



St. Richard's RC Primary Summer Term Newsletter



Thursday 16th July 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.

BREAKING UP FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

At St Richard's, we break up for the summer holidays at the end of the day tomorrow, **Friday 17th July 2026**. We wish you all a very safe and a very happy summer break. We wish all our Year 6 pupils a successful transition to high school, and we thank them for their many contributions to the life of St Richard's in the time that they have been with us.

As this is the final newsletter of the current academic year, I would like to thank all pupils, staff, parents and governors at St Richard's for all your hard work and dedication this year. We look forward to our return to school on **Thursday 3rd September 2026**. For Reception to Year 6 pupils, school gates will be open from 8.30am

WEDNESDAY WORD ONLINE

Please try to find time to read the bumper version of the Wednesday Word as a family over the summer holidays. Please visit <https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/summer-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&v=181.6>

IS YOUR CHILD ENTITLED TO FREE SCHOOL MEALS?

The process for claiming free school meals is changing. Recently, you will have received information and a form through the post about applying for free school meals. It is vitally important that you complete and return this form as the school is dependent on the funding that comes from completed forms.

SAFE4SUMMER 2026

We are pleased to share the [Safe4Summer](#) campaign led by Greater Manchester Police with support from Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, local councils, and other key partners. This collaborative campaign is designed to engage young people and their parents or guardians, encouraging positive behaviours while helping to reduce water-related incidents, deliberate fires, and anti-social behaviour throughout the summer. The [Safe4Summer website](#) shares key campaign messages and directs families to a variety of fun, exciting, and safe activities available in the local area.

FREE SCHOOL MEAL VOUCHERS OVER SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Manchester City Council have agreed to make a one-off payment of £50 per child eligible for free school meals (FSM) to help with the financial pressures that many of our families are currently facing. This one-off payment to eligible FSM pupils is to be paid prior to the end of the summer term.

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2026

The 2026 UK Summer Reading Challenge is themed **"Read to the Beat!"** and celebrates the connection between books and music. The challenge launched on July 4th in England and Wales. It encourages children (ages 4–11) to read six library books over the summer holidays. Participants collect stickers, a medal, and a certificate upon completion. Sign up for free at your local library or online through the [Summer Reading Challenge Website](#)



GREAT BRITISH SUMMER SAVINGS

From 25th June to 1st September 2026, the Government is temporarily cutting VAT from 20% to 5% on children's meals in restaurants, children and family tickets to cinemas, theatres, concerts and exhibitions, and admission to a wide range of attractions. Combined with free bus travel during August for children aged 5 to 15 in England, families and young people will be able to enjoy experiences that make summer special, including visits to the kinds of cultural and educational attractions that enrich children's lives outside the classroom. As part of this campaign, there is an **attraction finder** website which allows families to type in their postcode and find participating venues near them to make the most of summer savings. To use the attraction finder, please visit <https://summersavings.gov.uk>.

BOOK GIFTING: THE CHILDREN'S BOOK PROJECT

This week, every child at St Richard's should have chosen – and will be bringing home – two more books to keep. This is called 'Book Gifting' and is due to our continuing involvement with the Children's Book Project, a charity which aims to promote attainment and engagement with reading through book ownership. Many thanks to Mrs Fosbrook for coordinating the project all year.



RETURNING SCHOOL READING BOOKS

Please ensure that your child(ren) return all reading books that belong to school by tomorrow – our last day of the school year. This includes colour band books, accelerated reader books and Bug Club Phonics books. It takes a lot of time and effort to sort out our stock of reading books and make them ready for the start of the new academic year, so your cooperation with this is greatly appreciated.

TRAVELLING TO HIGH SCHOOL IN SEPTEMBER

A message from Transport for Greater Manchester: Is your child moving to secondary school in September?

Check out our School Travel Checklist. Apply for an iGo card in plenty of time to keep on paying child fares on buses & trams. Get everything you need, including your schools travel page: beenetwork.com/schools

END OF YEAR EVENTS

Many thanks to everyone who helped to make our Year 6 Leavers' Mass and all our awards assemblies such wonderful occasions. The Year 6 Leavers' Mass last Thursday was a wonderfully joyous occasion and the Leavers' Assembly tomorrow is another important milestone in the lives of our oldest pupils, to whom we wish a very fond farewell, along with our thoughts and prayers for the very best for the future. The Year 6 Leavers' Awards Assembly will take place in the main school hall at 9.15am tomorrow and Y6 parents are very welcome to attend.

Date:	Event:
Friday 17 th July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly at 9.15am in the Main Hall

With many thanks for all your support this academic year and wishing you all a happy and restful break,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School