



# St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2023



Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2023

## WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

On behalf of all the staff at St Richard's I would like to wish you all a warm welcome back to school. Many thanks for everyone's kind words and gifts just before the holidays – they were all greatly appreciated. We wish all our pupils, families and the whole school community a very happy and successful new year.

### 2023 SUNDAY TIMES PARENT POWER RESULTS

Over the Christmas holidays we were delighted to learn that St Richard's has again featured highly in the Sunday Times 2023 Parent Power schools guide. This is an annual ranking of schools – both state and independent. The ranking was calculated using SATs results from 2019 and was updated in December 2022. Of all the primary schools with a Manchester postcode (including all schools in Manchester local authority but also some schools in neighbouring authorities such as Tameside and Oldham) St Richard's was in **joint 3<sup>rd</sup> place**. This is a tremendous achievement. Well done everyone!

## SCHOOL CHOIR THANKS

Many thanks to all the children from the school choir who led the singing at the Christmas Eve Vigil Mass so beautifully. Well done and thank you to the readers who were all so clear. Many thanks to all the parents and staff from school for helping to prepare and for supporting the children at such a lovely occasion.

## WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

This week's edition of the Wednesday Word is still the Advent and Christmas 2022 holiday version which is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=79.2> and this week's Wednesday Words are **NEW START**.

## LOOKING OUT FOR 'STREP A' and iGAS SYMPTOMS

Scarlet fever is a common childhood infection caused by group A streptococcus (GAS). The early symptoms of scarlet fever include: sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting. After 12 to 48 hours a red, pinhead rash develops, typically first appearing on the chest and stomach, then rapidly spreading to other parts of the body, and giving the skin a sandpaper-like texture. The scarlet rash may be harder to spot on darker skin, although the 'sandpaper' feel should still be present. Children typically have flushed cheeks and paleness around the mouth.

Regionally and nationally, there are currently higher rates of scarlet fever than would be expected for this time of year. It is the same with cases of invasive group A streptococcus (iGAS) - particularly in children under 10 years. iGAS is far less common but is caused by the same bacteria as scarlet fever and can lead to more serious illness.

The UK Health Security Agency advises: "Anyone with high fever, severe muscle aches, pain in one area of the body and unexplained vomiting or diarrhoea should call NHS 111 and seek medical help immediately". Should your child develop any of these symptoms whilst they are at school, we will notify you immediately and expect you to come for your child straight away.

## APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION FOR 2023

The closing date for applying for a Reception place for your child for a September 2023 start is rapidly approaching. The deadline for applications is Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023. **Please note: a place in our Nursery does not guarantee a place in Reception.** It is vital that you get your application in on time. Please visit: [https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primary\\_school\\_admissions/7264/apply\\_for\\_a\\_reception\\_class\\_place\\_for\\_september\\_2023/4](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primary_school_admissions/7264/apply_for_a_reception_class_place_for_september_2023/4)

## DO NOT GO THROUGH THE STAFF CAR PARK

Parents must not cut through the staff car park next to St Richard's Church and should never attempt to squeeze past or go under the car park barriers because this is potentially very dangerous. Parents must not attempt to open the green pedestrian gate that leads onto this car park. Many thanks in advance for your complete cooperation.

## PARENT SURVEY RESULTS THANKS

Many thanks to all the parents who completed the Parent Survey as a Google Form in December 2022. Congratulations to the random prize draw winners. Your overwhelmingly positive comments are greatly appreciated.

## LEARNING JOURNEYS

The most up to date version of what your child will learn throughout the whole of this year - and in every subject - is always available on the school's website at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/curriculum-2022-23/> By clicking on the blue hyperlinked long-term plan for the relevant year group, you will be able to see your child's long-term plan – all the topics that they will cover in each subject this year. Many of these topics are also hyperlinked. If you click on these hyperlinks, you will find lesson-by-lesson plans called 'Learning Journeys' which provide even finer detail about what your child has already learned in Autumn term 2022 - and will be learning in Spring and Summer Term 2023. Please take a look.

## RECEIVING THE WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

It is vitally important that parents receive and read the newsletter every week so that you know what's going on at St Richard's. **The newsletter is only very occasionally sent out as a paper copy.** The latest version of the weekly newsletter can be accessed on the school's website every Thursday afternoon. We are happy to email the newsletter to parents every week if they request this service. If you are not currently receiving the newsletter each week but wish to receive the newsletter every Thursday by email, then simply send:

1. Your full name
2. Name(s) and class(es) of your child(ren) at our school
3. Preferred email address
4. The message '*I consent to school using my email address in order to send me a copy of the newsletter each week of term*'.

to [comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk) and you will be added to the mailing list.

## RESPONDING TO THE NEWSLETTER

As we start 2023, it's worth remembering that we are always happy to receive comments, observations or suggestions about the newsletter or any other aspect of school life. Any comments that we receive will be read and considered. These should be emailed to: [comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk)

With many thanks for your continuing support  
and with every best wish for a happy  
and successful New Year 2023,

*Mr J Murray*

Headteacher  
St Richard's RC Primary School