



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2021

Thursday 21st
October 2021

WE BREAK UP FOR HALF-TERM TOMORROW

We break up for our half-term holidays after school tomorrow, Friday 22nd October. We wish you all a safe and restful half-term break. Please be particularly careful as Halloween takes place during the break and it will also be the start of bonfire season (and fireworks). School reopens at 8.30am on Monday 1st November.

CHANGE OF AUTUMN TERM PARENTS EVENING DATE

We have changed the date of our Autumn Term Parents Evening from Wednesday 10th November to **Wednesday 17th November**. On the afternoon and early evening of Wednesday 17th November, we will be using a virtual parents' evening platform called 'School Cloud'. There will be short video call between parents and teachers (a bit like Zoom or FaceTime). This will last 5 minutes. You will be able to choose your own appointment times with teachers and you will receive an email confirming your appointments. We are confident that School Cloud will be easy to use, that parents will like it.

Full details will follow shortly after half-term about how parents will be able to book appointments using School Cloud's online booking system.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

We are very grateful that 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/holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&p=3&v=41.5> and it is still the holiday booklet version covering Wednesday 13th to Wednesday 27th October.

COVID-19 UPDATE

It is still vitally important that parents do not send their child to school if their child has 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.

Manchester Health Authority have also identified some common wider symptoms which parents should also be mindful of for both themselves and their children and which may lead you to taking a Lateral Flow Device or a PCR test. These symptoms are:

- Headache that lasts a long time
- Feeling tired and unwell
- Muscle or full body aches
- Sore throat
- Blocked nose or runny nose
- Diarrhoea, feeling sick or vomiting

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



TOM'S PLAQUE UNVEILED

On Thursday 14th October we were delighted to be joined by members of Tom Daly's family for the unveiling of a special plaque in Tom's memory. This was a lovely occasion and it was fitting that the unveiling took place on the first anniversary of Tom being laid to rest. This was also Tom's birthday. The plaque is now on display in our main school entrance.

IS YOUR CHILD WATCHING INAPPROPRIATE TV?

A number of children have been playing games in the playground recently which appear to be taken from the Netflix series 'Squid Games'. Whilst the games are harmless in themselves, this revelation raises the question about whether our pupils are always being supervised in their television viewing. 'Squid Game' is certainly not suitable viewing for any of the pupils of St Richard's.

BE CAREFUL NEAR CAR PARK BARRIERS

Please stay well away from the car park barriers as they can be dangerous if you are in close proximity when they are being raised or lowered. Please do not duck under them and please avoid using the car park or the church grounds as a cut through. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

APPLYING FOR A SECONDARY SCHOOL FOR 2022

Parents of pupils who are currently in Year 6 must apply for a secondary school place by the closing date of **5pm on Monday 1st November 2021**. **THIS IS A WEEK ON MONDAY**. The application portal is available at: https://lealive.manchester.gov.uk/CitizenPortal_LIVE/en

ST PETER'S RC HIGH SCHOOL VIDEO

Our feeder high school, St Peter's RC High School, have recently made two inspiring short videos about the experience of being at St Peter's. At St Richard's, we are proud of our strong links with St Peter's and we are pleased to be able to share the links to the films with the school community of St Richard's. Please take a look by following the links below:

<https://youtu.be/jfPZzci-D14>

<https://youtu.be/uXcu4K93hDs>

APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION FOR 2022

The closing date for applying for a Reception place for your child for a September 2022 start is **Monday 17th January 2022**. Manchester City Council will send offers of places to those who applied on-time on National Offer Day, 19th April 2022. Please remember a place in our Nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception. Applying late means you have less chance of getting your preferred school. Please apply online and on time at: <https://parentportal.manchester.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS OVER HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

The vouchers will be sent to eligible parents by email this week for the half term, and will be for the value of £15.00 per child.

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School