



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

14th 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

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

Our statement to live by next week is:
"I UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF PEACE."

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 for one more week 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**.



LISTENING: Children love to be listened to and it helps them to grow in self-esteem. If, from a young age, they know that we truly listen to them, they are far more likely to keep listening to us as they mature. Listening to the right people and the right messages is important for us and for our children. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear Jesus inviting us to listen to him and act upon his words.

Like any good teacher, Jesus uses pictures or parables to make his teaching clearer. Jesus is like a sower, scattering his words like seeds. Jesus' words have stood the test of time. They are rooted in love and can be trusted to guide us and our children.

Jesus does not force us to listen to him, but he knows what's best for us. Regularly listening to Jesus reminds us what's really important in life.

*"Good communication helps us to grow closer. It is so important to listen."
(Pope Francis)*

PRAYER & WORSHIP: Thank you to all of the parents/carers who were able to come along to the end of year Mass on Wednesday morning. It was a beautiful celebration and it was lovely to see the participation from our Year 6 leavers. Please keep these children in your prayers as they 'journey on' to their respective high schools.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTER: After a busy few weeks, it's imperative that the children continue to attend school each day and on time. There's lots going on next week with transition day on Monday, the Year 5 end of year trip on Wednesday, the St Patsbury festival on Thursday and the final celebration and awards assembly on Friday! Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO so they don't miss out! (Here, Every day, Ready and On time). Thank you parents/carers for your continued support and cooperation.



Nursery: 92.4%	Reception: 91.2%	Year 1: 88%	Year 2: 97.2%
Year 3: 94.1%	Year 4: 90.5%	Year 5: 94.7%	Year 6: 91.1%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 92.4%			

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. All parents with parental responsibility for their child/ren will receive a letter next week about our school policy and actions the Local Authority will take if your child/ren do not attend school regularly.



READING TOP TIP: Our top tip this week is... **VISIT THE LOCAL LIBRARY TOGETHER-** As we approach the summer holidays, it's a perfect time to get out and about with the children and find the closest library to where you live. You can find your local library by clicking on the following link and entering your postcode. <https://www.gov.uk/local-library-services>. Encourage your child to take up a membership and frequently visit the library over the summer break to loan some books that may be of interest to them.

HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING-MSE: You may have heard of Martin Lewis or seen him on TV. He's well known as the 'Money Saving Expert!' Did you know that you can sign up for his newsletter that is updated with the latest money saving tips and emailed out on a weekly basis? Follow this link for his cost of living survival guide as well as information to sign up for the weekly newsletter.

<https://www.moneysavingexpert.com/family/cost-of-living-survival-kit/>



SPORTS DAY: Our annual sports day is planned for Tuesday, 18th July on Abbott Primary School's playing field so please send your child into school in their P.E. kit. HOWEVER... having looked at the weather forecast we need a plan B. If it is raining the outdoor sports day activities WILL NOT go ahead. This will mean that unfortunately parents will not be able to attend and the sports day will be cancelled. We will assess the situation on Tuesday morning and let parents know so please look out for a text.

Plan B - the children will undertake some sporting competitions in their class groups in the hall and this will be organised by our sports coach and class teachers. Unfortunately, there isn't the room for parents to come and watch this. We apologise in advance if this is the case as this is an annual event that we all love. If we do have to cancel it, we will look at rearranging the event for September.



END OF YEAR TRIPS: Wow....what a busy week we have had with the end of year trips! On Monday, the Year 1 class had loads of fun on the rides at Gulliver's World. On Tuesday, the Year 2 class braved the wild conditions at Bewilderwood, on Thursday the Year 4 class got all active adventurous at Graystone Action Sports Centre and to top it all off, the EYFS children visited a mobile farm on the school field! Please check out our Facebook Page to see if you can spot your child having fun with his/her classmates and give us a 'Like!'

IMPORTANT FINANCE MATTERS:

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 £11.75. Thank you!

SCHOOL GATEWAY: As you are aware, Pay360, our online payment system, is being withdrawn by the company. This means that we are moving over to School Gateway and ask that you register before the end of term in order to be ready for September. More information has already been sent out this week so please check your emails and register as soon as possible.

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.

**- NOTIFICATION -
PRICE INCREASE**

BREAKFAST CLUB: Unfortunately, we need to increase the cost of our breakfast club as well. It has been £2.00 a day now for many years but governors can no longer sustain this level of subsidy. From September, the cost of breakfast club will be £3.00 per day which works out at £15.00. This increase is still being subsidised from our school budget and is still cheaper than using private child-care arrangements.

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.

Free school meal VOUCHERS

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>

DIARY DATES: What a busy and enjoyable term we've had but it's not over yet! As you know, we are coming to the end of an extremely busy term. Attached to this newsletter there is an updated list of significant dates for the last week so that parents/carers are aware of all that is going on and can plan and prepare. Please look out for what children should be wearing on the event days.

PATSBURY: The children are busy doing last minute rehearsals for what is becoming an annual music festival! This year 'Patsbury' will take place on Thursday, 20th July. Children can come to school dressed as they would if attending Glastonbury. You can check out google images to see what type of clothing festival goers wear. Our only barrier could again be the weather!! It isn't looking good at all. We will need to have the concert in the hall if the weather demands. We can't have a PA system outside for obvious reasons. The 'gig' starts at 1.30 p.m. and we look forward to you all coming along to join in with the fun and sing along with the children.

ANNUAL REPORTS: Parents should receive their child's end of year annual report today via the email address we have for you. If you don't receive one, please call the office on Monday so that this can be rectified. Please congratulate your child on the fantastic progress they have made this year as we are super proud of them. If you would like to discuss your child's report with their class teacher, please call the office to make an appointment for next week.

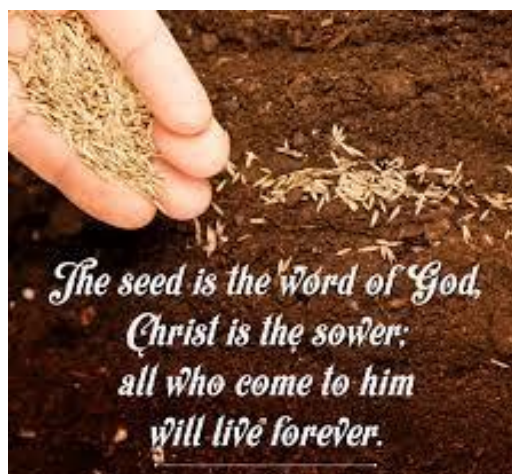
BOOKS & WORK GOING HOME: The majority of children will be bringing home the work they've done this year. Please send your child in with a plastic bag for their books. We're sure you'd love to look at their work and celebrate their achievements and progress. The children are rightly proud of themselves!

FINAL FRIDAY: We break up for the Summer Holiday next **Friday, 21st July** and our final awards assembly will start promptly at 11.15 a.m. Children will need to wear full school uniform for this. A polite reminder to parents that the school day will finish at the earlier time of 1:30 p.m. so please make arrangements for an early collection.

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: Anne Clarke and family, Andrew Betney, Alice Ritchie, Josephine Ekuase, Michaela Holubova, Mrs Monowara Begum, Mrs Balagizi, Margaret Williams, 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.