



# St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2024



Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## 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.

## THIS COMING SUNDAY IS THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY



The Feast of the Epiphany is a holy day of obligation in the Catholic Church – except when 6<sup>th</sup> January falls (as it does this year) on a Saturday or a Monday. When this happens, the Feast of the Epiphany is celebrated on the closest Sunday. Below is a prayer for us all, to help mark the Feast of the Epiphany:

### *Loving Father, in the Epiphany*

*Your love was revealed to us in the form of a child.*

*As we kneel before the holy infant with the wise men and adore...*

*We offer the gold of our hearts – what is best in us;*

*We offer the frankincense of our prayers – for ourselves and each other;*

*We offer the oil of myrrh – a sign of our commitment to you.*

*Bless all those in our school community who came from near and from afar*

*In order to join our community, bless their families.*

*May we all be at home in the presence of the child Jesus.*

*Amen.*

## 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 and confident. Many thanks to all the parents and staff from school for helping to prepare and for supporting the children at such a lovely occasion.

## FUNDRAISING THANKS

We had two fundraising drives before Christmas. As a result of non-uniform/Christmas Jumper day, we raised **£292.60** for Save the Children. As a result of generous contributions from parents who attended school nativity plays and carol concerts, we raised a further **£209.15** for Francis House. Many thanks and well done to everyone who contributed.

## WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

This week's edition of the Wednesday Word is still the Advent and Christmas 2023 holiday version which is available by visiting <https://www.paperturn-view.com/uk/wednesday-word/christmas-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&p=7&v=114.2> and this week's Wednesday Word is **GUIDANCE**.

## 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)

## ST RICHARD'S HOLIDAY DATES

The school calendar (both for the current as well as next academic year) with a list of dates that all pupils must be in school, as well as when our holidays are, is available at:

<https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/calendar/>

Please ensure that your child is on time and in school every day that school is open to them. We break up for February half-term holidays on **Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024** and we return to school on **Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024**.

## 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.

## 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 available on the school's website at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/curriculum-2023-24/>. 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 2023 - and will be learning in Spring and Summer Term 2024. 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 2024, 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 2024,

*Mr J Murray*

Headteacher  
St Richard's RC Primary School

