



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2023



WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

We hope that you had a great Summer break. All the staff have been delighted to have the children back in school and we have seen and heard lots of lovely manners and great behaviour already. We welcome all our new pupils and new staff. I am confident that, as ever, we will all strive energetically together throughout the year to ensure that the children of St Richard's continue to receive a truly outstanding education.

Thursday 7th September 2023

The mission of St Richard's is that we know, love and follow Christ by looking after each other and trying our best every day

PRAYER OF ST RICHARD

Our school prayer is printed below in the hope that you may occasionally wish to pray this prayer at home as a family this year:

Thanks be to Thee my Lord Jesus Christ, for all the benefits that You have given me, for all the pains and insults that You have borne for me. O most merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother, may I know You more clearly, love You more dearly and follow You more nearly, day by day.

STAYING IN TOUCH AND INFORMED BY NEWSLETTER

It is vitally important that parents receive and read the newsletter every week. The newsletter will only be printed and handed out (like today) very occasionally. Usually, the newsletter is only available electronically. It can be accessed on the school's website every Thursday afternoon. However, if you wish to receive the newsletter directly every week by email, then you simply have to 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 and you will be added to the mailing list.

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

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Many thanks for your wonderful efforts in sending your child(ren) to school in such smart uniform. May I remind parents that no earrings (or any other jewellery) can be worn by pupils. No make-up or nail varnish is allowed. Smart black school shoes are the only footwear allowed – no trainers please.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PUNCTUALITY

At the start of each school day it is vitally important that all our pupils arrive on time. There is a very generous window of opportunity for this at St Richard's - between 8.30am and 8.58am. Punctuality is essential as it sets the tone for the whole day, reduces pupil anxiety and maximises learning opportunities. At the end of the day we always expect **parental punctuality** – picking your child(ren) up on time. Many thanks in advance for your full support and cooperation.

SWIMMING THIS TERM

Children now in Year 4 (Classes 7 and 8) will be swimming from Friday 15th September until the end of the academic year. They will be walking to the swimming baths every Friday. More details will follow in a separate letter.

ECO-COUNCIL GREEN FLAG AWARD

We are delighted to let you know that our Eco-Committee has been successful in meeting the requirements for the prestigious Eco-Schools Green Flag Award. In making the decision, the Eco-Schools organisation sent us a lovely letter which, amongst many other great things, stated,

'It's very impressive that you have formed such a large Eco-Committee. It shows that young people in your school are aware of environmental issues and committed to being active and creating positive change. This knowledge and attitude has provided your school with excellent foundations for the many successes that you've achieved this year. We love the inclusive approach you've taken to setting your Eco-Committee. This sets a positive and encouraging tone for your work, which supports a collaborative and community ethos, vital in maximising impacts. Great work!'



WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The Wednesday Word is still in holiday format this week and is still available to read and discuss as a family at:

<https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&p=12&v=101.5>

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS TERM

Our after-school activities will be starting back up this half-term in the week commencing Monday 18th September. Please keep a look out for further details.

ST ROBERT'S GARDEN PARTY THANKS

Thank you to everyone who helped to raise vital funds for our parish by attending St Robert's Garden Party (which was held indoor at St Mary's due to bad weather) at the end of last term. I am delighted to announce that the overall total raised for much needed funds for our parish was **£1868**. Well done everyone.

REINFORCED AUTOCLAVED AERATED CONCRETE (RAAC)

You may have seen recent media coverage regarding Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) and its use in schools as well as other settings. RAAC is a lightweight form of concrete and, because it is weaker than regular concrete, concerns have been raised about its long-term durability. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently changed its guidance to education settings on the management of RAAC to take a more precautionary approach and, as a result, some schools have had to temporarily close and make other arrangements for their pupils.

We wanted to inform you that, at St Richard's, we are not affected by this situation because **we do not have RAAC in any of our buildings** and therefore we will continue to function as normal. I hope that this offers reassurance.

With many thanks for your continuing support and looking forward to another very successful school year together,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School