



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

2nd December 2022

Tel: 0161-205-1700

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.stedmundsrcprimaryschool.co.uk

Facebook page: [St. Edmund's Roman Catholic Primary School](https://www.facebook.com/St.EdmundsRomanCatholicPrimarySchool)



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

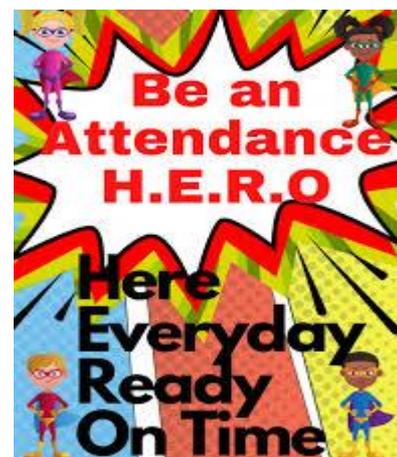
**Our Statement to live by next week is:
"PREPARE THE WAY OF THE LORD."**



BE PREPARED! Buying presents, decorations and planning our Christmas meal are all good ways of preparing for Christmas. But through all these preparations we do need to keep in mind the real reason for all these festivities. It's important that we spend some time preparing ourselves too. In this Sunday's Gospel, we hear John the Baptist calling the people to repent (to come back to God) and to prepare themselves for Christ's arrival. Christian 'repentance' is a wholly positive experience when we invite God into our lives and take a grip on ourselves, changing some of our ways or even, maybe, our direction in life. So let's listen to John the Baptist and prepare our hearts well - being ready to receive and share God's love with all we meet as part of this week's Christmas preparations.

*"Prepare a path for God so that he can enter your heart."
(St. John Baptist De La Salle)*

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS: Unfortunately, we missed our whole school attendance target last week with a score of 94%. The 2 classes highlighted below did manage to achieve 97%+ so they were rewarded with an extra five minutes playtime...well done to them!! Congratulations to Year 1 who won the highest attendance for the month of November and were rewarded with a well-deserved ice cream party this afternoon. There are lots of exciting activities planned for the children over the last two weeks of term. We would love to see the children in school and enjoying pantomimes, nativity plays, party day, ice skating, Science day and Christmas crafts to mention just a few! Please try to encourage your child to become an attendance HERO (Here, Every day, Ready and On time). Thank you parents/carers for your continued support.



Nursery: 89.8%	Reception: 88.4%	Year 1: 99%	Year 2: 89.7%
Year 3: 94.2 %	Year 4: 97.8%	Year 5: 96.8%	Year 6: 94.9%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 94%			



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.



PRAYER AND WORSHIP: Our next Mass will be on **Wednesday, 7th December** at 9:15 a.m. for Years 1, 3 and 5. Our Year 5 children will lead the Mass and our GIFT team will be commissioned by Canon Paul. There will be a further Whole School Mass on **Tuesday, 13th December**. As always, parents/carers are very welcome to join us at both Masses.

PARISH CHRISTMAS FAIR: The parish Christmas Fair will take place at the back of church **after 10:30 a.m. Mass this Sunday, 4th December**. We held a non-uniform day today to support the parish so thank you for your generous donations for the chocolate and bottle tombolas!



READING TOP TIP: This week's...well actually this **MONTH'S** reading top tip is: 'Watch a video of one of 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!

CURRICULUM NEWS: Yet again, we've had a jam-packed and exciting week with our curriculum! To highlight just a few examples; The Year 4 class have been identifying similarities and differences between vertebrate groups in Science before classifying them. During their English lessons, the Year 6 class have continued to look at the classic text of Oliver Twist and have been writing in role of when Oliver met the Artful Dodger for the first time! For their Art Day, the Nursery children have been learning about the artist Irina Sztukowski and have been painting natural objects like fruit, flowers and leaves! 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 cold 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!!

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/carers has any questions or queries about the Equality Policy, please telephone the school to make an appointment with Mrs Clinton.

CONGRATULATIONS MRS DURCAN (MBE): As a school community, we are so proud of Mrs Durcan who was invited to Windsor Castle on Tuesday to be awarded with a MBE from King Charles!! Her award is for her services towards teaching music to thousands of children in the Manchester area for over 40 years.

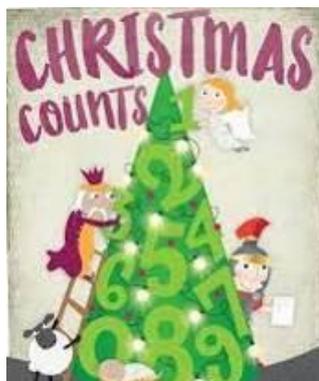


MOBILE PHONES: Recently, we've had a number of occasions where children have been bringing their mobile phones into school for no apparent reason. We're not quite sure how this has started! Therefore moving forward, please can parents who feel it necessary for their child to bring a phone to school, write a letter to their child's class teacher so that we know you have authorised this. We can then keep them safe and locked away during the school day.

CONFIRMATION CONGRATULATIONS: It was fantastic to see so many Year 9 pupils at St. Patrick's Church on Wednesday evening when they received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop John. Thank you to those children who gave up their time to come and support by singing in the choir.

PANTOMIME TIME!!: The children in Years 1-6 are all very excited about going to the pantomime on **Monday, 5th December.** As a reminder, the performance doesn't start until 1:30 p.m. **Therefore, we won't be returning to school until the much later time of 5:00 p.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. If you haven't done so already, please make your payment on Pay360. 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 Monday for the children in Years 1-3.



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 on Tuesday. Parents/carers are invited to come along and watch their polished performance on **Wednesday, 7th 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.

YEAR 5 AND 6 ICE SKATING: The children in Year 5 and 6 are really looking forward to going ice-skating on Tuesday, 6th December. We had some bad news last week as we were told by the organisers at Freight Island that the ice-skating couldn't go ahead due to technical difficulties! Not to be deterred, our admin team did a fantastic job of looking for an alternative venue and we are really pleased that Altrincham Ice Rink are able to accommodate us on the same day at the same time! Phew!! If you haven't done so already, please make your donation payment on Pay360. Thank you in advance for your contributions and the children are sure to have a wonderful time with their classmates!



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, 13th 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.

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.

Sunday, 4 th December	Parish Christmas Fair after 10.30 a.m. Mass - all very welcome, please come and support this annual fundraising event
Monday, 5 th December	Years 1-6 at a pantomime in Bolton. RETURN BACK TO SCHOOL AT 5:00 P.M.
Tuesday, 6 th December	Ice-skating at Altrincham Ice Rink for Y5 + Y6
Wednesday, 7 th December	9:15 a.m. Mass for Y1,3+5 in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome
Wednesday, 7 th December	1:30 p.m. Year 6 carol singing outside Asda in Harpurhey
Wednesday, 7 th December	2:00 p.m. Key Stage 1 Nativity in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome
Thursday, 8 th December	Y5 and 6 mixed football @ St. Matthew's
Monday, 12 th December	Advent Science day!! - parents/carers welcome
Monday 12 th December	Christmas Crafts in Nursery & Reception - parents/carers welcome
Tuesday 13 th December	9:15 a.m Whole School Mass in the hall - parents/carers welcome
Tuesday, 13 th December	Christmas dinner day-children to wear a Christmas jumper
Tuesday, 13 th December	Santa Dash for Year 5 and 6 - children bring in sponsorship money
Wednesday, 14 th December	Christmas party day-children to wear party clothes
Friday, 16 th December	9:15 a.m. 'Carols around the Crib' in the school hall. Parents/carers welcome
Friday, 16 th December	School closes for pupils at 1:00 p.m. surnames A-J, 1:20 p.m. surnames K-Z
Wednesday, 4 th January	School reopens at 8:30 a.m. for Spring term



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. Edmund's Manchester** and we should pop up!

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Joan Henshaw (RIP) and the McKnight family, Beryl Lewis (RIP) and the Bevan family, Miss McCorkell & baby Roman, Sister Philomena, Anne Clarke, John Leighton, Mrs Jacques, Maureen Duffy, Leo McAlister, Year 9 pupils who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, 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
Second Sunday of Advent

Jesus, you came among us
with the irresistible power of a baby,
requiring both our hands
and captivating our whole hearts.
Help us to cast aside the sin
and brokenness that we cling to,
so we might be ready to hold you
when you come again.
Amen.



www.archtoronto.org

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