



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2022

Thursday 24th November 2022

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The first Sunday of Advent is on Sunday 27th November 2022 – this coming Sunday. Advent means 'Coming' in Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world at Christmas. We are asked to use this special season to start to think about the real meaning of Christmas and to concentrate on preparing to celebrate Jesus' coming. Advent is a time of expectant waiting and preparation. Even though the media and the shops would have us all believe that Christmas is here already, it is not. In school this week, we have begun to place a special focus on Advent and on prayerful preparation for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas.



SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW

This is a reminder that St Richard's will be closed to all pupils all day tomorrow, Friday 25th November, as this is a staff INSET day.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

This week's edition of the Wednesday Word is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/advent?pid=MTA101634&v=76.8> and this week's Wednesday Word is, appropriately, **ADVENT**.

CHRISTMAS DATES 2022

Please make a note of the following dates for Christmas 2022 at St Richard's. More details (with ticket information etc) will follow in separate letters as soon as possible.

Tuesday 6th December – Nursery Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)

Wednesday 7th December – Year One Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)

Thursday 8th December – Reception Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)

Monday 12th December – Year Two Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)

Tuesday 13th December – Children's Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper/non-uniform Day

Saturday 24th December – Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St Richard's RC Church at 6pm

Wednesday 4th January 2023 – Pupils return to school

MANCHESTER'S FREE COST OF LIVING ADVICE

Manchester's free Cost of Living Advice Line (0800 023 2692) provides support with benefits, rent, debts, bills, food and getting online. Translation and Sign Video services are available. Alternatively, text on 07860 022876 or visit the web page on <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/coladvice>

IF YOU TAKE YOUR CHILDREN AWAY DURING TERM TIME

At St Richard's we encourage and assist all our pupils to strive for excellence. For pupils to gain the greatest benefit from their education, it is vital that they attend regularly. Your child should be at school, on time, every day that school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. Ensuring a child's regular attendance at school is a parent's legal responsibility and permitting absence from school without a good reason creates an offence in law and may result in a penalty notice (a fine) or even prosecution. **Holidays, trips abroad or extended leave in term time are not permitted and will not be authorised.**

PARENTS' EVENING THANKS

Many thanks to everyone who booked on and attended Parents' Evening using School Cloud earlier this week. We hope that you had a positive experience of Parents' Evening. Next week - as an important follow-up to your appointment - we would like all our parents to complete our Autumn Term 2022 Parents' Survey. The survey will be an online Google Form which you will be able to access by clicking a hyperlink on next week's newsletter.

The Parents' Survey should only take a few minutes to complete. There will be a £10 gift voucher for one randomly selected completed questionnaire **per year group** (so if you complete a questionnaire for each child that you have at St Richard's then you stand a chance of winning more than once).

Your email address will be requested when you complete and return the survey but this information will be used **only** to notify you if you win the £10 gift voucher in the random prize draw. You do not have to give your email address to complete and return the survey (but, if you do not, we cannot enter you into the draw).

THE RISKS OF USING WHATSAPP - WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

National Online Safety (NOS) have created free online safety guides for schools to share with parents and carers. This campaign is called '#WakeUp Wednesday'. Please click [here](#) to read this week's parent guide, which is all about WhatsApp.

WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service but – in the UK and Europe – **it should only be used by people over the age of 16**. Ensuring that your child is not using WhatsApp will help protect them from the risks of cyberbullying and contact from strangers, which using this app unfortunately increases.

SEND LOCAL OFFER

The Manchester Local Offer brings together information in one place. It helps children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) up to the age of 25 - and their parents – to understand what services and support they can expect locally.

If you don't receive the Local Offer newsletters and would like to subscribe please [Click here](#).



WINTER UNIFORM MUST NOW BE WORN

Our winter uniform must be worn from October half-term until the Easter break). For **girls** this is: Dark grey skirt or pinafore dress, blue blouse, school tie, school sweatshirt or cardigan (plain navy, preferably with the school logo. No other logo allowed). Girls are allowed to wear grey or black tights. Girls may wear dark grey school trousers.

For **boys** winter uniform is: Dark grey school trousers, blue shirt, school tie, school sweatshirt (plain navy, preferably with the school logo - no other logo is allowed). A school tie **must** be worn smartly and at all times as part of St Richard's winter uniform. All pupils must wear sensible black school shoes.

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School