

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

1st December 2017 (Issue 11) Tel: 0161 834 9004

Sunday Masses: Vigil Mass – Saturday, 6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

9:30 a.m. and 12 p.m. (signed for the deaf) at St. Patrick's

Parish Website: www.sspatrickmalachy.org.uk

School Website: www.st-patricks.manchester.sch.uk

School Twitter account: @StPatricksRCPri

Facebook page: [St. Patrick's RC Primary School Manchester](https://www.facebook.com/St.Patricks.RC.Primary.School.Manchester)



If there is any parent who wishes their child to be baptised, please contact the Parish Priest of the parish in which you live. If you live within the boundaries of this parish, please see Father Jim after one of the Sunday Masses listed above.

Our next statement to live by is: "ADVENT: Stay Awake!"

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY MATTERS! Whole school attendance last week just fell short of meeting our attendance target with 96%. Well done to **Year 1** who achieved a magnificent **99.2%**. Having exceeded our school target of **97%** they were rewarded with 10 minutes extra play each day. #PatsyTheBear even got in on the action. Please continue to check our Facebook page for more adventures with Patsy. Thank you to those parents who are following our policy and getting children to school on time. School starts at 8.45 a.m. and lessons start promptly at 9.00 a.m. Watch this space for a new initiative to improve punctuality!

Good attendance & punctuality at school = Good results at school!

ADVENT: On Sunday, we enter a new liturgical year with the start of a new season – Advent. It is a time when we are invited to look forward to the second coming of Christ and remember his first coming, the birth of the Saviour. Please help the children to prepare for Christmas by encouraging them to do good deeds during Advent so that they have a greater understanding of the true meaning of Christmas and grow closer to Jesus. To help with this, the children have been given an Advent calendar.

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Congratulations to all of those children who made their first forgiveness on Tuesday evening at St. Patrick's Church. We were joined by the children from St. Edmund's and St. Malachy's which made it a very special occasion, celebrating another step in their faith journey. Special thanks to all of our parents who were there to support all the children. Father Jim was extremely proud of how everyone showed such respect and reverence in the house of God. Thank you to all the staff who attended, giving up their time to support the children as well. I am sure children and parents appreciate this additional support.

PRAYER & WORSHIP: Year 4 led a lovely Mass celebrating, 'Christ the King'. It was the first class Mass to be held in the convent chapel. A big thank you to the Sisters for accommodating us.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR: The annual Christmas Fair took place last Sunday and it was lovely to see so many of our children and parents supporting the parish. Thank you again for all your wonderful donations of gifts, Christmas items and bottles over the last couple of weeks. The fair raised just over £1,500! Father Jim and the Presentation Sisters are absolutely delighted and thank everyone for their efforts.

RAFFLE TICKETS: Please remember to bring back your raffle tickets and money for the Grand Christmas draw. Tickets only cost 50p or £2.50 a book. Please return the ticket stubs and money as soon as you have sold them. The first prize is £150 and the draw will take place on Sunday, 17th December. That would be a fantastic surprise for someone just before Christmas!

ASSESSMENTS: Teachers have been carrying out assessments this week and we are keen to let you know about your child's progress in lessons. We are aiming to have parents' evenings early next term to enable us to share this information with you so that you can support your child's learning at home.

PARKING: Yet again we have had several near misses where children have narrowly escaped harm this week! We would like to remind parents that parking on the double yellow or zig-zag lines is not only dangerous but illegal. Parents who put their convenience before the safety of our children are irresponsible and the governors of the school will not tolerate it. At our request, civil enforcement officers and community police will be on duty regularly and parents who defy the law will be issued with parking tickets. Thank you to those parents who have already signed up to support us in keeping everybody safe! We are still looking for volunteer parents who would be willing to support the school to ensure parents park away from the school gate, especially on a Tuesday afternoon. Please get in touch with Mrs Clinton or Miss Rabbitt if you feel as strongly as we do and will be able to help.

END OF THE SCHOOL DAY: In order to ease congestion at the end of the day, Years 1, 2 and 3 will be brought out for dismissal into the far playground. Many thanks to those parents who have suggested this as an alternative to blocking the main walkway. Please can we ask for your support with this by standing inside the playground. This will ensure that

the children can be safely handed back over to you. We will also endeavour to ensure that the classes are out for collection just after 3.30 p.m. Many thanks for your continued support.

EYFS: A few parents have mentioned that they are waiting around at the end of the school day for older children. Our EYFS has a gradual finish from 3.10 - 3.30 p.m. That way parents of older children can collect nearer to 3.30 p.m. so that they aren't having to wait around for a lengthy period of time.

DINNER MONEY: Believe it or not, we are fast approaching the end of term! As you are aware, all dinner money must be paid up to date before school closes for Christmas. For those parents who wish to get ahead, dinner money for the remainder of this half term is **£33.45**.

PE KIT: As we approach the winter months please send the children to school with tracksuit bottoms and thick coats so that they can stay warm during PE. PE is an essential part of the school curriculum and it's important that children have their kits in school to take part in the lesson. We are constantly monitoring the weather and wherever possible we will take the children outside as long as they are wrapped up warm! They will soon warm up once they are active.

SUPERSTAR PUPILS: The following pupils have impressed either their teachers or lunchtime staff this week and were rewarded in our weekly assembly:

James (Nursery) Grace (Nursery) Adalia (Reception) Gerard (Reception) Olivia (Y1) Michael D (Y1)
 Mary (Y2) Jessica (Y2) Kelvin (Y3) Isabella (Y3) Kevin (Y4) Kelvin (Y4)
 Lami (Y5) Paulo (Y5) David (Y6) Jayden M (Y6)

MATHLETES OF THE WEEK: This week's winners are: EYFS - Noah (6,239pts), Year 1 - Danielle (5,670pts), Year 2 - Jessica (8,302pts), Year 3 - Amy (2,740pts) Year 4 - Trinity (3,646pts), Year 5 - Daniel (3,110pts), Year 6 - Freddy (3,330 pts). The whole school award goes to Year 4 with an impressive score of 38,999 pts. Well done Mathletes!!

BUSY BEE READERS OF THE WEEK: The pupils with the most quizzes completed in a week on Bug Club have been awarded a special trophy which they have proudly displayed within their classrooms. This week's winners are: Rec - Otibho, Year 1 - Nathan, Year 2 - Jessica, Year 3 - Faith, Year 4 - Shalom, Year 5 - Cleve and Year 6 - Freddy.

MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK Mrs Durcan's musician of the week is Taelee (Y4), for fantastic work in guitar and Miss Hussey's is Robert (Y3), for continuing to follow the expectations during tin whistle lessons each week wonderful. Well done children!

LINGUIST OF THE WEEK: This week's French award goes to Lewis in Y4.

DIARY DATES: We have a very busy term ahead so please keep your eye on the diary dates.

Date	Event
Wednesday 6 th December	KS1 story time and craft trip to Central Library
Tuesday 12 th December	EYFS Nativity in EYFS at 2 p.m.
Wednesday 13 th December	Years 1 - 3 Nativity play in the School Hall at 2 p.m.
Thursday 14 th December	Years 4 - 6 Nativity play in Church at 10.30 a.m.
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Pantomime - Snow White from 9.30 a.m.
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas jumper day - children can wear a Christmas jumper, pyjama top, Christmas top with their black / grey trousers or skirts. Christmas dinner day.
Tuesday 19 th December	Christmas Extravaganza Concert in Church. Years 2-6 performing in Church at 6.30 p.m. Parents & families welcome!
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas party day.
Friday 22 nd December	SCHOOL CLOSES FOR CHRISTMAS AT 1.30 P.M.
Monday 8 th January 2018	SCHOOL REOPENS AT 8.45 A.M.

HOUSE POINTS: This week's winning house is **St. Luke** with **68** points. Well done to those children!

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: all those who have died in war, all Holy Souls, especially our loved ones, we pray for Mrs Mills, for our family and friends in Zimbabwe during this time of change and any private intentions. If you would like to add your own prayer intentions to this list, please send a note in with your child and we will be happy to remember them here every week.



Stay with us Lord, on our journey.