



St. Patrick's R.C. Primary School - Newsletter

9th December 2022

Tel: 0161-834-9004

Weekend Masses: Vigil Mass - Saturday, 6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. (signed for the deaf) at St. Patrick's

Parish Website: <https://stpatricksliveseyst.yolasite.com/>

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

Facebook page: [St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Primary School, Manchester](https://www.facebook.com/St.Patrick's-Roman-Catholic-Primary-School-Manchester)



DIOCESE OF SALFORD

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 Canon Paul after one of the weekend Masses listed above. Alternatively, Canon Paul can be contacted on 07764791889 or at Paul.Daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk

**Our Statement to live by next week is:
"ADVENT...REJOICE IN THE LORD."**



FORGIVENESS AND HEALING: In this Sunday's Gospel, John the Baptist had heard about Jesus Christ's miracles and all the other wonderful things that he was doing. But John was puzzled because he had been expecting a Messiah sent by God to judge the world. So, from his prison cell, he sent messengers to ask if Jesus really was the Messiah. Jesus did not come to judge the world. Instead, Jesus was seeking out people to offer them forgiveness and healing, both physical and spiritual. Forgiving and healing was Jesus' task all those years ago and, if we put our trust in him and put him at the centre of our lives, this is what he will do for us even today. Certainly something to rejoice about this coming week!

"With Christ, our life becomes full and everything makes sense." (Pope Francis)

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS: Unfortunately, we missed our whole school attendance target last week with a score of 94.8%. Well done to the classes highlighted in green that managed to meet our attendance target of 97%+. These classes were rewarded with a certificate and an extra 5 minutes playtime this week. For the final week of term there's an abundance of exciting activities that the teachers have planned for the children. We would love to see the children in school and enjoying the festive fun! Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Every day, Ready and On time). Thank you parents/carers for your continued support.



Nursery: 76.7%	Reception: 90.3%	Year 1: 94.3%	Year 2: 97.6%
Year 3: 92.6%	Year 4: 94.2%	Year 5: 98.6%	Year 6: 97.5%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 94.8%			



Christmas Mass

PRAYER AND WORSHIP: During the final week of term, we will be celebrating a Whole School Mass for Years 1-6 at St. Patrick's Church. The Mass will take place on **Wednesday, 14th December** starting at 9:15 a.m and parents/carers are very welcome to join the celebration.

KS1 NATIVITY: Years 1 and 2 absolutely smashed their Nativity performances for both their parents and the rest of the school this week. Miss Cusick and Miss Campbell and the rest of the KS1 team are so proud of each and everyone of them. Remember their names...as we're sure to see some of them become real life stars in the future!! Thank you parents for coming along to support and also for donating to the raffle!





CAROL SINGING: The children in Years 5 and 6 sang beautifully on Wednesday morning to the people of our local community, spreading lots of festive cheer! They were even treated to some hot chocolate to warm them up by some lovely people from a local coffee shop!

They'll be well rehearsed now in preparation for our annual 'Carols around the crib' service next Friday morning at 9:15 a.m. in the school hall. As always, parents/carers are welcome to come along and join in with the singing as we pay homage to baby Jesus. We always have a bit of fun at the end too with some well known Christmas favourites! It would be lovely to see you!

READING TOP TIP: This week's...well actually this **MONTH'S** reading top tip is: 'Watch a video of one the teachers on our Facebook Page!!' Yes parents, relax... the teachers have come to the rescue!! As a special Advent treat, the teachers will be posting an Advent video recording of one of their favourite Christmas stories each and every day during Advent. Why not send the teachers a message to tell them how you enjoyed listening to them read. Perhaps you can give some feedback and tell your teacher what they could do to improve!! Ho ho ho!! Enjoy!



CURRICULUM NEWS: With all that's been going on this week, the teachers have still managed to fit in some really exciting lessons! To highlight just a few examples; The Year 3 class went back in time to the Stone Age as part of their humanities topic and completely re-arranged the classroom to paint some cave images. Year 2 have been creating their own animations in their computing lesson using an app called Scratch jr. Please feel free to visit our school Facebook page to see what your child's class has been up to. To kick off our Christmas week, the teachers have planned some special Christmas themed Science lessons for our Science Day on Monday.

FESTIVE TRIPS: The children have had a wonderful time this week and we've certainly been out and about! On Tuesday, the Years 5 and 6 classes slipped and slid across the ice at Planet Ice, Altrincham. They had lots of fun and laughter with their classmates which was lovely to see. The pantomime in Bolton for Years 1-6 yesterday was a huge success and we all laughed, shouted, screamed and danced our way through the performance of Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs. Although it was a late afternoon...it was well worth it!

IMPORTANT HEALTH NEWS FOR PARENTS AND CARERS: You may have heard on the news about Strep A or Group A Streptococcus. It is a bacteria that can cause illnesses such as Scarlet Fever in young children, often between 2 and 8 years old. It spreads very easily when people cough. Scarlet Fever is usually not serious. It can be treated with antibiotics and children can normally go back to school in 24 hours. But some children can get it worse. If this happens you must tell a health professional or ring 111 for help.



Symptoms of Scarlet Fever include, a sore throat, swollen neck glands - a lump on the side of the neck, a high temperature, after 12 to 48 hours it causes small bumps that feel rough like sandpaper on the tummy and chest, on white skin the rash looks red, on brown or black skin this can be hard to see but you can still feel it. If your child has any of these signs keep them off school and talk to your GP who will tell you if any treatment is needed. Please keep the information flyer that we will be sending home today in an easy to access place in your home for reference.



WEATHER WARNING: The Met Office has issued the first Level 3 Cold Weather alert of the winter. There is a 90% probability of severe cold weather and icy conditions between now and 9:00 a.m. on Monday, 12 December in parts of England. Please take extra care whilst walking on pavements and driving on the roads. Make sure you look after yourselves and your families by wrapping up warm too.

CHRISTMAS FSM VOUCHERS: The Council has approved funding for supermarket vouchers for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) for two weeks over the Christmas holidays. This is in response to the financial pressure placed on many of our families at this time. Look out for your £30.00 e-vouchers from Wonde on Tuesday, 13th December which can be redeemed at a supermarket of your choice. Please contact the school office before the Christmas break if you have any problems accessing the voucher.



Christmas Holiday Activities: MCRactive are offering thousands of FREE places for children to access a variety of activities plus a FREE meal over the Christmas Holiday in Manchester for those on benefit-related free school meals. **To book your child's space:** Sign up for an MCRactive Go account <https://www.mcactive.com/>. Once signed up, log into your account - [Find Activities](#) - Search by Category 'MCR Holiday Activity' **Use code when asked: 26584** to book free eligible activities.

DIARY DATES: As we all know, the season of Advent is a busy time of year in school and this year will be just as busy as ever!! Below are some key dates to keep parents/carers fully informed of what fun and exciting festive activities will be going on in school.

Monday, 12 th December	Advent Science day - parents/carers welcome
Monday, 12 th December	Christmas Crafts in Nursery & Reception - parents/carers welcome at either 9:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. or 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.
Tuesday, 13 th December	Christmas dinner day-children to wear a Christmas jumper
Tuesday, 13 th December	Santa Dash for Year 5 and 6 - children bring in sponsorship money
Wednesday, 14 th December	9:15 a.m - Whole School Mass in St. Patrick's Church. Parents/carers welcome. Christmas party day-children to wear party clothes
Friday, 16 th December	9:15 a.m. - Carols around the Crib in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome Non-uniform day for school fund. 50p a child
Friday, 16 th December	School closes for pupils at 1:00 p.m. surnames A-J, 1:10 p.m. surnames K-Z
Wednesday, 4 th January	School reopens at 8:40 a.m. for Spring term



FACEBOOK: If you aren't doing so already, please 'like' our page on Facebook so you can keep up to date with all of the latest news! Teachers will be posting about what the class are up to during the week and they'll post photos also! Search us as **St. Patrick's Manchester** and we should pop up!

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Veronica O'Grady (RIP), Andrew Williams (RIP) and the Williams family, Christa Ormerod (RIP) and the Hamilton family, Beryl Lewis (RIP) & the Bevan family, Anne Clarke, Miss McCorkell & baby Roman, John Leighton, Maureen Duffy, our school GIFT Team, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, Canon Paul Daly, the Presentation Sisters, the Missionaries of Charity Brothers and all other private intentions at this time.



A PRAYER FOR THE
Third Sunday of Advent

Joy-filled Giver of Life,
let the anticipation of your birth
fill us with overflowing joy.
May our excitement and anticipation
be a sign to the world
that you are always near.
Amen.



Stay with us, Lord...on our journey.