



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

24<sup>th</sup> November 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](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)

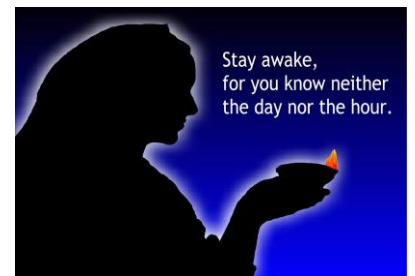


DIOCESE OF SALFORD

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:  
"GOD IS COMING. STAY AWAKE!"**

**STAY AWAKE!** This Sunday is the start of the season of Advent, a word which means 'important arrival'. Advent is the time to start making preparations to celebrate Christ's birth - God's momentous arrival into our world in the person of Jesus. The Gospel reminds us that there is no time to lose. We shouldn't put off our good resolutions until New Year. Now, Advent, is the time to think about the way we live our lives and begin to make any necessary changes. The message is clear for all of us: we are to 'stay awake!'



*"Advent is like a springtime, when everything is renewed and so is fresh and healthy." St Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)*



**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS:** Unfortunately, we missed our whole school attendance target last week with a disappointing score of 93.1%. The staff are busy planning lots of exciting activities for the children over the last few weeks of term as we build up to Christmas. We would love to see the children in school and enjoying pantomimes, nativity plays, party day, ice skating, Christmas crafts to mention just a few! Competition for the winning class for the highest attendance in November is hotting up and it's already a close call between a few classes. The results will be announced next

Friday...so watch this space!! Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Everyday, Ready and On time). Thank you parents/carers for your continued support.

Nursery: 80.0%	Reception: 80.9%	Year 1: 94.2%	Year 2: 96.8%
Year 3: 92.1%	Year 4: 95.8%	Year 5: 95.7%	Year 6: 94.6%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 93.1%			

**GOING TO BE ABSENT?** Gentle reminder: If your child is absent from school, it is the parent's responsibility to inform us. If we don't hear from you, this causes a safeguarding concern because we don't know your child is safe. Please help us to do our job by keeping us well informed. Many thanks for your co-operation.

**PERSONAL HYGIENE:** We have had a small number of reported cases of pupils presenting with head lice or worms. Staff will continue to be vigilant by encouraging the children to wash their hands regularly, especially before & after meal times in school and we are asking parents to be extra vigilant at home too. We would love all of the children to enjoy the upcoming exciting activities planned for them in school and it would be such a shame if they missed out due to having a tummy bug. Thank you for your continued co-operation.



**PRAYER AND WORSHIP:** Congratulations to our GIFT Team who were commissioned by Canon Paul at Mass on Wednesday. The team have a very important job to spread the Word of God throughout our school and the school community. It is their mission to interpret scripture so that pupils can better understand stories from the Bible and relate them to their own lives.



## The logo for the Christmas Fair features a holly leaf and berry at the top. Below it, the word 'CHRISTMAS' is written in large, red, outlined letters, and 'FAIR' is written in green, outlined letters below that. The entire logo is flanked by two horizontal lines.

**PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR:** The parish Christmas Fair will take place at the back of church after 10:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, 4<sup>th</sup> December. As always, the school will be supporting the Christmas Fair so we'll be holding a non-uniform day on Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> December and asking for donations of either chocolate for the chocolate tombola or bottles for the bottle tombola. Thank you in advance for your generous donations and supporting our wonderful parish.

**PARISH RAFFLE:** The oldest child in each family will come home with a book of raffle tickets today. Please support our parish by purchasing the tickets and if possible, selling them to family and friends. We have plenty more books at the school office for families who would like more tickets.

**READING TOP TIP:** This week's reading top tip is: 'Video your child reading and play it back to them!' This is a really good way to ensure that your child improves with skills like intonation and expression. Perhaps choose just one page from their reading book where an exclamation mark, question mark and/or speech mark is used by the author. Ask them to practise how the pitch of their voice changes to reflect the specific punctuation used on the page. Then, record your child on a device and play it back to them to see where improvements can be made. Try it... it's really fun and children just love watching themselves read aloud! Watch out for some of the teachers modelling these skills throughout Advent with some of their own favourite Christmas stories!!



**CURRICULUM NEWS:** There's been so much going on this week with our curriculum! To highlight just a few examples: The Nursery children have been counting and sorting objects for Percy the Park Keeper in Mathematics. The Year 2 class have been creating and matching each others dance actions to the theme of 'The Secret Garden.' The Year 5 pupils are improving their musical talents week on week as they learn more notes on the tin whistle! Please feel free to visit our school Facebook page to see what your child's class has been up to. Teachers love planning exciting lessons for our children and rumour has it we'll be having a Christmas themed Science day to kick off our Christmas week.

**BIKEABILITY:** The children in Year 5 have braved the inclement weather this week and all pupils have had the opportunity to achieve a cycling qualification organised by instructors from Bikeability. Not only did the cyclists get to practice their skills but they were taught valuable lessons about keeping themselves and other road users safe. Well done Year 5!!



**SCHOOL CLOSURE:** School will be closed to all pupils tomorrow for a staff training day. This date is on our annual school calendar.

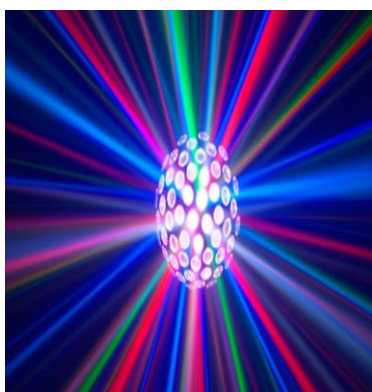
**EQUALITY POLICY:** Schools and academies are required to publish information to show how they are complying with their Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') and to prepare and publish equality objectives under the Equality Act 2010 (Specific Duties) Regulations 2011. Therefore, parents are signposted to the school Equality Policy on the school website by clicking on 'Key Information' and then 'Policies.' If any parent/carer has any questions or queries about the Equality Policy, please telephone the school to make an appointment with Mrs Clinton.



**PANTOMIME TIME!!:** We are excited to tell you that we have booked tickets for Years 1-6 to attend Bolton's Christmas pantomime "Snow White & The Seven Dwarfs!" The children will be going to Victoria Hall in Bolton on **Thursday, 8th December** to watch the 1:30 p.m. performance. **Therefore, we won't be returning to school until the much later time of 4:45p.m.**

If they shout and scream loud enough the children will even be treated to an ice cream at the interval! This is our Christmas gift to our children and school has heavily subsidised the cost. However, in order for the trip to go ahead we are asking for a donation of £5 per child. This payment can be made on Pay360 up until a deadline of **Wednesday, 30th November**. We know this will be the perfect festive trip for our pupils and we can't wait for them to tell you all about it! Oh no we can't! There will be no after school sports on this day for the children in Years 4-6.

**KEY STAGE 1 NATIVITY- CHRISTMAS COUNTS:** Our Year 1 and Year 2 pupils are very excited to tell everyone their version of the Christmas story! They have been busy learning their lines, practising their songs and dance moves and are nearly ready for their dress rehearsal a week on Tuesday. Parents/carers are invited to come along and watch their polished performance on **Tuesday, 6th December at 2:00 p.m** in the school hall. We will be holding a raffle at the end of the performance so please bring some spending money to purchase a few tickets! All monies raised will go towards school fund and as you know, we rely upon this fund in order to subsidise some of the exciting enrichment activities that we provide for the children. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity.



**CHRISTMAS DISCOS:** Staff have been talking to the children and feedback is that our children would love a Christmas disco AFTER school this year!! According to the children, lots of other schools have them so why can't we? Teachers have said that they'll kindly give up their time one evening if it means we can raise some money for our school fund. So.....we have a date and some times for you....

Thursday, 15<sup>th</sup> December is the date to save. 3.30 p.m. until 4.30 p.m. for Years 1, 2 & 3 and 4.45 p.m. - 5.45 p.m. for Years 4, 5 & 6. Children can come in their best disco outfits and there will be all sorts of fun activities going on!! It will be a £5 entrance fee which children can pay at the door. Get your disco dancing gear at the ready!!!

**YEAR 5 AND 6 ICE SKATING:** The children in Year 5 and 6 brought home a letter last week giving more information about the ice skating trip to Freight Island on **Tuesday, 6th December**. The deadline for payments to be made on Pay360 is **Wednesday, 30th November**. Thank you in advance for your contributions and the children are sure to have a wonderful time with their classmates!

**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.

Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>INSET Day for staff. School closed for all pupils.</b>
Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> November	9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. - Stay and Play session for new Nursery children due to start in January 2023
Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Non-uniform day collecting chocolate or bottles for the Parish Christmas Fair
Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Parish Christmas Fair after 10.30 a.m. Mass - all very welcome, please come and support this annual fundraising event
Tuesday, 6 <sup>th</sup> December	Ice-skating for Y5 + Y6 2:00 p.m. Key Stage 1 Nativity in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome
Wednesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Year 6 carol singing outside Asda in Harpurhey. Wonderful Wednesday

Thursday, 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Years 1-6 at a pantomime in Bolton. <b>RETURN BACK TO SCHOOL AT 4.45 P.M. NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB TODAY</b>
Monday, 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Advent Science day - parents/carers welcome
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Crafts in Nursery & Reception - parents/carers welcome
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas dinner day-children to wear a Christmas jumper
Tuesday, 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Santa Dash for Year 5 and 6-children bring in sponsorship money
Wednesday, 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Whole School Mass in St. Patrick's Church Christmas party day-children to wear party clothes
Thursday, 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Disco: Years 1, 2 & 3 - 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Years 4, 5 & 6 - 4:45 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December	9:15 a.m. Carols around the Crib in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome
Friday, 16 <sup>th</sup> December	School closes for pupils at 1:00 p.m. surnames A-J, 1:10 p.m. surnames K-Z
Wednesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>School reopens at 8:40 a.m. for Spring term</b>



**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: Mary Trayers (RIP) and family, Joan Henshaw (RIP) and the McKnight family, All Holy Souls, Anne Clarke, Miss McCorkell, John Leighton, Maureen Duffy, 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  
First Sunday of Advent**

God of light and life,  
give us hope as we wait  
for your coming again.  
When we are tempted  
to be grateful to have found you  
while others are lost,  
send us out into the darkness  
in search of those  
who need you most.  
Amen.

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