



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2026

Thursday 21st May 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.

WE BREAK UP FOR TWO WEEKS HOLIDAY TOMORROW

We break up at the end of the school day tomorrow, Friday 22nd May, for the two-week half-term holidays. We wish all our pupils, parents and staff a safe, happy and restful break. We return to school on Monday 8th June 2025.

PENTECOST SUNDAY



This year, the Feast of Pentecost takes place on Sunday 24th May. Whitsuntide is another name for Pentecost. Pentecost is known as the birthday of the Church and is the start of the Church's mission to the world. Pentecost is a happy festival. The first Pentecost came when people from many different nations were in Jerusalem, celebrating the Jewish festival of Shavuot. The Holy Spirit descended on the apostles. It arrived as a strong wind and it settled as tongues of fire. The apostles soon found themselves speaking in foreign languages, inspired by the Holy Spirit.

FSM VOUCHERS OVER SUMMER HALF TERM HOLIDAYS

The council has agreed to fund free school meals vouchers over the May 2026 half term holidays, for children eligible for free school meals (FSM). This week you will be issued with a £15 voucher per eligible child. As we previously advised, the other £15 was issued to eligible parents in April prior to the Easter break, when £30.00 was issued.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION TONIGHT AT 6.30PM

Congratulations to the six children who made their First Holy Communion at a lovely Mass in St Richard's Church on Thursday 14th May. Many thanks to their families and staff from school and to Father Kris for all the support that these wonderful candidates received. Nine more children (mainly from Class 6) will receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time tonight, Thursday 21st May, at 6.30pm in St Richard's Church. Please remember to pray for all these children who are about to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion for the first time and for their families who have been so supportive. All the First Holy Communion candidates and their families are invited to a special Mass on Sunday 14th June at St Richard's Church at 9.30am and then to a First Holy Communion breakfast in the school hall straight after Mass. Children should wear their First Holy Communion clothes at this Mass.



WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

Please continue to share the joy of the Gospel, as contained in the Wednesday Word, over the half-term holidays by reading the holiday booklet version at: <https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/holiday-booklet?pid=MTA101634&v=211.2>

GOOD LUCK MISS BLANKLEY

Our C8 teacher, Miss Blankley, will be getting married in the half-term holidays. We wish her and her future husband all the very best on the day and for married life ahead. When Miss Blankley returns to school after the holidays, she will be Mrs Cobb.

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

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Class photographs will be taken on Friday 12th June 2026 (our first Friday back after the holidays). Please ensure that your child is wearing full school uniform (summer or winter) on this day.

PLEASE DON'T LET STRANGERS INTO SCHOOL

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. At St Richard's we kindly request that, when leaving school via the gate on Wilpshire Avenue, parents do not hold the gate open for anyone else that they do not know or recognise. Instead, they should make sure that the gate is locked behind them and point them to the intercom so that staff can be notified. Many thanks in advance.

THE BIG FUTURE SURVEY

The Children's Commissioner, Dame Rachel de Souza, has written to all schools to ask that all children complete a new survey. Dame Rachel writes, '*I am asking children about the changes they want to see in their communities, their biggest concerns, and their hopes for the future. More than anything, I want to know what they think a good childhood should look like today.*'

The survey can be completed by clicking on the following link: [The Big Future](#).

ASSEMBLIES AND 'STAY & PRAY'

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 Reception 1 for their lovely assembly this morning.

Date:	Event:
Thursday 25 th June	R2 Assembly in the Main Hall at 9am
Friday 26 th June	C13 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Friday 3 rd July	C4 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Thursday 9 th July	Y6 Leavers' Mass at 11am in St Richard's Church
Friday 10 th July	End of Year Assembly for R & N in Main Hall at 9am
Monday 13 th July	End of Year Assembly for Y1 & Y2 in Main Hall at 9am
Tuesday 14 th July	End of Year Assembly for Class 5, 6 and 7 in Main Hall at 9am
Thursday 16 th July	End of Year Assembly for Class 8, 9 and 10 in Main Hall at 9am
Friday 17 th July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly at 9.15am in the Main Hall

With many thanks for your continuing support

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School