



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 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.

Thursday 27th November 2025

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The first Sunday of Advent is on Sunday 30th November 2025 – 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 church 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.



THE WEDNESDAY WORD

Especially during Advent, please try to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting:

<https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/advent?pid=MTA101634&v=191.3>

This Wednesday's Word is **ADVENT**

PARENTS' EVENING THANKS

Many thanks to all our fantastic school staff and to our wonderful parents who attended Parents' Evenings this week. We hope that you had a very positive and informative experience. Thank you also for completing the Parents' Survey as this provides us with very useful feedback.

ASSEMBLIES AND 'STAY & PRAY' THIS TERM

It is always lovely to have so many of our parents come along and share in the prayers, achievements and celebrations of our children at our class assemblies in the hall and Stay and Pray sessions in our Prayer Room (See times below). Many thanks to Class 7 for this morning's lovely assembly.

Date:	Class Assembly:
Friday 28 th November	Class 8 Stay & Pray in the Prayer Room at 11.15am
Friday 5 th December	Class 9 Stay & Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm

APPLYING FOR A RECEPTION PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022 and they are due to start primary school in September 2026 and you live in Manchester then please follow this link to make an online application:
https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primary_school_admissions/7264/apply_for_a_reception_class_place_for_september_2018 If you live outside Manchester and want a place at a Manchester school, you need to apply through your current local council. The application round for Reception 2026 school places is currently open and the deadline for submitting an on-time application is **Thursday 15th January 2026**. Our school office staff can help parents who may be experiencing difficulties with submitting their applications online.

PLEASE PARK AND STRIDE

There must be no 'drive-by' drop-offs or pick-ups at St Richard's. Instead, parents who drive to school must park safely and considerately and present themselves on foot to drop off and pick up their child. The plastic figures outside school and the yellow zigzag lines should be a reminder to all drivers that extreme caution must be exercised when driving anywhere near our school. We invite traffic enforcement officers to school on a regular basis to help keep all our pupils safe.

CHRISTMAS DATES 2025

Date, time and location:	Event:
Tuesday 9 th December at 9.30am in the main school hall	Nursery Nativity
Wednesday 10 th December at 9.30am in the main school hall	Reception Nativity
Wednesday 10 th December at 2pm in St Richard's Church	Year One Carol Concert
Thursday 11 th December at 2pm in St Richard's Church	Year Two Carol Concert
Thursday 11 th December at 6pm in Mary's RC Church Levenshulme	St Robert of Newminster Parish Carol Concert
Monday 15 th December at 9am in the main school hall	Nursery and Reception end of term awards assembly
Tuesday 16 th December at 9am in the main school hall	Year One and Year Two end of term awards assembly
Tuesday 16 th December	Pupils' Christmas lunch (non-uniform/Christmas Jumper day for Save the Children) Lunchbox decorating competition today for children on packed lunches
Thursday 18 th December at 9am in the main school hall	Year Three and Year Four end of term awards assembly
Thursday 18 th December at 2pm in St Richard's Church	Choir performance of Hosanna Rock for KS2
Friday 19 th December at 9am in the main school hall	Year Five and Year Six end of term awards assembly
Wednesday 24 th December	Christmas Eve Vigil Mass at St Richard's Church (time to be confirmed)

ST ROBERT OF NEWMINSTER PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Parish Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 7th December 2025 at St Mary's Parish Centre, Elbow St, Manchester M19 3PY, starting at around 12 noon (straight after 11am Mass). Please do come along and support the parish - both socially and in its fund-raising efforts. Whilst children from St Richard's will not be running any stalls at the fair this year, it would be great to have as much support from our school's families as possible.

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

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School