



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

19<sup>th</sup> May 2023

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](http://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](mailto:Paul.Daly@dioceseofsalford.org.uk)

**Our Statement to live by next week is:  
"WE ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT THIS PENTECOST."**



**FRIENDSHIP:** In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus is telling his Father in heaven that he has now completed what was asked of him. Then, Jesus prays for his friends. This reminds us that Jesus prays for all his friends, which includes you and me too. This takes place after the last supper and, very soon, Jesus will be arrested. So before leaving his friends he is preparing them for the difficult time to come. Jesus wants his friends to stay united with one another and with God - forever. Friendship is one of life's great blessings and Jesus' friendship is also offered to each one of us. When we have good friendships, we can support each other, have fun together, and share our joys and challenges. We can also learn from each other and grow in our faith.

*"There is nothing on this earth more to be prized than true friendship."  
(St Thomas Aquinas)*

**PRAYER AND WORSHIP:** We were delighted to attend Mass on Thursday morning to celebrate the Feast of the Ascension. The children were exceptionally well behaved, gave some superb responses during Father Paul's homily and contributed brilliantly with their singing and prayers. Father Paul was so impressed, he rewarded them with an extra 15 minutes play time! Our next Mass is this **Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> May** when we will celebrate one of our favourite traditions, the Crowning of Mary. We invite all of our parents to attend this beautiful celebration and ask that children bring to school a bunch of flowers so that we can process into church & 'crown' our statue of Mary. The procession will start at 9:15 a.m.



**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS:** Fantastic news for three of our classes last week! Year 6, Year 3 and Reception all managed to achieve 100% attendance and we haven't celebrated one of them for a while never mind 3 at once! Congratulations to the children and parents. They were rewarded with an extra 10 minutes play EVERY day this week! The attendance figures for each class for last week can be found in the table below. With only 1 week remaining until the end of half term, we wait to see which class will be rewarded with an ice-cream party when we return after the holiday. Please help us to do our job by keeping us informed if your child is going to be absent from school and continue to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (**H**ere, **E**very day, **R**eady and **O**n time). Thank you parents/carers for your continued support and cooperation.



Nursery: 99.2%	Reception: 100%	Year 1: 97%	Year 2: 95.4%
Year 3: 100%	Year 4: 93.8%	Year 5: 99.2%	Year 6: 100%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 98.3%			

**CHANGES TO OUR ATTENDANCE POLICY:** To bring us in line with other Manchester schools, any families who take holidays during term time will be issued with a fixed penalty notice of £60.00. Both parents will receive a fine for each child in school. This change in policy will be from September.

**READING TOP TIP:** Our top tip this week is: **TAKE BREAKS WHILE READING.** Your child doesn't have to read an entire book in one go! Any time spent sharing or talking about a book is beneficial, even if it's just a couple of minutes at a time. If they have to close the book early because it's time for tea, or they're just losing interest, that's okay. Reading can take a lot of mental energy and taking breaks gives children a chance to slowly build the mental stamina they need, so that soon they will be able to read for longer stretches of time.



**HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING:** Did you know that as many as one million people cut off their broadband in the last year as the cost-of-living crisis left them unable to afford internet access, according to new research from Citizens Advice. People on Universal Credit are among customers who should be eligible for discounted social tariffs to help them stay connected. The latest figures from Ofcom show 95% of the 4.3 million eligible households are missing out on saving £200 on broadband costs each year. That is £824 million of support going unclaimed!! Social tariffs are cheaper broadband and phone packages for people claiming Universal Credit, Pension Credit and some other benefits. Some providers call them 'essential' or 'basic' broadband. They're delivered in the same way as normal packages, just at a lower price. So if you think that you are eligible, just get in touch with your internet provider.

**'TRIPLE A CHALLENGE:** Since the start of term, we've been telling the children that the teachers are ever so busy planning end of year trips for them. Well the good news is that all of the trips have now been booked in!! Of course the children are really excited about this...**BUT**...we have also informed them that they will be invited to attend the trip if they are able to meet our challenge for good **Attendance**, a positive **Attitude** towards their behaviour and **Achieving** to the very best of their ability during their lessons. We know that our parents will support us with this and encourage their children to meet this challenge! For budgeting purposes, it is anticipated that each trip will average out at approximately £10 after a heavy subsidy from school fund. Please look out for an email next week that outlines the dates and venues of specific trips that have been organised for each year group.



**YEAR 6 CAMPING TRIP TO NORTH WALES:** Thank you to the parents of Year 6 pupils who attended the meeting on Tuesday evening. We're now not sure who are the most excited... the parents or the children! The teachers will be sending out the kit list next week so families can start preparing to pack the necessary items.

**SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME:** We're sure, families on the Sacramental Programme are getting excited about the forthcoming Holy Communion celebrations. Dates for your diary are:

**Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May:** Final preparation meeting for families, in church at 7.00 p.m.

**Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup> June:** First Holy Communion Mass at St. Patrick's church at 9:15 a.m.

**Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup> June:** Celebration Mass with school, photographs and party day.



**CURRICULUM NEWS:** An extremely busy week in the curriculum at St. Patrick's this week! To mention just a few...Year 6 have been demonstrating how light travels! They discussed how light helps us to see the objects around us and why some objects and surfaces are more reflective than others! Year 1 wrote some beautiful prayers asking the Holy Spirit to help them to spread love, happiness, joy and respect to others. The Reception class have been looking at addition in Maths. They read the story "Mr Gumpy's Outing" then recreated it in the Construction Area. They worked together to build a boat then added in the animals to find the new totals. Some of the children even had a go at writing some number sentences. Check out our Facebook page to see what else has been going on in school this week!

**MCR ACTIVE HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES:** MCRactive are offering thousands of FREE places for children to access a variety of activities & a FREE meal over the Spring Half-Term Holidays in Manchester for those on benefit-related free school meals. Activities will range from Sport and Physical Activities, Arts and Crafts and much more. In addition to the activities, their booked place will include a FREE meal during the day.

For more information & to book your child's space: You will need to 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: 79113 to book free eligible activities.

Holiday Clubs



**SCHOOL DAY CONSULTATION:** Parents/carers should have received a letter from Mrs Clinton regarding proposed changes to the school day. The proposed timetable for the school day is as follows:

Times	
8:40 a.m.	Gates open for drop off
8:50 a.m.	Gates close
After 8:50 a.m.	Parents report to the school office to give a reason for being late
3:15 p.m.	Gates open for collection

The above changes WILL NOT affect the school's arrangements for breakfast club. This will continue to start at 8:00 a.m. If parents and pupils are happy with the proposed changes, we will implement and practice these changes after the May half-term until we break up for the summer. We will then update all related policies including our attendance and punctuality policy ready for September.

**PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION:** We now have a vacancy for a parent governor position on our board of governors. This is a voluntary role but can be extremely rewarding. We would like to thank John Mensah for his valuable contributions over the last 4 years. If this is something you'd be interested in, please make an appointment with Mrs Clinton. The elections will take place next half term, ready to start in September.



**NURSERY STARTERS:** Is your child's date of birth between 01.09.2019 and 31.08.2020? If so, we have places within our nursery available for your child to start in September! For more information about the admissions process please call in at the school office.

**LUNCHTIME ORGANISER VACANCY:** We currently have a vacancy for a lunchtime organiser at St. Edmund's school. This role is for 2 hours each day - 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Please speak to a member of the office team for an application form.

**DINNER MONEY ARREARS:** For those parents who pay for school meals, please remember that dinner money needs to be paid in advance by **Monday morning** on Pay360. Dinner money for the remainder of this half term is £11.75. Thank you!

**HALF TERM FSM VOUCHERS:** The Council has approved funding for supermarket vouchers for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) for the May half term break to help with the financial pressures placed on many of our families at this time. Look out for your £15.00 e-vouchers from Wonde next week. This can be redeemed at a supermarket of your choice. Please contact the school office before the break if you have any problems accessing the voucher.

**DIARY DATES:** As you might expect, we have an extremely busy term next half term. Next week, we will publish a list of significant dates so that parents are aware of all that will be going on and can plan and prepare.

**HALF TERM BREAK:** Next Friday, school will close at the usual time of 3.00 p.m. for just one week. Some schools do close for 2 weeks. Not us! Next Friday will be a non-uniform day to raise money for school fund. It will be 50p per child, £1 per family - thank you for your continued support.

**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: Mohinder Singh (RIP) and family, Josephine Ekuase, Mrs Balagizi, Margaret Williams, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, those families from Sudan and Ukraine and others seeking asylum from war torn countries, Canon Paul Daly, Father Moses, Deacon Stephen, the Presentation Sisters, the Missionaries of Charity Brothers and all other private intentions at this time.



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