils have experienced since the start of the pandemic.

Information to parents about St Richard's school organisation and procedures for next academic year will be communicated through the newsletter and/or the school website before we break up for the Summer holidays.

POP UP COVID-19 VACCINATION CLINICS

In order to meet the increasing demand for vaccinations in our area, pop up vaccination clinics are open between Saturday 26th June and Sunday 18th July 2021 at:
Belle Vue Sports Village, M12 5GH, 9am - 8pm, Pfizer first dose or second dose (there is a [free shuttle service](#) for this clinic) and at Moss Side Leisure Centre, M15 5NN, 9am - 8pm, Pfizer first dose or second dose.

If you have had your first dose of the vaccine, you need to wait 8 weeks before having the second dose. This applies to everyone aside from women attending a pregnancy drop-in where the wait is 4 weeks.

Neither of the walk-in clinics currently offers the Moderna vaccine. For more information, please visit: https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/500362/covid-19/8079/covid-19_vaccination_programme/5?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

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 week's Wednesday Word is **LISTENING**.

NO END OF YEAR GIFTS PLEASE

As an unfortunate consequence of the current Covid restrictions, staff in school are unable to accept any end of year gifts from pupils or their parents this year. We hope that you understand. The most enduring gift that you have given us - and the one that we are all truly appreciative of in school - is your amazing cooperation, patience and perseverance during testing times and another very challenging academic year. Thank you everyone.

PCR TESTING FOR 'WIDER SYMPTOMS'

Manchester City Council is currently urging anyone - not just those attending or working in schools - to get a PCR test if they have any of the wider symptoms of COVID-19 listed below:

- Diarrhoea
- A persistent head ache
- Fever and chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea & vomiting

Please note, that asking those with 'wider symptoms' to take a PCR test is a precautionary measure and tests are voluntary. Those displaying 'wider symptoms' can continue to attend school or work. Those who agree to take a PCR test when displaying 'wider symptoms' can continue to attend work or school whilst awaiting their result.

SCHOOL MUST KNOW WHO IS PICKING UP YOUR CHILD

Our teaching staff want to hand children over to the correct person at the end of the school day. Please help to ensure this happens by always informing school or your child's classteacher if someone different is ever going to be picking up your child from school. Where there is ever any doubt on the part of our teachers, they have been instructed to not hand a child over before first checking with parents. This may require a phone call home from the school office at the end of the day and may lead to a delay but we ask that you fully support this safety-first approach. Many thanks in advance.

END OF YEAR THANKSGIVING MASS

Whilst we still can't all be physically united, there is an opportunity to be spiritually united tomorrow morning at 10am. This is when a streamed End of Year Thanksgiving Mass for schools will be celebrated by Bishop John, live from the Cathedral Church of St John the Evangelist, Salford. Our whole school community: governors, staff, children and parents are invited to join this live-streamed mass from the cathedral. The mass is intended to touch all members of the school community and to give thanks for what has been a very difficult and challenging school year. The mass will be live-streamed by the cathedral's live-streaming service, and the web-link is <https://www.churchservices.tv/salfordcathedral#>. It can be viewed in any web browser from any computer.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

(Please note that some of the dates below are provisional and subject to change, depending on COVID-19 guidelines in place at the time)

Friday 9 th July	Annual Pupil Reports issued to parents today
Tuesday 20 th July	Y6 Leavers' Awards Assembly at 9.15am (more details and guidance will follow)
Wednesday 21 st July	Pupils break up for Summer holidays today
Wednesday 8 th September	Reception to Year 6 pupils return to school today



With every best wish,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School