



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2023

Thursday 9th February 2023

THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME STARTS TONIGHT

We launch this year's Sacramental Programme this evening at 6pm in school for all parents and children who have signed up to make the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion this academic year. Please remember all these families in your prayers. Parents and children on the sacramental programme should come to Wilpshire Avenue tonight for a 6pm start in the school hall. There will also be an Enrolment Mass in St Richard's Church on Saturday 11th February at 5pm. Again, all who have signed up should attend this important celebration.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK 2023

In school we have enjoyed a range of activities this week linked to Children's Mental Health Week 2023. Demmy (C4) said, "I really liked the yoga we did this week because it was very calming."

Tomorrow (Friday 10th February) we will be having a non-uniform day in acknowledgement of Children's Mental Health Week 2023. There is no charge for this but children must wear sensible non-uniform.

TURKEY-SYRIA EARTHQUAKE DISASTER RELIEF

Given the tragic impact of the earthquake this week in Turkey and Syria, we will be having a voluntary collection in school tomorrow, Friday 10th February. The suggested donation is £1 but you are free to donate whatever you can. Our combined total will be sent to The British Red Cross who are working closely with the Turkish Red Crescent (Kizilay) to provide emergency first aid and to evacuate people to safety.

FRANCIS HOUSE'S CREME EGG APPEAL

We are now fully up and running with our competition to see which class can collect the most Crème Eggs (or other chocolate eggs similar in size to a Cadbury's crème egg) in aid of Francis House. As a school, we collected 583 eggs in the first week - well done everyone! The competition will end on 10th March. 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. Thank you in advance for your support.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR CHILD TO START NURSERY IN SEPTEMBER 2023?

If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 and you would like them to attend full time in the Nursery at St Richard's RC Primary School from September 2023, then please contact the school office as soon as possible for an admission form. Your child will be added to the waiting list for admission to our Nursery class in September 2023. Places are in high demand and offers are starting to be sent out soon.

SUPERMARKET VOUCHERS OVER HALF-TERM HOLIDAYS

As I am sure you are aware, we break up for February half-term on Friday 17th February and we return to school on Monday 27th February. Manchester City Council has agreed to fund supermarket vouchers over the February 2023 (one week) half term holidays, for children eligible for free school meals (FSM). As with previous school holidays, school will send you the vouchers during the week prior to the holiday.

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES

MCRactive are offering thousands of free places for children to access a variety of activities as well as a free meal over February half term in Manchester for those on benefit-related free school meals. To book your child's space please sign up for an MCRactive Go account <https://www.mcractive.com/> Once signed up, log into your account - Find Activities - Search by Category 'MCR Holiday Activity'. Use code 79112 when asked, in order to book free eligible activities.

YEAR 6 HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

On Thursday 2nd February Miss McKnight and Mrs Prunty took six Y6 children to a hockey tournament at Trinity High School. The team played extremely well, winning three games and drawing one. All of the players were excellent ambassadors for St Richard's and they demonstrated all of the School Games Values. Zunairah (C13) said, "I really enjoyed the hockey tournament, it was good to play matches against other schools and practise our skills."

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

This week's edition of the Wednesday Word is the holiday booklet version which will last for the next three Wednesdays - including our half-term holidays. It is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday-card?pid=MTA101634&p=8&v=84.7> and this week's Wednesday Word is **TEACHER**.

CLASS ASSEMBLY DATES 2023

Below are details of which class assemblies are coming up this term. They all begin at 9am in the main school hall. Parents are very welcome to attend their child(ren)'s class assembly.

Date	Class assembly for:
Thursday 16 th February	Class 2
Thursday 23 rd March	Class 3
Thursday 30 th March	Class 7

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

We continue to signpost parents to National Online Safety's free guides for parents and carers. This campaign is called '#WakeUpWednesday'. At St Richard's this means that we provide a weekly link to a different topical e-safety issue so that parents and children are better informed and able to make better choices about their internet use. This week's guide is **Tips for encouraging open discussions about digital lives** and it can be viewed by clicking [here](#). (Please see below too).

ONLINE SAFETY PARENT WORKSHOP

Manchester City Council (MCC) have commissioned a project for parents to help support their children to stay safe and well in their online lives. MCC would like parents to join their Online Safety Parent Workshop with child safety specialist Katherine Howard on Monday 27th February from 6.00-7.00pm. Katherine will also introduce parents to free online resources and MCC's parental control app. Click the link below in order to register for the webinar https://smoothwall.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ivfMbhX9TO-dFgF6y4LPnA

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School