



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2021

AUTUMN TERM VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING

Many thanks to all our parents and carers who attended video appointments for Parents Evening yesterday. Despite a very small number of technical issues, we hope that the vast majority of parents found the experience of parents evening by video call to be useful - as well as convenient. Many thanks and well done to all the staff in school for making this new system work so well.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS ARE ON ... SO FAR

At the time of writing, Christmas Concerts for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be going ahead as previously advertised on the newsletter. However, no one is certain of the trajectory that COVID-19 will take this winter. We remain hopeful that the concerts will proceed with a live audience of parents but - if additional safety measures are recommended or have to be put in place - please bear in mind that parental attendance at these concerts may have to be limited or even not allowed at all. If this were to be the case, the children would still put their performances on and we would make every effort for parents to be able to see a video-recorded version of the concerts.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME NEWS

Unfortunately, yesterday's planned Reconciliation Service with children from Class 9 and Class 10 receiving the Sacrament of Forgiveness at St Richard's Church for the first time had to be postponed. This has now been rearranged for Thursday 25th November. This evening, the second group of Year 4 children will receive Holy Communion for the first time in St Richard's Church at 6.30pm. Please remember all these children and their parents in your prayers at this time.

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/leader?pid=MTA101634&v=44.8> This week's Wednesday Word is **LEADER**.

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 after-school sports clubs running, as well as a Computing Club, a Year 6 Singing Club and an Arts Club. We also provide both before and 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.

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

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>

Thursday 18th November 2021

OFSTED/CQC SEND INSPECTION OF MANCHESTER CITY COUNCIL LOCAL AREA ALL NEXT WEEK

Next week (from Monday 22nd November to Friday 26th November 2021), Manchester City Council's effectiveness in identifying, meeting the needs of and improving outcomes for children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) will be inspected by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC). The inspection will evaluate how effectively the local area:

- identifies the needs of children and young people with SEND
- meets the needs of these children and young people so that their outcomes and chances of participating fully in society improve.

The views of children and young people with SEND, and the views of their parents and carers will be gathered during visits to a number of early years settings, schools, colleges and specialist services. These views are critical to the inspection process. During the inspection, Ofsted and CQC inspectors will be keen to speak to as many children and young people and their parents and carers as possible. There are several ways in which children, young people, parents and carers from our school can engage with the inspection process and contribute their views. The inspection will include a survey of parents and carers. The survey opened on Monday 15 November and will close at 11:59pm on Tuesday 23 November 2021. Parents and carers who would like to take part in this survey can follow this link: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/ManchesterCityCouncilLASEN/Inspection/>. Parents and carers can also email their contributions to Lasend.support@ofsted.gov.uk. **PLEASE NOTE THAT THIS IS NOT AN OFSTED INSPECTION OF ST RICHARD'S BUT OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY'S SEND PROVISION.**

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.

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 already has or will follow this year.** Please ask your child about their **LEARNING JOURNEYS** - I am sure you will be amazed at what they know!

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray
Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School