



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2025

Thursday 27th March 2025

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 FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

On Tuesday this week it was the Feast of the Annunciation of the Lord. This feast comes exactly nine months before Christmas, and celebrates the moment when Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit in the womb of the virgin Mary. Jesus and Mary both said "Yes" to God's plan to save the world. Let us pray that we can give more of ourselves in service to God's plan for us and for the world.



MOTHERS DAY IS ON SUNDAY

This coming Sunday (30th March) is Mother's Day. We remember and thank God for our wonderful mums – as well as all those people who stand in for them. We hope that everyone enjoys a truly lovely Mothering Sunday this year.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME THANKS

Well done to all the Year 3 children who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation (First Forgiveness) last Friday morning in church. It was a lovely occasion and the children were all excellent. Please continue to remember all the children and families currently on the sacramental programme in your prayers as they continue on the sacramental journey and prepare to receive their first Holy Communion in May. First Holy Communion ties are available to order from the school office, and cost £5.00. Please pay via the School Gateway App.

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

Next Sunday's Gospel is the parable of the prodigal son. It is a picture of God's love and forgiveness for us. Children in Y4, Y5 and Y6 who have already made their First Holy Communion will have the opportunity to receive the sacrament of reconciliation (confession) after Mass next Wednesday morning. Please continue to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting: <https://www.paperturn-view.com/wednesday-word/change?pid=MTA101634&v=170.5> The Wednesday Word is a particularly useful resource for parents and children on the Sacramental Programme. This week's Wednesday Word is **FORGIVENESS**

CARITAS ST JOSEPH'S PENNY APPEAL LENT 2025

Please continue to put any spare change or donations in your box during Lent. Please keep hold of the box until straight after the Easter holidays (the school week commencing Tuesday 22nd April 2025). We will send out a reminder nearer the time. Many thanks for all your ongoing Lenten alms-giving efforts.

EID AL-FITR 2025

Eid al-Fitr 2025 will be celebrated early next week. 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, families and staff enjoy a very happy Eid al-Fitr 2025.

PLEASE FOLLOW US ON X (FORMERLY TWITTER)

Our school X account continues to be full of wonderfully positive and celebratory snapshots of life at St Richard's and it is being updated all the time. Please make sure to follow us on X @St_Richards_RC

I am delighted to report that we now have 119 followers. If you are not currently following us on X, please consider it because it is a great way to find out more about what is happening in school.

PARK AND STRIDE

'Park and Stride' is a simple idea for families who live further away to still enjoy the benefits of walking to school. If you drive your child to school, please consider parking a ten-minute walk from school and completing their journey on foot. This reduces traffic congestion and road danger around our school gates whilst allowing children the chance to get active for the last part of their journey.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD BY AN HOUR THIS COMING WEEKEND

In the United Kingdom, the clocks go forward on Sunday 30th March at 1am. Please make sure that you adjust the time at home (most mobile phones do this automatically) so that your child arrives at the correct time for school the next day, Monday 31st March 2025.



THE GREAT BIG SCHOOL CLEAN 2025

Last Thursday, our ten eco-councillors took part in the Great Big School Clean to improve cleanliness in our local area. The children worked hard to fill 6 big bags of litter from the streets around school. Well done boys and girls for showing that you love where you live and for encouraging others to see how tidy our local area can be.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS OVER EASTER HOLIDAYS

Manchester City Council has approved funding for free school meal (FSM) vouchers for children eligible for benefits-led free school meals. As in previous holidays, school will issue the vouchers to parents. Even though we only have a week and a day off at Easter, two weeks' vouchers will still be issued. This means that if MCC agrees to fund vouchers going forward (i.e. May half term), eligible families at St Richard's will only receive vouchers for one week at May half-term.

END OF SPRING TERM AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

Well done to Class 2 for their wonderful assembly on the theme of Lent yesterday morning. Parents are very welcome to attend their child(ren)'s upcoming end of Spring Term Awards Assembly. Details of these are below:

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| Monday 7 th April | Nursery and Reception end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend) |
| Tuesday 8 th April | Year 1 and Year 2 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend) |
| Thursday 10 th April | Year 3 and Year 4 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend) |
| Friday 11 th April | Year 5 and Year 6 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend) |
| Friday 11 th April | Pupils break up for Easter |
| Saturday 19 th April | Easter Vigil Mass at St Richard's RC Church (time TBC) |
| Tuesday 22 nd April | Pupils return to school |

RESPONDING TO THE NEWSLETTER

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

With many thanks for your continuing support

Mr J Murray
Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School