



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2026



Thursday 29th January 2026

A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

On Friday last week, St Richard's received this really special message from Bridget Phillipson, the Secretary of State for Education:

'Congratulations to your team on the excellent outcomes the disadvantaged pupils at St Richard's RC Primary School achieved at the end of the 2024/25 academic year. Your school's performance places it among the very best nationally, and this is a significant achievement.'

This success reflects the dedication of your staff and the hard work of your pupils. It shows what can be achieved when ambition and commitment come together. Thank you for everything you do to give children the best possible opportunities to succeed.

Please pass on my thanks and congratulations to your staff and pupils. I look forward to working with you as we strive together to raise standards for all.'



Your sincerely,
Bridget
Bridget Phillipson
Secretary of State for Education

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

The link below is to this week's edition of the Wednesday Word. Please continue to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting:

<https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/happiness?pid=MTA101634&v=200.6>

This Wednesday's Word is **HAPPINESS**

CONSULTATION: SCHOOL ADMISSION POLICY CHANGE

We are currently consulting with a wide range of stakeholders about proposed changes to our Admissions Policy for the 2027-2028 academic year. Full details of the consultation are available at <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/admissions/>

The closing date for comments to be received is midnight **tomorrow**, Friday 30th January 2026.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED YOUR CHILD TO START NURSERY IN SEPTEMBER 2026?

If you have a child who was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 and you would like them to attend full time in the Nursery at St Richard's RC Primary School from September 2026, then please contact the school office as soon as possible for an admission form. Your child will be added to the waiting list for admission to our Nursery class in September 2026. Places are in high demand and offers are starting to be sent out soon.

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.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS DAY

We had an amazing time last Friday raising funds for CAFOD World Gifts by undertaking so many imaginative and engaging sponsored activities. The whole day felt really special and I know how much everyone enjoyed it. Well done and thank you to the whole staff, our pupils and their parents for designing and supporting activities for such a worthy cause. We will let everyone know how much we raised for CAFOD as soon as we have a final total. If you still have any sponsor money to send in to school, please make sure it is in by Friday 6th February. Many thanks for all your support.

WAKE UP WEDNESDAY

National Online Safety (NOS) have created free online safety guides for schools to share with parents and carers. This campaign is called '#Wakeup Wednesday'. At St Richard's we occasionally provide a link to a different topical e-safety issue so that parents and children are better informed and able to make better choices about their computer and internet use. This week's edition of Wake-Up Wednesday is about what children, young people, parents and carers all need to know about free speech versus hate speech (both online and offline). Please read more [here](#)

WHEN YOUR CHILD IS ILL

At St Richard's, we fully support current NHS advice that it is fine to send your child to school with minor [cough](#) or [common cold](#). However, if they have a high temperature, please keep them off school until it goes down.

Children with [diarrhoea](#) or [vomiting](#) must stay away from school until they have not been sick or had diarrhoea for at least 2 days (48 hours).

ASSEMBLIES AND 'STAY & PRAY' THIS HALF-TERM

Please 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. Many thanks to C10 for their fantastic Stay and Pray last Friday and to C1 for a wonderful assembly this morning.

Date:	Event:
Friday 30 th January	C11 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Thursday 5 th February	C3 Assembly in main school hall at 9am
Friday 6 th February	C12 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm

ST RICHARD'S HOLIDAY DATES

The school holiday dates (both for the current as well as next academic year) are 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 13th February 2026** and we return to school on **Monday 23rd February 2026**.

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