



# St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2021



Thursday 9<sup>th</sup>  
September 2021

## **WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!**

Well done to all our parents and carers who have done such a marvellous job of getting the children back to school so smartly this week. We hope that you had an enjoyable break. All the staff have been delighted to have the children back in school and I have seen and heard lots of lovely manners and great behaviour already. I am confident that we will all strive relentlessly together this year to ensure that the children of St Richard's continue to receive a truly outstanding education which is as safe as possible.

## **KEEP CHECKING THE SCHOOL WEBSITE**

Our revised risk assessment and whole school reopening procedures for September 2021 are both 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.

## **COVID 19 UPDATE**

Under new national arrangements in place since mid-August this year, if your child is a close contact of a positive case of Covid-19 and they are not displaying any Covid-19 symptoms, they will no longer have to self-isolate. We hope this means that we will have very few 'bubble closures' like we did last year.

However, in order to protect everyone in school (and at home) it is still vitally important that parents do not send their child to school if they have any symptoms of Covid-19, however mild. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature.
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If your child demonstrates any of the above symptoms whilst they are in school, you will be contacted and asked to come for them immediately and keep them off school at least until your child has had the result of a PCR test. Your child should stay at home and not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get the test result – they can only leave home to have the test.

## **STILL NO PARENTS/CARERS ON SCHOOL SITE**

Parents and carers are still not routinely allowed on the school site. This is still partly in order to minimize mixing and therefore prevent the spread of COVID-19 but it is also to enhance pupil safety and safeguarding at the start and end of the school day. This is likely to become a permanent change at St Richard's. Parents are of course allowed into school as long as they have made an appointment in advance by telephone. In due course we are looking forward to parents joining us for assemblies, parents evenings and Christmas concerts etc.

## **PRAYER OF ST RICHARD**

Our school prayer is printed below in the hope that you may occasionally wish to pray this prayer at home as a family this year:

*Thanks be to Thee my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits that You have given me, for all the pains and insults that You have borne for me. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may I know You more clearly, love You more dearly and follow You more nearly, day by day.*

## **SWIMMING THIS TERM**

Children now in Year 4 (Classes 7 and 8) will be swimming from Friday 17<sup>th</sup> September until the end of Spring half-term 2022. Until further notice, this will be 15 pupils from each class walking to the swimming baths every Friday (so that every child in Y4 swims every fortnight). More details to follow separately.

## **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](mailto: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](mailto:comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk)

## **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

Many thanks for your wonderful efforts in sending your child(ren) to school in such smart uniform. May I remind parents that no earrings (or any other jewellery) can be worn by pupils. Girls may wear smart school trousers, grey or black tights (white with summer uniform) or grey, black or white socks. However, leggings or footless tights are not part of our school uniform and should not be worn. No make-up or nail varnish is allowed. Smart black school shoes are the only footwear allowed – no trainers please.

## **WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE**

Thankfully, the Wednesday Word team continue to support families with free online editions of the Wednesday Word. This week's (yesterday's) edition is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/jesus?pid=MTA101634&v=36.17> This Wednesday's Word is **JESUS**.

## **AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS TERM**

After a lengthy pause, some of our after-school activities will be starting back up this half-term. Please keep a look out for further details.

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF PUNCTUALITY**

At the start of each school day it is vitally important that all our pupils arrive on time. There is a very generous window of opportunity for this at St Richard's - between 8.30am and 8.58am. Punctuality is essential as it sets the tone for the whole day, reduces pupil anxiety and maximises learning opportunities. At the end of the day we always expect **parental punctuality** – picking your child(ren) up on time. Many thanks in advance for your full support and cooperation.

## **CONGRATULATIONS!**

On behalf of the whole school community I would like to pass on our sincere congratulations to:

- Miss Cartney (Reception 2 teacher) who was married over the summer holidays and is now Mrs McCabe.
- Miss Tester (Reception 1 teacher) who was also married over the summer holidays and is now Mrs Wade.
- Mrs Richardson (Lunchtime Organiser) who gave birth to a baby girl called Mahalia whilst we were on holiday.

Well done to them all!

With many thanks for your continuing support and looking forward to a successful school year,

*Mr J Murray*

Headteacher  
St Richard's RC Primary School