



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

15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Tel: 0161-834-9004

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)



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**WEEKEND MASSES - Come to the table, everyone is welcome!**

**Saturday:** Vigil Mass -6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

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

**Sunday:** 11:00 a.m. at St. Malachy's

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 Paul after one of the weekend Masses listed above. Alternatively, Father 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:  
'REJOICE IN THE LORD'**



**DURING ADVENT-LET US BE FILLED WITH JOY:** This weekend we celebrate the third Sunday of Advent which is known as 'Gaudete Sunday', and we light the pink candle on our advent wreath. The word 'Gaudete' in Latin means 'Rejoice!'. We joyfully celebrate that Christmas is near - we rejoice that Christ is coming. God wants us to be filled with joy - Jesus came to make our joy complete. Happiness comes and goes, but the joy that comes from close friendship with Jesus stays forever. Joy is something we all desire. We don't have to search around for joy: it comes from within. When we follow Jesus by loving God and others, we are filled with joy! A joyful heart is a sign of God's Spirit within us.

*"Joy is very infectious; therefore, always be full of joy." (St Teresa of Calcutta)*

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTER:** What a shame! We missed our whole school attendance target last week with a score of 92.6%. Next week, the teachers have loads of Christmas themed activities for the children to participate in and enjoy. We would love to see the children in school and enjoying a party day, a disco, Christmas crafts, Carols around the Crib, to mention just a few! How lucky they are!

Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Every day, Ready and On time) so that they don't miss out. Thank you parents/carers for your continued support.



|                     |                  |               |               |
|---------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Nursery: 90.2%      | Reception: 86.8% | Year 1: 93.8% | Year 2: 93%   |
| Year 3: 97.9%       | Year 4: 91.4%    | Year 5: 90.8% | Year 6: 94.2% |
| WHOLE SCHOOL: 92.6% |                  |               |               |

**PRAYER AND WORSHIP:** Our next Mass will be a whole school Mass on Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December and the readings to celebrate Christmas will be led by Year 6. As always, all are welcome to join us in church at the usual time of 9:15 a.m. Come and join us!



**READING TOP TIP:** This week's...well actually this **MONTH'S** reading top tip continues to be: '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!

**ATTENTION NURSERY PARENTS:** The deadline for applications for a September 2024 place in our Reception class is Monday, 15th January. Please be aware that a place in our Nursery is unfortunately not a guarantee that you will be offered a place! Therefore please do not delay in completing your application. Applications can be completed online at: [https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primary\\_school\\_admissions/7264/apply\\_for\\_a\\_reception\\_class\\_place\\_for\\_september\\_2020/4](https://secure.manchester.gov.uk/info/500321/primary_school_admissions/7264/apply_for_a_reception_class_place_for_september_2020/4) If any parent needs assistance with completing their application, please feel free to call into the office and a member of the Admin Team will be happy to help.



**EYFS STAY AND PLAY:** Thank you to all of those parents and carers who were able to join in with the Stay and Play session on Thursday. Yet again, parental engagement was fantastic and the staff hope that parents were able to take away some useful and handy activities that they can complete at home all around the theme of Christmas.



**CURRICULUM NEWS:** This week, the teachers have been busy trying to cram in all of the curriculum work that needs to be completed before the Christmas activities begin next week. Miss McGrath and the Reception class have been super scientists and experimenting with what happens to clouds when they get heavy! Miss Lowrie and Year 1 had a special visitor who used to be a past pupil of St. Patrick's about 50 years ago. The children had lots of questions about the history of our school! Why not visit our school Facebook page to see what your child's class has been learning about this week?

**KS1 NATIVITY:** Years 1 and 2 absolutely smashed their Nativity performances for both their parents and the rest of the school this week when they put on their performance of 'Lights, Camels, Action!' Miss Cusick and Miss Lowrie and the rest of the KS1 team are so proud of each and everyone of them. Every child took part with great enthusiasm and there was such joy in their performance!! 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!

**ONLINE-SAFETY TOP TIP:** Our top tip this week is: **HELP YOUR CHILD TO THINK CRITICALLY WHEN THEY'RE ONLINE.** Remind your child that not everything that they read or see on the web is true, and not everyone online tells the truth. More than ever, internet users are required to wade through a lot of noise, distractions, and opinions that flow freely online. Children need guidance to learn this skill. The following link is really useful and it is called "Five Tips for Teaching Students How to Research and Filter Information."

[https://www.hip-books.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/five\\_tips\\_for\\_teaching\\_students\\_how\\_to\\_research\\_and\\_filter\\_information\\_by\\_kathleen\\_morris.pdf](https://www.hip-books.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/five_tips_for_teaching_students_how_to_research_and_filter_information_by_kathleen_morris.pdf)



**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, 19<sup>th</sup> 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 THEMED COFFEE MORNING!** Wow! What an amazing success the coffee morning was this morning! The children in Years 3 and 4 loved welcoming 'The oldies' into school to talk to them about what Christmas was like in the 'Good old days.' Thank you to all of those parents and grandparents who came along to answer the many questions that the children had and sharing with them your experiences of Christmas throughout the years. Same time, same place, next year??

**CHRISTMAS DISCO:** On Wednesday, 20<sup>th</sup> December there'll be a Christmas Disco for ALL pupils. The disco will start at 4:30 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. and tickets cost £5.00 CASH. These are now on sale and can be purchased either at the school office or from your child's class teacher. Children **MUST** be collected from school at the usual time as staff will be setting up for the discos. There will be no after school provision on that afternoon.



**HERE TO HELP WITH THE COST OF LIVING:** The BBC have a really useful website with lots of information that can help households with the cost of living crisis. Get support with:



- Mortgages
- Energy bills
- Household costs
- Childcare costs
- Income support
- Saving money
- Pension rules

Visit <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cljev4jz3pjt> for more information





**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: Oliver O'Leary, Alice Ritchie, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, the homeless & rough sleepers, CAFOD, the Lalley Centre, Father Paul & Father Moses, the Presentation Sisters, our children and staff, all those working with environment agencies, and all other private intentions at this time.



**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:**




|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December     | <i>Christmas JUMPER DAY</i><br>                                | Christmas jumper and Christmas dinner day   |
| Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December   | 9:15 a.m. Whole school Advent Mass led by Year 6 - Parents welcome  |   |
| Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December   | Party Day! Children come into school in their party clothes   |   |
| Wednesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December   | 4:30 p.m - 5:30 p.m Christmas Disco after school for pupils for ALL pupils<br>£5.00 CASH a ticket. <b>No after school sports club this day.</b> |   |
| Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December    | 11:00 a.m. Carols around the Crib in the hall - Parents welcome<br>Non-uniform day for school fund. 50p a child £1 per family                   |  |
| Thursday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December    | School closes at 1:00 p.m. for the Christmas holiday  |   |
| <b>Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January</b> | <b>School re-opens for the Spring term</b>  |   |



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.



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