



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2026



Thursday 19th March 2026

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.

HAPPY ST PATRICK'S DAY!

On Tuesday this week it was the feast day of St Patrick. St Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland and is credited with bringing Christianity to the Irish people in the 5th century. St Patrick used the three-leaf clover (shamrock) to explain the concept of the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit). Please pray for us St Patrick.



THE FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD

Next Wednesday (25th March) will be 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, during Lent, we can give more of ourselves in service to God's plan for us and for the world.



WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

Please continue to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting: <https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/compassion?pid=MTA101634&v=205.8> The Wednesday Word is a particularly wonderful resource for parents and children on the Sacramental Programme to use. This week's Wednesday Word is **COMPASSION**.

EID AL-FITR 2026

Eid al-Fitr 2025 will be celebrated at the end of this 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 2026.

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 your 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.

THE GREAT BIG SCHOOL CLEAN 2026

On Wednesday this week, our eco-councillors took part in the Great Big School Clean to improve cleanliness in our local area. The children worked hard to fill bags and 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.

HEALTHY EATING

School meals at St Richard's are a great choice, but if you do make a packed lunch for your child then the NHS website linked below has got a range of quick, easy, healthier lunchbox ideas and tips:

<http://www.nhs.uk/healthier-families/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes/>

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS OVER EASTER HOLIDAYS

Manchester City Council has approved funding for free school meals (FSM) vouchers for children eligible for benefits-led free school meals. As in previous holidays, school will issue 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.

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 C2 for a lovely assembly on Tuesday this week. Class 9's assembly was due to take place on the 26th March but will be rearranged (more details to follow).

Date:	Event:
Friday 20 th March	R1 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Friday 27 th March	R2 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Friday 17 th April	C1 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm

END OF SPRING TERM AWARDS ASSEMBLIES

Parents are also very welcome to attend their child(ren)'s end of Spring Term Awards Assembly. Details of these are below:

Friday 27 th March	Nursery and Reception end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Monday 30 th March	Year 1 and Year 2 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Tuesday 31 st March	Year 3 and Year 4 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Thursday 2 nd April	Year 5 and Year 6 end of term awards assembly in main school hall at 9am (parents welcome to attend)
Thursday 2 nd April	Pupils break up for Easter
Saturday 4 th April	Easter Vigil Mass at St Richard's RC Church (time TBC)
Monday 13 th 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