



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2021

Thursday 11th November 2021

AUTUMN TERM VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING

We are holding a whole school virtual Parents Evening on Wednesday 17th November, with appointments available from 1.15pm – 3.15pm and from 4pm to 6pm. It is important that you make an appointment so that your child's class teacher can let you know how they are doing in school. All appointments will last 5 minutes. Many thanks to everyone who has already booked an appointment.

Please visit <https://strichardsrc.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book your appointments. The appointment booking window is now open but it will close at 4pm on Monday 15th November. **Changes to appointments or new appointment requests will not be possible after this date.** A parents' video guide can be viewed here: [Parent Guide for Video Appointments.](#)

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME NEWS

On Tuesday morning this week, 25 children from Class 7 and Class 8 at St Richard's received the Sacrament of Forgiveness at St Richard's Church for the first time. This evening, the first group of Year 4 children will receive their First Holy Communion in St Richard's Church at 6.30pm. The second group of Year 4 children will receive Holy Communion for the first time in St Richard's Church at 6.30pm a week today - on Thursday 18th November. Please remember all these children and their parents in your prayers at this time.

REMEMBRANCE DAY 2021

Today we commemorated Armistice Day by observing two minutes' silence in school. Well done and thank you everyone for this important observance.



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/faithfulness?pid=MTA101634&v=43.7>. This week's Wednesday Word is **FAITHFULNESS**.

COVID-19 UPDATE

It remains 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.

AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

We currently have four different afterschool sports clubs running, as well as a Computing Club and a Year 6 Singing Club.

From next week we will be providing after-school Maths Tuition for some of our Year 6 pupils. Please continue to watch this space and look out for letters coming home as we re-establish and build back our excellent pre-pandemic after-school club provision.

FIRE SAFETY

We have had two fire evacuation practice drills so far this term and – on both occasions – children have evacuated in an incredibly sensible and efficient manner. Well done boys and girls.

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

SCHOOL SITE SECURITY

Partly as a result of the ongoing pandemic, we no longer routinely have parents on school grounds at the start and end of the school day. This is also to ensure that staff at school can keep all our pupils safe by knowing who is walking around the school site at any time. However, this does not mean that parents are not welcome on school grounds. If you need to discuss something face to face, in the first instance please phone the school office to make an appointment.

NON-UNIFORM DAYS TO SUPPORT PARISH FUNDS

Unfortunately, due to COVID-19, there will be no parish winter fair again this year. In order to boost much needed parish funds, we are holding non-uniform days on:

- Thursday 25th November
- Friday 3rd December
- Friday 10th December
- Tuesday 14th December (Christmas dinner day)

On each of these occasions we would like your child(ren) to bring in £1 in return for wearing non-uniform. All proceeds will go to St Richard's RC Parish funds. Many thanks in advance.

ODD SOCKS DAY & ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

We are fortunate to have very few incidents of bullying at St Richard's. Some of the reasons for this are our emphasis on being part of a kind community - and our staff's pro-active approach to dealing with unkind words and actions.

With this in mind, we will be taking a full part in Anti-Bullying Week next week. To help symbolize the fact that our differences are a strength and a source of celebration, the children at St Richard's are invited to wear odd socks (or colourful/patterned tights) on Monday 15th November ... and all week if they want to!



REMINDER OF TWO 4-DAY WEEKS COMING UP

This is a reminder that school will be closed to all pupils on Friday 26th November (staff training day) and on Monday 29th November (an extra holiday to celebrate the upcoming Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II).

WHAT YOUR CHILD WILL LEARN DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR

At St Richard's we are really proud of our broad, balanced and exciting school curriculum. We want parents and carers to be aware of and take an interest in what your children will be learning during the school year. With this in mind, we invite and encourage you to visit <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/curriculum-2021-22/> in order to see the wide range of subjects on offer at St Richard's. If you click on any of the hyperlinks in your child's year group long term plan, you will see the 'Learning Journeys' that your child will follow this year. Please ask your child about their Learning Journeys – I am sure you will be amazed at what they know!

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>

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School