



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2022



Thursday 17th March 2022

HAPPY SAINT PATRICK'S DAY!

Today is the feast day of St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. St Richard's school and parish has a long, proud and happy association with Ireland which, thankfully, remains strong to this day. We wish everyone a happy St Patrick's Day and we ask St Patrick to be with us and to pray for us.

SPRING TERM VIRTUAL PARENTS EVENING

We are holding a whole school virtual Parents Afternoon/Evening on Wednesday 23rd March 2022 (very similar to the one in the Autumn term 2021). Appointments will be 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.

We will again be using online software called 'School Cloud' for both the appointment booking system and the 5-minute video appointments with your child's class teacher. Your child ought to have brought home a letter on Monday 14th March 2022 which clearly states the name of the teacher that you must make your parents evening appointment with. The School Cloud system works with mobile phones as well as laptops, PCs and tablets. You will be able to choose your own appointment times with teachers and you will receive an email confirming your appointment(s).

Please visit <https://strichardsrc.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book your appointments. The appointment booking window opened at 4pm on Monday 14th March and it will close at 4pm on Monday 21st March. 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.](#)

COVID-19 UPDATES

The Government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive are still advised by the Government to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days. In addition, the Government no longer asks fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days. Routine contact tracing has also ended. Staff, children and young people who are close contacts of someone with COVID-19 should attend their education settings as usual.

Please be aware that the DfE have advised all schools that, in the unlikely event of a parent insisting on their child attending school when they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, schools can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.

CARITAS ST JOSEPH'S PENNY APPEAL LENT 2022

At St Richard's, we are supporting 'St Joseph's Penny' during Lent. All the money raised by St Joseph's Penny is used to support Caritas in the Diocese of Salford. Caritas is a Catholic charity which responds to poverty and social injustice in our local area. All contributions are gratefully received and deeply appreciated. If you are able, please consider making a donation via the link at: <https://justgiving.com/campaign/SJP22>

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word is back to its usual format this week. If you or your children are as yet undecided about how you could manage to pray some extra prayers this Lent, the Wednesday Word is the ideal aid to age-appropriate prayers which are linked to the Sunday Gospels throughout the season of Lent. I am sure that you would find this a rewarding whole-family activity. Please go to: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&>

This week's Wednesday Word is **CHANGE**.

FIRST FORGIVENESS TOMORROW

Tomorrow morning, some of our children from Year 3 and Year 4 will be receiving the Sacrament of Forgiveness for the first time in St Richard's Church. We thank everyone involved in their preparation and we ask that you pray for them on this very special day.

VACANCIES FOR TWO LUNCHTIME ORGANISERS

We have vacancies for two lunchtime organisers to start at St Richard's after the Easter holidays. The advert, job description, person specification and application form will all be available at noon on Thursday 17th March at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/vacancies/>

NEW ALTAR SERVERS REQUIRED AT ST RICHARD'S CHURCH

Some of the altar servers at St Richard's Church who were serving prior to the start of the pandemic have either relocated or gone on to further studies/university. Father Dever would therefore like to recruit some new altar servers, who will be given appropriate training. Parents or carers with children who have made their First Holy Communion and might be interested in carrying out this much valued and privileged ministry are very welcome to contact Father Dever on 0161 224 1498 in order to discuss this further.

A DAY FOR UKRAINE

On Friday 25th March we will be holding 'A Day for Ukraine' with all pupils being invited and encouraged to dress in yellow and blue non-uniform in return for £1 donation. All money raised will go to the Disasters Emergency Committee charity.

BEING POLITE

One of the qualities which we are always keen to practise at St Richard's is outstanding manners. Parents and carers have a key role to play in reinforcing this expectation with children at home. We also ask that all parents and carers set an outstanding example by being respectful and well-mannered when talking to each other and to staff in school. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

SAFE AND CONSIDERATE PARKING

Parents and carers must never park or drop off children on the zig-zag yellow lines outside school's entrances. Traffic Enforcement Officers are patrolling the roads around St Richard's at the moment in an attempt to ensure safer driving and parking around school. Equally, parents and carers must never block the driveways of our neighbours on Sutcliffe Avenue. Many thanks in advance for your cooperation.

FRANCIS HOUSE'S CREME EGG APPEAL

This year, we are supporting Francis House's Crème Egg appeal. We are running a competition to see which class can collect the most Crème Eggs (or other chocolate eggs similar in size to a Cadbury's crème egg). The eggs that your child brings into school will be donated to Francis House to sell across the city and there will be a small prize for the class in our school that collects the most. The competition is now open (many thanks for the donations so far) and will run until **TOMORROW** - 18th March 2022. Any contributions of chocolate eggs from any manufacturer (crème egg sized) would be greatly appreciated; thank you for your support in advance. More information about the appeal can be found here:

<https://www.francishouse.org.uk/get-involved/fundraising/our-annual-fundraisers/easter-chick-knit/>

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

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School