



St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2026

Thursday 24th September 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

THE WEDNESDAY WORD

Please try to read and discuss the Wednesday Word every week as a family by visiting: <https://wednesday-word.paperturn-view.com/change?pid=MTA101634&v=220.7>
This week's Wednesday Word is **CHANGE**

APPLICATIONS FOR A YEAR 7 SECONDARY SCHOOL PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2027

Manchester City Council's online application portal is now open. Our school office staff can help parents who may be experiencing difficulties with submitting their applications online. Please phone school to make an appointment if you require this. Please follow this link to make an online application: <https://parentportal.manchester.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/parent/s/admissions> The deadline for on-time applications is **Saturday 31st October 2026**.

APPLICATIONS FOR A RECEPTION CLASS PLACE FOR SEPTEMBER 2027

If your child's date of birth is between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023 and they are due to start primary school in September 2027 and you live in Manchester, then please follow this link to make an online application: <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/schools-education-and-childcare/school-admissions/primary-school-admissions/how-to-apply> If you live outside Manchester and want a place at a Manchester school, you need to apply through your current local council. The online portal for Reception 2027 school place applications is currently open and the deadline for submitting an on-time application is **Thursday 15th January 2027**. Our school office staff can help parents who may be experiencing difficulties with submitting their applications online.

BECOMING AN ACADEMY

It is the wish and expectation of the Bishop of Salford, the most Reverend John Arnold, that all Roman Catholic schools in Salford Diocese will convert to become an academy in a strong Catholic Academy Trust (CAT). St Richard's is currently in the process of converting to become a primary academy in the Emmaus CAT. This is not likely to make any significant difference to the day-to-day operation of our school from the perspective of parents or pupils. We will provide any significant updates to parents when these are available and more information is currently available on the Diocese of Salford's website at <https://dioceseofsalford.org.uk/education/academy-trusts-strategy/>. If you do have any comments or questions, please use the email address below. Comments are invited until 4pm on Wednesday 30th September 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

BIRTHDAY TREATS AND ALLERGY AWARENESS

We know that celebrating birthdays is a special occasion for our children. However, partly due to the increasing number of pupils with food allergies and medical dietary requirements, we do not allow pupils to distribute sweets or other edible treats in school. In line with current allergy awareness guidance and our commitment to keeping all children safe, we also ask parents and carers not to hand out sweets or treats at the school gate before or after the school day. These measures help us reduce the risk of accidental allergic reactions and ensure that all children can be included safely. We appreciate your understanding and support in helping us maintain a safe environment for everyone.

SCHOOL CLEANER REQUIRED

We are currently seeking to employ a school cleaner. The successful applicant will be required to take up the post from Monday 2nd November 2026. The post is 16 hours per week, all year round and is a permanent post. Full details are available at: <https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/vacancies/>
The closing date for this post is tomorrow (Friday 25th September) at 12 noon.

YEAR 6 SATS WEEK MAY 2027

The Key Stage 2 SATS tests which all our Year 6 pupils will be taking this academic year are timetabled from Monday 10th May to Thursday 13th May 2027. It is vitally important that all our Year 6 pupils are in school for the whole of this week. Please make a note now in your diary or on your calendar.

SWAPPING FROM SCHOOL DINNERS TO PACKED LUNCHES

If you wish for your child to change from a school meal to a packed lunch from home, or vice versa, you **must** give school one weeks notice of the change. This must be done via the school office. If a child brings in a packed lunch without letting the office know, the lunch will be kept until the end of the day and returned home. Your child will instead be given their usual school meal. Thank you for your full cooperation.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT FREE SCHOOL MEALS

If you haven't returned your application to apply for Free School Meals then this week you will receive a further form to complete and return to school. Further information can be found on this short video from Manchester city Council. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdfcVtCcto>

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR

Our Parish Christmas Fair will take place on Sunday 6th December after the 11am Mass at St Mary's Parish Centre, Elbow Street, Levenshulme. There will be lots of fun and lots of games for adults and children. Kindly make a note in your diaries and please try to come along, meet old friends, make new ones and support our parish.

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.

Date:	Event:
Thursday 1 st October	C10 Assembly at 9am in the Main Hall
Friday 2 nd October	C5 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Friday 9 th October	C6 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Thursday 15 th October	C8 Assembly at 9am in the Main Hall

With many thanks for your continuing support,

Mr J Murray

Headteacher
St Richard's RC Primary School