St. Richard's RC Primary School Newsletter 2026



Thursday 5th November 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

WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL
Welcome back to school after what I hope was a happy and restful break. This half term we look forward to Advent, the great season of preparation. We hope that everyone within our school community enjoys a safe, successful and rewarding second Autumn half-term.

'BANG OUT OF ORDER' FIRE SAFETY CAMPAIGN
Tonight is Bonfire Night. We ask that all our parents and carers are extra vigilant with their children this evening in order to stay safe. Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service's bonfire safety campaign is aimed at protecting against - and preventing - harm occurring during the Halloween and Bonfire period. More details and resources are available at **https://www.manchesterfire.gov.uk/your-safety/campaigns/bangoutoforder/**

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/half-term-holiday-special?pid=MTA101634&p=7&v=224.9
This week the Wednesday Word is in holiday format for the final week.

REMEMBRANCE IN NOVEMBER
November is traditionally a month for remembering. Last Sunday we celebrated the Feast of All Saints, when we remembered all the triumphant saints in heaven. The first day back in school this week was the Feast of All Souls, the day when we remember and pray for all who have died. November is also the month of Remembrance Sunday (this coming Sunday, 8th November 2026) and Armistice Day (Wednesday 11th November 2026), when we remember all those who sacrificed so much in the two world wars, as well as in conflicts between and since then.



AUTUMN TERM PARENTS EVENING DATES
Autumn Term 2026 Parents Evenings will take place in the week commencing Monday 16th November 2026. 5-minute appointment times will be available between 1.15pm and 6pm. These will be face-to-face meetings in school with your child's class teacher. School Cloud will again be used – but only for booking the appointments. Parents Evening will take place on **Monday 16th November** from 1.15pm – 6pm for Mrs Wade's Nursery, Reception 1, Reception 2, Class 1, Class 2, Class 3, Class 4, Class 7 and Class 8.

Parents Evening will take place on **Tuesday 17th November** from 1.15pm – 6pm for Mrs Looms' Nursery, Class 5, Class 6, Class 9, Class 10, Class 11, Class 12 and Class 13 and Mr Keyworth's Maths group. Parents evening for children who attend our SEND Provision will also take place with Miss Whitehead between 1.15pm – 6pm on **Tuesday 17th November.** No children should attend the evening appointments, as we will not have a crèche facility in operation. Full details will follow in a separate letter to all parents this week.

PLEASE DO NOT GIVE BIRTHDAY SWEETS OR FOOD OUT
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 birthday 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.

APPLICATIONS FOR A RECEPTION CLASS PLACE FOR 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 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 **Friday 15th January 2027.** Our school office staff can help parents who may be experiencing difficulties with submitting their applications online.

RELATIONSHIPS EDUCATION CONSULTATION
In line with new DfE statutory guidance, we are consulting with parents about proposed updated content in our Relationships Education programme, to be delivered from January 2027 onwards at St Richard's. Please take a look at the updated draft Relationships Education Policy as well as our current plans and proposed updated plans – all available at https://st-richards.manchester.sch.uk/key-information/curriculum/
Once you have taken a look, please respond with any thoughts, comments or questions to comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk before the closing date of **Friday 4th December 2026**. Many thanks in advance.

ECO-COUNCIL NEWS
Just before the half-term holiday, the Eco Council went to the SNUG in Crowcroft Park, where we helped to plant a new sensory garden. Muhammad, from Class 10 said, 'It was a great way to learn about wildlife around us, by planting and looking for bugs and making new friends.' Rafeef, Class 6, added, 'It was good to make plants for our environment, it was fun.'

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. It is always lovely to see so many parents here for these occasions.

Date:	Event:
Thursday 19th November	C5 Assembly at 9am in the Main Hall
Thursday 26th November	C7 Assembly at 9am in the Main Hall
Thursday 3rd December	C8 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm
Friday 4th December	C9 Stay and Pray in the Prayer Room at 3pm

STAYING IN TOUCH AND INFORMED BY NEWSLETTER
It is vitally important that parents receive and read the newsletter every week. The newsletter will only be printed and handed out very occasionally – approximately once or twice every half-term. Usually, the newsletter is only available electronically. It can be accessed on the school's website every Thursday afternoon. However, if you wish to receive the newsletter directly every week by email, then you simply have to send:

1. Your full name
2. Name(s) and class(es) of your child(ren) at our school
3. Preferred email address
4. The message '*I consent to school using my email address in order to send me a copy of the newsletter each week of term*'.

to comments@st-richards.manchester.sch.uk and you will be added to the mailing list.

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