



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2022

Thursday 31st March 2022

BE ON THE LOOK-OUT FOR SCARLET FEVER

Hopefully you all received the paper letter from school on Monday about Scarlet fever. There has been a recent increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever across Greater Manchester. Scarlet fever is a highly contagious, bacterial infection that mostly affects young children (commonly between the ages of 2-8) and sometimes adults. It can spread very easily through coughing and sneezing, as well as coming into contact with an infected person. But, there are ways that we can limit how many people catch it. Please look out for these symptoms:

- Flu-like symptoms, including a high temperature, a sore throat and swollen neck glands (large lump on side of neck).
- A rash appears around 12 to 48 hours later. It looks like small, raised bumps and starts on the chest and abdominal or tummy area, then spreads. On white skin the rash looks pink or red. It may be harder to see on brown or black skin, but you can still feel it. In general, it makes skin feel rough, like sandpaper. These links, with images, will help:
<https://brownskinmatters.com/588#:~:text=A%20widespread%20rash%20often%20appears,or%20%E2%80%9C9Cand%20paper%E2%80%9D%20like>

If you notice any of these symptoms in yourself, or family members, please contact your GP as soon as possible. Most people will go on to make a full recovery and will be able to return to school or work 24 hours after starting antibiotics. In some rare cases scarlet fever can be dangerous, causing ear infection, throat abscess, sinusitis, pneumonia, meningitis and rheumatic fever.

UPDATED ATTENDANCE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Attendance is a key factor in ensuring good or better pupil progress. We aim for outstanding attendance and outstanding pupil progress. With this aim in mind, from Monday 28th March 2022 we have a new and updated Pupil Attendance Policy in place. This policy seeks to deal even more effectively with any pupil's attendance which is less than good. Please read the policy here: <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Attendance-policy-March-2022.pdf> and please ensure that your child's attendance and punctuality is always outstanding.

ALL THE BEST MISS CARR!

Miss Carr will be commencing her maternity leave after school tomorrow, Friday 1st April. We wish Miss Carr and her new baby all the very best. From Monday 4th April Miss Savage (who is already in school to aid a smooth transition) will be taking over as the new Class 1 teacher until the end of this academic year. I am sure you will make Miss Savage very welcome. Miss Kelly and Mrs Mkandawire will be staying with Class 1 and will help to provide continuity for the children.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

To accommodate different schools' Easter Holiday patterns, the Wednesday Word online covers the whole of the Easter Season this week. 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/len-easter-card?pid=MTA101634&v=57.15>

YEAR 6 SATS DATES 2022

This year the Year 6 KS2 SATs will take place **between Monday 9th May 2022 – Thursday 12th May 2022**. Over this period, pupils will sit 6 different tests and it is vitally important that they are in school for all of these tests and are ready to do their very best.

A DAY FOR UKRAINE

Last Friday, we held 'A Day for Ukraine' where all pupils and staff were invited and encouraged to dress in yellow and blue non-uniform in return for a £1 donation. We raised a fantastic total of **£446.80**, which will go to the Disasters Emergency Committee charity. Well done and many thanks everyone for a fantastic effort.

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>

COVID-19 REMINDER

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.

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 are all available at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/vacancies/> and the closing date for applications is 12 noon on Monday 4th April 2022

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS FOR EASTER AND WHIT

Manchester City Council has approved funding for free school meal vouchers for **two weeks Easter break** for children eligible for free school meals to help with the financial pressures that many of our families will face. As St Richard's only has 1 week's holiday at Easter, the £30.00 that you will receive next week will be for 1 week at Easter and 1 week at the end of May (Our Whit holiday). As this holiday in May is for 2 weeks, you may be issued with another £15.00 for the second week of the holiday nearer the time, but this is dependent on school receiving the funding for this from the Council. Therefore, please be mindful when you receive the £30.00 vouchers next week that this is for 1 week at Easter and 1 week of the May holiday.

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