



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

26th January 2024

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

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!

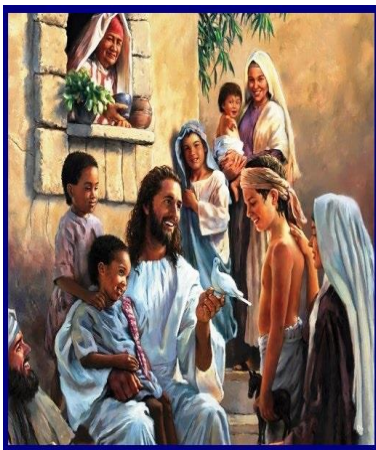
Saturday: Vigil Mass - 6.30 p.m. at St. Malachy's

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 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 next week is: 'I know how to use words to make the world a better place.'



INSPIRATIONAL: In Sunday's Gospel we encounter God through Jesus as the teacher. It's important to have good teachers. Parents are the first and foremost educators of their own children - other family members and friends can also teach about what really matters in life. But who can really teach us about the best way to live? Jesus stood out as a teacher because he taught with authority and power. In this Sunday's Gospel Jesus demonstrates this through the amazing healing of the man in the synagogue. Jesus' teachings expose the things that weaken us - setting free all those who listen to him. The whole of Jesus' life was a continual teaching. His teaching is calm and wise, powerful but gentle, and enriches family life. What an inspiration!

"Jesus is a teacher of truth and life who shows us the way that leads to happiness." (Pope Francis)

ATTENDANCE MATTERS: Well done to all those families who were here every day and on time last week. Our overall attendance was 94.5% so not quite hitting our target of 97%. Congratulations to Year 1 who were the winning class with 99.5% and enjoyed an extra 5 minutes on their playtimes every day this week! Even during these winter months, the children still want to be rewarded with an ice-cream party at the end of January if their class wins! Who is going to be an attendance HERO?! (Here Everyday Ready On time)



KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY: We just can't stress to parents/carers enough about the need to keep school informed if your child is absent for whatever reason. If we don't hear from you, staff will conduct a home visit. If there is no response, we will call 101 and request that police undertake a welfare visit. Please work with us so that we aren't concerned about your child's safety.

URGENT BUILDING REPAIRS: Unfortunately, the planned building work this week didn't go to plan! Storm Jocelyn was to blame on Wednesday and then the builders didn't show up on Thursday! We can only apologise to parents as we know it caused great disruption at the end of the school day. We've been promised they'll start on Monday and it will be for 2 days. The work is to remove and replace the old lead downpipes on the exterior walls. Thank you for your co-operation and understanding.

READING TOP TIP: Our top tip this week is: **CHANGE YOUR VOICE FOR EACH CHARACTER.** If reading a book aloud with your child, try becoming some or all of the characters in the story! Change your voice for the characters. You can speak in a whisper for a shy mouse. You can speak angrily. You can speak in a loud silly voice. You can speak in a quiet voice. Even when you have only one character, have fun changing your voice. This will make the story more entertaining and help your child understand which characters are talking. As a bonus, you will be helping your child learn new words, such as shyly, angrily, happily, and sadly, because children will match your tone of voice to the words in the book and to the pictures on the pages.



CURRICULUM UPDATES: The children have enjoyed another busy week learning. The Nursery children continued exploring & investigating ice and water. During their Art lesson, Year 4 were examining local architecture and used Tim Garner, a local artist, as their inspiration for their work. Year 3 have caused quite a stir around school this week as they wrote and displayed 'wanted' posters for Big Foot! Year 5 learned about what food Jewish people eat for their festival 'Passover'. Check out our facebook page for more curriculum updates!



A NEW YEAR & A FRESH START: Our school community will come together on Wednesday to celebrate Mass for the start of 2024. Our focus, at the call of Pope Francis, will be prayer. Please join us in Church for a 9.15 a.m. start once you've dropped your children off at school.

MID YEAR REPORTS: This afternoon, you will receive a progress report for your child. If you would like to discuss this in more detail with your child's teacher by all means call the office to make an appointment.

NURSERY PLACES FOR SEPTEMBER: Are you looking for a nursery place or know someone who is? Is their date of birth between 01.09.2020 and 31.08.2021? 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.



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!

PARENTING COURSE: We are proud to offer all of our parents a 'parents as partners' course which will be starting on Thursday, 1st February for 8 weeks. It's taking place at a really convenient time from 10.00-12.30 p.m. So you can drop your child/ren off at school and then be finished in time for lunch. It will be held at the Lalley Centre so it's just down the road. Please speak to the admin team for further information.





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 \(SMI\)](#)

HOUSING ISSUES?: MCA are hosting a parent information evening next Wednesday, 5:00-6:00 p.m. It will be a short presentation on how to tackle your landlord if your property is in disrepair and also what to do if you are at risk of homelessness. Staff from Shelter, Citizens Advice and the MCC housing teams, who will be available to talk to people afterwards. Everyone is welcome to go along and we urge you to do so. However they do need to keep a track of numbers so if any parents do want to attend, please email Vicky Lord at housingsupport@gmatrust.co.uk to book your place, stating your name and the school your child attends.



BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE: You may have heard in the news that there is a National Wraparound programme which aims to expand the availability of wraparound care for school aged children from September 2024. 'Wraparound' refers to before and after school care. The Local Authority are in the process of gathering information from parents and carers to understand the current take up and demand of before and after school care. Please take 5-10 minutes to click on the link below to help the authority plan for the future needs of our families. <https://forms.office.com/e/bXD1PxqzPn>

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Mick McGuire (RIP) and the McGuire family, Angeline Holt, Oliver O'Leary, Alice Ritchie, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, Father Paul & Father Moses, the Presentation Sisters, our children and staff, all those working with environment agencies, the homeless & rough sleepers, CAFOD, the Lalley Centre and all other private intentions at this time.



2024 The Year of Prayer: Pope Francis has declared 2024 as a special Year of Prayer. Here is a bedtime prayer for you to say with your children this week: *Dear Lord Jesus, bless all the people in my life who teach me. Thank you for being my friend and teacher. Please help me to learn and grow in your love. Amen*

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