



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

7<sup>th</sup> July 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://stpatricksiveseyst.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'sRomanCatholicPrimarySchoolManchester)



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:  
"I KNOW WHAT HUMILITY MEANS."

Thank you to all parents, carers and pupils who have embraced the revised arrangements for drop off and collection at the start and end of the school day. We will continue to practise and work together this half term to ensure the arrangements are embedded in readiness for September. As a reminder, the school gates will open for drop off at 8:40 a.m. and close at 8:50 a.m. for **all pupils**. Any latecomers must report to the school office to have their child signed in. At home time, the gates will open at 3:15 p.m. for collection of **all pupils**.



**COMPANIONSHIP:** A good companion is priceless and helps us to make the best of ourselves. In this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus offers his companionship to us and to our children. In this much-loved and encouraging gospel passage, Jesus invites us to go to him to rest and to be refreshed. Jesus came to take away fear and loneliness - to help people feel loved and accepted. We can experience Jesus' companionship through other people and through spending time with God in prayer.

We do not need to be clever, rich or popular for God to care for us. Regardless of our faults or weaknesses, Jesus always loves us and offers us his comfort and everlasting companionship.

*"Do you want your companions to respect you? Always think well of everyone, and be ready to help others. Do this and you will be happy."*

*(St John Bosco)*

**PRAYER & WORSHIP:** Our next Mass will be this **Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July** and it will be our final Mass of the school year. This will be led by our Year 6 leavers and all parents/carers are welcome to join us in church at 9:15 a.m.

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS:** We love to celebrate good attendance in school which is why we have an ice-cream party every month for the class with the highest attendance. The winners for the month of June were announced this week and the winning class were.....RECEPTION!. Well done to Miss Simpson and the children. They really enjoyed their ice-creams this afternoon. 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.



**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: **SWAP A BOOK**. Encourage your children and their friends to swap books with each other - it'll give them a chance to read new stories, and get them all talking about what they're reading. Obviously, make sure that children have finished with their book first and ensure that the adults agree that it's okay to do a swap!!

**HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING-HOUSING COSTS:** If you're a tenant, the Universal Credit housing costs element can help towards the cost of your rent and some service charges. If you're a homeowner, you can't get the housing costs element to help with mortgage payments. But you might be able to get help from the government to pay the interest on your mortgage, known as Support for Mortgage Interest (SMI). Whether you want tips on managing your payments, what to do if you fall into rent arrears, or whether an SMI loan is the best option for you, click on the following links to find out more.

[Universal Credit and paying rent](#)

[Support for Mortgage Interest \(SMI\)](#)



**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL:** The Saint Vincent de Paul Society (known as the SVP) in our parish is launching a scheme to gather food supplies for people who find themselves in difficulty during the cost of living crisis. Their aim is to provide short term help so that people have space to get back on track.

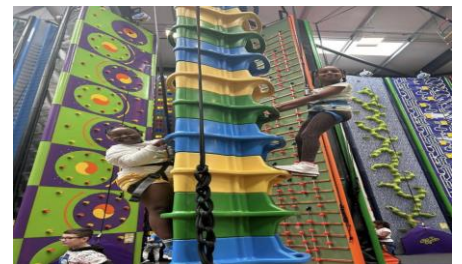
If you can spare any non perishable items they will be greatly appreciated - Tins, rice, pasta, soap, toothpaste, deodorant etc. There is a collection station at St. Patrick's Church.

The SVP operates on a referral basis, so if you know of someone in our community, who find themselves struggling, please let them know that they can:

- Contact the SVP on 07803 507018
- Describe the situation they find themselves in
- Give the SVP an idea of how much food they might need

Volunteers at the SVP will do their best to match their needs. What a fantastic charity!

**YEAR 3 END OF YEAR TRIP:** The Year 3 children and their teachers certainly enjoyed their end of year trip to 'Clip 'n Climb' and the bowling alley on Wednesday afternoon. It was lovely to see so many of them using our life skill of encouragement. They cheered each other on and celebrated each others achievements as they tackled some challenging yet very enjoyable activities. Check out our Facebook page to see if you can spot your child having fun with his/her classmates.



**YEAR 6 CAMPING TRIP TO NORTH WALES:** Our Year 6 children returned home safe and sound from North Wales this afternoon. They had an absolutely fantastic time with their classmates and teachers enjoying the awe and wonder of God's beautiful countryside. We were blessed with gorgeous weather and so many holidaymakers commented upon how well behaved and polite the children were. The memories that they made will stay with them for many years to come and perhaps some of them may return to the Llyn Peninsula themselves one day with their own families! Check out our Facebook page and see all of the fun and laughter for yourself!

**DINNER MONEY:** 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 the term is £23.50. Thank you!

**CHANGE IS ON THE WAY!!:** Unfortunately Pay360, our online payment system, is being withdrawn by the company at the end of July. This means that we will have to move over to a new payment system before the end of term in order to be ready for September. More information about how to register will be sent out next week. Please keep an eye out and register as soon as possible so that you are ready for the start of the new school year.

**PRICE INCREASE:** From September, the price of a school meal will be £2.45 per day, £12.25 per week. The menus for September are attached. Please note that there is also a choice of sandwiches or jacket potatoes available each day. If you wish your child to move from packed lunch to school meals, or vice versa, please let the school office know as soon as possible.

**UNIVERSAL INFANT FREE SCHOOL MEALS:** As you are aware, children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a free school meal each day as part of the government's Universal Free School Meals initiative. This means that children who are currently in the Nursery 2 class will no longer pay for meals when they move to the Reception class in September. Please can you make sure that any dinner money arrears are cleared before the end of term.

This also means that children who are currently in Year 2 will need to pay for their meals from September when they move into Year 3.

**FSM VOUCHERS:** The Council has approved funding for supermarket vouchers for children eligible for free school meals (FSM) for the Summer break to help with the financial pressures placed on many of our families at this time. This will be a one off payment of £55.00 issued to parents in the last week of term. 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.

### **DREADING THE 6 WEEK HOLIDAYS?!**

The Summer holidays are fast approaching. MCRactive and Manchester City Council are offering thousands of **FREE** places for children eligible for benefits-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.mcractive.com/> (sign in) to book free Summer Holiday activities. Once signed up, log into your account - [Find Activities](#) - Search by Category 'MCR Holiday Activity' - . **Use code: 64894** to book free eligible activities. You can also visit <https://loads.todo.co.uk/> to view additional FREE holiday activities and other opportunities taking place across the city.

**Please note that the system will only show sessions 6 weeks in advance, so you may need to log back in at a later date to make further bookings.**

\*Please only book your child onto a holiday camp if they will be attending. Spaces at each camp are limited. If you book a space and your child can no longer attend, please cancel your space as far in advance as possible, to allow the opportunity for another child to take their space at the activity and free meal.

**ATTENTION YEAR 5 PARENTS:** Parents of children in our current Y5 class, the window for Y7 applications is now open.

Parents can make their online application through the portal on the Council's website: <https://parentportal.manchester.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/home>



**CONSULTATIONS:** At this time of year, our governors like to evaluate and review how well our school is doing and what we need to do to improve. They want to hear from parents, children and staff. Therefore, please take this opportunity to click on the link and be part of our evaluation. It shouldn't take you more than 10 minutes! <https://forms.gle/4w9DK4pWzEvsQp359>

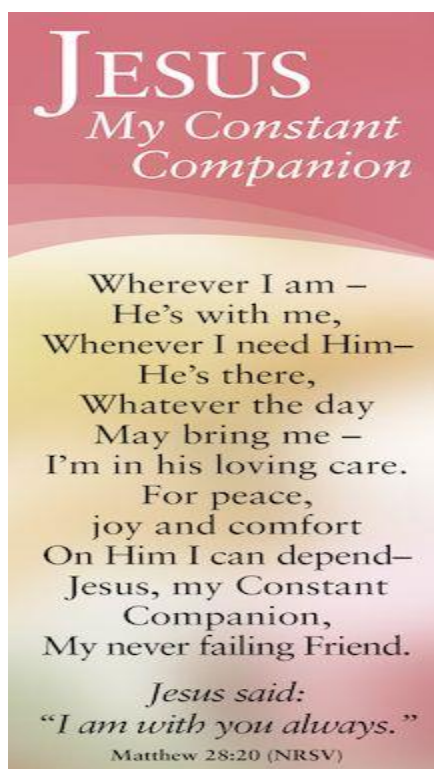
**READING BOOKS:** In order for the teaching staff to allocate your child to the correct reading book band in September, reading books will be collected in from Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> July. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

**DIARY DATES:** As you know, this has already been an extremely busy term. At the end of this newsletter there is an updated list of significant dates so that parents/carers are aware of all that is going on and can plan and prepare.

**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: Andrew Betney, Alice Ritchie, Josephine Ekuase, Michaela Holubova, Mrs Monowara Begum, Mrs Balagizi, Margaret Williams, Anne and Tony Clarke all involved with caring for the sick of our community, our First Communicants, those families from Sudan and Ukraine and others seeking asylum from war torn countries, all fathers, 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.*