



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2024



Thursday 28th November 2024

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 1st December 2024 – 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.



MANY THANKS FOR CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Many thanks to our talented staff and pupils who have presented such amazing class assemblies this term. We have enjoyed some wonderful presentations so far this year. It has also been fantastic to see so many parents, grandparents and friends joining us and being involved in the prayer life of St Richard's RC Primary School.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

The Parish Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 1st December 2024 at St Mary's Parish Centre, Elbow St, Manchester M19 3PY, starting at 12 noon. Please do come along and support the parish - both socially and in its fund-raising efforts. Staff and older GIFT Team and Caritas Ambassador pupils from St Richard's RC Primary School will be running the Chocolate Tombola at the fair.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The link below is to this week's edition of the Wednesday Word. This contains the Good News of the Gospel for this coming Sunday. Please continue to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/advent?pid=MTA101634&v=156.3> This Wednesday's Word is **ADVENT**

ASDA REWARDS CASHPOT FOR SCHOOLS

Parentkind – the charity that supports school PTAs - have teamed up with Asda, who are making millions of pounds available to donate to primary schools across the UK through their 'Cashpot for Schools' initiative. All you have to do is opt in through the Asda Rewards app, choose our primary school and shop and scan in store or shop online at Asda.com, between now and 30th November 2024 (this coming Saturday). Asda will donate 0.5% of the value of your shop to St Richard's. Also, every time somebody opts in, Asda will give an additional £1 to the school Cashpot – and it doesn't stop there: Asda are also giving £50 to every school to get them started. As a school we are registered for the ASDA Rewards scheme. Please have a look at: <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING THIS WINTER

If you are looking for somewhere dry and warm this winter, there are a series of venues across the city which have signed up to the Warm Welcome Spaces scheme, where visitors can stay as long as they like and meet other people too. The venues include Manchester libraries. Facilities include free internet, WiFi and some also offer hot drinks. For more details on this and many other forms of help with the cost of living, please go to www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands You can also find your nearest Warm Welcome Space by searching the online map at <https://www.warmwelcome.uk/find-a-space#map> or call 0800 023 2692 or text 07860 022 876 for further information.

YEAR 3 FRESHWATER THEATRE WORKSHOP

Freshwater Theatre Company visited both Year 3 classes last week to support pupils' learning about volcanoes and earthquakes. Josiane in Class 5 writes, 'On 20th November the Freshwater Theatre came to visit St Richard's. I'm sure that everyone enjoyed it but, personally, I thought that it as marvellous. We pretended to do many things including climbing down Mount St Helens to see a glacier that formed in the volcano over time. At the end of their visit, we pretended to be in a time when there was a tsunami. I enjoyed the visit very much and thought that it was fun.'

APPLICATIONS FOR A RECEPTION CLASS PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2025

Manchester City Council's online application portal is now open. The deadline for submitting an on-time application is **Wednesday 15th January 2025**. Our school office staff can help parents who may be experiencing difficulties with submitting their applications online. Please phone school to make an appointment if you require this. Please follow this link to make an online application: [Apply for a Reception class place for September 2025](#)

CHRISTMAS DATES 2024

Please make a note of the following dates for Christmas 2024. More details (with ticket information etc) will be sent out in separate letters soon. Whilst we are not charging for admission, we will be collecting for Francis House Children's' Hospice at all our Christmas concerts.

Date:	Event:
Sunday 1st December	St Robert's Parish Christmas Fair (at St Mary's Parish Centre, Levenshulme) starting at 12 noon.
Tuesday 10th December	Nursery Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 11th December	Reception Nativity in the main school hall at 9.30am (parents welcome to attend)
Wednesday 11th December	Year One Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)
Thursday 12th December	Year Two Carol Concert in St Richard's Church at 2pm (parents welcome to attend)
Monday 16th December	Nursery and Reception end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Tuesday 17th December	Year 1 and Year 2 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Tuesday 17th December	Children's Christmas Dinner/Christmas Jumper/non-uniform Day (suggested £1 donation to Save the Children)
Thursday 19th December	Year 3 and Year 4 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Friday 20th December	Year 5 and Year 6 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Friday 20th December	Pupils break up for Christmas
Tuesday 24th December	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St Richard's RC Church (time to be confirmed as soon as possible)
Monday 6th January 2025	Pupils return to school

DATA COLLECTION SHEETS

This week your child will have brought home a Data Collection Sheet which shows a lot of the information we hold for your child in school. It is vital that this information is kept up to date, especially contact details, addresses and medical information. Please read the sheet carefully, make any changes that are needed, then sign and return it to school as soon as possible. If no changes are required please also sign and send it back to school.

With many thanks for your continuing support

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School