



# St. Richard's RC Primary Advent Newsletter 2023



Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 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.

## THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The first Sunday of Advent is on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 – 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 next week, we will begin to place a special focus on Advent and on prayerful preparation for the arrival of Jesus at Christmas.

## RECEPTION 2 PARENTS' EVENING

Reception 2's Parents Evening will take place from 1.15pm – 6pm on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December. More details have gone out on a separate letter to R2 parents this week. Please make sure that you book an appointment.

## MCR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ACTIVITY INFORMATION

MCRactive and Manchester City Council are offering thousands of FREE places for children to access a variety of activities and a FREE meal over the Christmas holidays in Manchester for those on benefits-related free school meals. To book your child's space: 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 when asked: 99765 to book free eligible activities. Please also visit

<https://loadstodo.co.uk/> to view additional FREE holiday activities and other opportunities taking place across the city.

## APPLYING FOR A PLACE IN RECEPTION FOR 2024

The closing date for applying for a Reception place for your child for a September 2024 start is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024. 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)

## WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

This week's edition of the Wednesday Word is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/prayer?pid=MTA101634&v=112.2>

This week's Wednesday Word is **PRAYER**

## PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR 2023 – NON-UNIFORM TOMORROW

Our Parish Christmas Fair will take place on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at St Mary's Parish Centre, Elbow St, Manchester M19 3PY, starting at noon. Please make a note in your diary and please make every effort to attend and support the parish both socially and in its fund-raising efforts. St Richard's RC Primary School will be running the Chocolate Tombola and face painting. We would very much appreciate donations of chocolate (any size from a small bar to a large box!).

**We are having a non-uniform day tomorrow (Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December) in return for donations to the Chocolate Tombola.**

If there are any parents who could help prepare the Chocolate Tombola on the morning of Friday 8<sup>th</sup> December (9am – 12 noon) and/or could help to run the Chocolate Tombola or face-paint at the Christmas Fair on Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December, please let us know – we would be very grateful to hear from you. Please email [comments@st-richards-manchester.sch.uk](mailto:comments@st-richards-manchester.sch.uk) to let us know what you would be able to do. Many thanks in advance.

## CLASS NINE'S SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCE

On the evening Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, Class 9 performed an amazing version of 'Hamlet' at the Contact Theatre in Manchester to a mesmerised crowd, as part of the Corum Shakespeare Schools Festival. Priya said, 'It was amazing and my favourite part was being on the stage. I had loads of fun and everyone supported each other'. Alishbah added, 'It was fabulous, I loved it. I was a bit nervous about it but at the end I was really, really proud and all the teachers helped us'. It was a spellbinding performance – well done every one!

## MANCHESTER MINI COP28

Deborah, an eco-councillor in Class 11 writes, '*On Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November, the UKS2 Eco Councillors represented our school at Mini COP28 hosted by Gorton MP Afzal Khan. We presented a speech about nature and biodiversity, suggesting what schools can do and there were also quilted squares for us to draw our thoughts about climate change.*'

## HANNAH'S COST OF LIVING DROP-IN

On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 2pm in St Richard's Hall there is an opportunity for any of our parents to attend a Cost of Living presentation from our school's outreach worker, Hannah Wellock. There will be an opportunity to ask Hannah any questions after the (approximately 30 minute) presentation. Please feel free to come along.

## CHRISTMAS DATES 2023

Please make a note of the following dates for Christmas 2023. Details with ticket information etc. have been sent out to the relevant classes this week. Whilst we are not charging for admission, we will be collecting for Francis House Children's Hospice at all our Christmas concerts.

Date:	Event:
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	St Robert's Parish Christmas Fair (at St Mary's Parish Centre, Levenshulme) starting at 12 noon.
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Children's Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper/non-uniform Day (suggested £1 donation to Save the Children)
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	– Nursery Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	– Reception Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	– Year One Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Year Two Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Nursery and Reception end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 1 and Year 2 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 3 and Year 4 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 and Year 6 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Pupils break up for Christmas
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St Richard's RC Church at 5pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024	Pupils return to school

With many thanks for your continuing support,

*Mr J Murray*

Headteacher  
St Richard's RC Primary School