



St. Richard's RC Primary Summer Term Newsletter 2023

Thursday 20th April 2023

HAPPY EASTER EVERYONE!

We hope that you had a happy and restful Easter holiday. Easter is not just a one day celebration but a whole season (the longest of the liturgical year) which lasts from Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday (28th May 2023). Throughout this season we will be praising God for the blessings of His Son's resurrection whilst looking forward to the Holy Spirit inspiring us to prayer and action and giving us the grace to love all our neighbours.



WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word remains in the Easter holiday version this week. Please share the joy of the Wednesday Word as a family this week by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=89.2>

FROM THE FRANCIS HOUSE WEBSITE

Following our Lenten fund-raising for Francis House before the Easter holidays, I am delighted to say that we have been mentioned on the charity's website. Please have a look at: <https://www.francishouse.org.uk/all-wool-that-ends-wool/> where it states: 'Pupils from St Richard's Primary School in Longsight, who have been excellent supporters of the appeal for several years, once again came up trumps with an unbeatable donation of 3,254 Crème Eggs'. Well done everyone!

RETURNING ST JOSEPH'S PENNY BOXES

Many thanks to everyone who has been filling their St Joseph's Penny boxes over the Easter break. Children should now return their penny-filled box to school by the closing date of Friday 21st April (tomorrow). Many thanks in advance for all your fund-raising efforts.

EID AL-FITR 2023

Eid al-Fitr 2023 will begin either this evening or tomorrow evening. Eid al-Fitr, also called the 'Festival of Breaking the Fast', is an important religious holiday celebrated by Muslims worldwide which marks the end of Ramadan, the Islamic holy month of fasting. We hope that all our Muslim pupils and staff and their families have a very happy Eid al-Fitr 2023.

NEW SIGNS ON CHURCH CAR PARK BARRIERS

Despite regular warnings not to, parents and pupils continue to cut through the staff car park next to St Richard's Church. You should **never** attempt to squeeze past or go under the car park barriers because this is potentially very dangerous. To further discourage this dangerous practice, we have added signs to both sides of both drop-down barriers which clearly state, 'No pedestrians'. For the safety of children and adults alike, please always follow the instruction on these signs. Thank you in advance for your complete cooperation.

VOTING IN UPCOMING LOCAL ELECTIONS

On Thursday 4th May 2023 local elections are taking place across England. St Richard's is not a polling station and school will be open to all pupils on that day, as usual. In order to vote in the elections, you needed to have been registered to vote by midnight on Monday 17th April. At these elections, you will need to bring photo ID to be able to vote at a polling station. For more information visit www.electoralcommission.org.uk/voter or call the Electoral Commission's helpline on 0800 328 0280.

NEU STRIKE ACTION NEXT WEEK

The National Education Union has announced that members will be taking industrial action on Thursday 27th April 2023 and Tuesday 2nd May 2023. Children will be bringing a letter home tomorrow (Friday 21st May) to let parents know whether this means St Richard's will have to close, will be able to stay fully open or may have to restrict attendance to certain classes of pupils on these dates.

THE GOVERNMENT'S NEW EMERGENCY ALERTS SYSTEM

As you may already have seen in the news this week, the government's new emergency alerts system is live and will enable people to be contacted via their mobile phone when lives are in danger (in the future, we may get alerts about severe flooding, fires, extreme weather, etc).

The Government have asked schools to let parents know that this system will be tested nationally on Sunday 23rd April 2023 at 3pm. The emergency alert is a loud, siren-like sound with a message on your mobile phone or tablet screen. To check an alert is genuine, visit GOV.UK.

HOCKEY FINALS SUCCESS

After school on Tuesday 18th April, our school hockey team played in the finals of the City of Manchester Schools' Hockey Tournament. I am delighted to announce that we finished in third place and the whole squad received bronze medals. A very proud Miss McKnight said, "The team was fantastic and very resilient in a tough competition."

CREATURE ARK VISIT TO RECEPTION

On Tuesday 18th April both of our Reception classes had an hour long visit from Creature Ark. The visit gave all our Reception children the opportunity to meet a wide variety of interesting and unusual creatures including a tortoise, a rabbit, a snake and some very large spiders! The whole experience was exciting, educational and memorable. Nathan in Reception 1 explained, "I liked the rabbit called Benjamin because he was so warm and soft."



YEAR 6 SATS DATES 2023

This year the Year 6 KS2 SATs will take place between **Tuesday 9th May 2023 – Friday 12th May 2023**. Monday 8th May is an extra bank holiday for the Coronation of King Charles III. During KS2 SATs week, 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.

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 '#WakeUpWednesday'. At St Richard's 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 all about **Echo Chambers** and can be viewed [here](#)

With many thanks for your continuing support

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School