

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

7th February 2025

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



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

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

Our Statement to live by next week is:

'I try to be accepting of others.'

FOLLOW: In this Sunday's Gospel, Peter (after a night of failed fishing) is finally successful and realises his true calling because he listens to and follows Jesus' instructions. It's important to make the right choice about who or what we follow in life. Simply following our desires and feelings, which often change, can leave us feeling unsatisfied. Jesus invites each and every one of us to make following him our most important priority. We follow Jesus whenever we are kind, try to make peace, and make others feel welcome. Choosing to follow him is not always easy but it really does guide and help our families to keep growing in wisdom and love. Enjoy a very special time together this weekend, hearing your child's thoughts about this Sunday's Gospel and this week's word, which is FOLLOW.



Coming to church will help your family learn about Jesus who wants us to follow Him.' Learn more about this Sunday's Gospel by joining us at St. Patrick's or St. Malachy's at the above Masses. Alternatively there are other local churches with other Masses available: all are very warmly invited.

*"To follow Jesus means to share his love for every human being."
(Pope Francis)*

JUBILEE YEAR - PILGRIMS OF HOPE:

Bishop John Arnold has sent our school a gift! He has sent every school in the diocese a beautiful wooden anchor, 'an anchor of hope'. The anchor is a well known symbol of hope for Christians around the world. As you can see in the picture, the anchor is the base of the cross, it is submerged deep into the waters and signifies how, like an anchor, our faith gives us stability and security.



Sacramental Preparation



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: Bringing your family to Mass each week could be a great way to show your child how to be a pilgrim of hope. They are very welcome to join 'little church' either Saturday evening or Sunday morning. The next two dates for your diary are:

Monday, 24th February 2025, 3.30 p.m. or 5.00 p.m.

Sunday, 2nd March 2025, 9.15 a.m. Mass 'We are people who follow Jesus.'

Please ensure you make arrangements to attend the meeting and Mass.

PRAYER & WORSHIP: Our Year 4 children are looking forward to leading our Mass next Wednesday. Please come and join us in the school hall for 9.15 a.m. All are welcome.



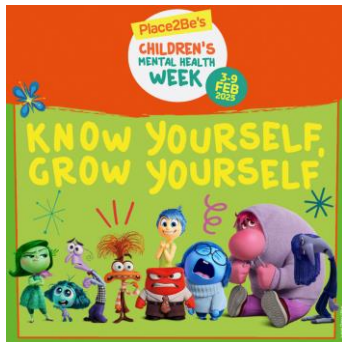
ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY MATTERS:

Last week was better so well done to those families who are prioritising their children's learning and personal development!! Congratulations to Year 3 who, yet again, exceeded the 97% barrier. Year 3 will enjoy an extra 5 minutes of active time each day this week. We still have some way to go to improve our overall attendance as a school. Our winning class for January were....Year 3!! We hope they enjoyed their ice-cream treat this afternoon. Please refer to our top tips for parents and you'll see an impact with your children. Nobody wants children off school.

Nursery: 96.5%	Reception: 96.5%	Year 1: 91.5%	Year 2: 96.2%
Year 3: 98%	Year 4: 95.8%	Year 5: 90.3%	Year 6: 96.3%
WHOLE SCHOOL: 95.1%			

TOP TIPS FOR ATTENDANCE: Have 'digital down time.' Turn off those devices an hour before bed and encourage reading a book instead.

Help them to become an attendance HERO (Here, Everyday, Ready and On time).



CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK: If you have concerns about your child's mental health and well-being, please make an appointment to speak to your class teacher or your GP. Sometimes, children need support to talk about their thoughts, wishes and feelings. Let's help them to feel confident to articulate themselves by using their words. Our thanks to our Nurture Champions who are there to support our children each day as they 'check in' with their feelings.

PARENTS' EVENING: Parents who have children in Nursery, Reception, Years 1 and 2 will have the opportunity to come and meet their teacher and look at their child's work next Tuesday, 11th February from 3.30 p.m - 5.00 p.m. Come along and the teachers will slot you in - first come, first served.



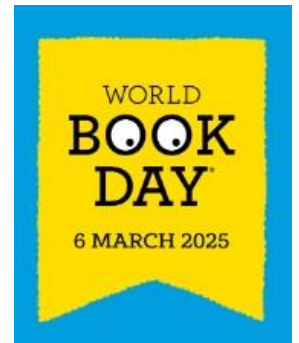
READING TOP TIP: Our top tip this week is: TAKE BREAKS WHILST READING. Your child doesn't have to read an entire book in one go! Any time spent sharing or talking about a book is beneficial, even if it's just a couple of minutes at a time. If they have to close the book early because it's time for tea, or they're just losing interest, that's okay. Reading can take a lot of mental energy and taking breaks gives children a chance to slowly build the mental stamina they need, so that soon they will be able to read for longer stretches of time.

ONLINE SAFETY DAY: Even though our children learn about how to keep themselves safe online every week in their computing lessons, it's always good to review and refresh their learning because the digital world is fast moving! Next week our digital leaders will be speaking to the classes about online security and safety. We will issue guidelines about various social media platforms next week as a reference for parents/carers.



SCHOOL CALENDAR 2025-26: Our school calendar for next year is now available on our school website and attached to this newsletter. Parents/carers are reminded that any time away from school for other than medical appointments/illnesses/extenuating circumstances will be unauthorised and may result in the Manchester City Council issuing a fixed penalty notice of £80.00.

WORLD BOOK DAY: Giving as much notice as we can for parents/carers to support their children with their favourite day of the year. Our theme for this year is, 'When I get a job, I want to be a...!' Children have got all of half term to come up with some great ideas and research inspirational figures from around the world or from the past! Perhaps you want to be the next Baroness Floella Benjamin or Major Tim Peake? There are endless ideas on the internet. As always, prizes will be given and we urge parents NOT to be tempted to buy a costume. Our experience tells us that the best costumes have come from wardrobes at home or Grandma's house!! Enjoy your preparations as it promises to be a fantastic day!



HARPURHEY COMMUNITY GROCERY: Would you like to get your groceries for a reduced price?! Wouldn't we all?! Why not join the Harpurhey Community and for the month of February, membership is free. Come along to Carisbrook Street to find out more between 9-4 Monday-Friday. All are welcome. Find out more by clicking on this link. <https://communitygrocery.org.uk/harpurhey>

COST OF LIVING - WINTER FUEL PAYMENTS: Do you need help now to keep warm, but you didn't get a winter fuel payment? The changes to the winter fuel allowance have caused a lot of discussion and some worry. So, we wanted to make parents/carers and families aware of some help that is available on the Manchester City Council website.



Manchester City Council is making payments up to the end of March of £150-£200 to people who are aged 66 and over who live in Manchester and who also do not receive housing benefit or council tax support. The form is quick and easy to fill in and you won't be asked anything about any savings.

This is the link: <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/winterfuelfund>. Payments will be made as promptly as possible to bank accounts or through post office vouchers. You will need to give contact details and your National Insurance number. Family members can make an application on your behalf. Or, if you need help filling in the form, please call for free on their cost of living advice line on 0800 023 2692.

FREE SCHOOL MEALS
Information & Support



FSM VOUCHERS: Manchester City Council has again approved funding for supermarket vouchers for the February half term break to help with the financial pressures that many of our families will face. Families with children eligible for free school meals (FSM) will receive a £15.00 e-voucher from E-Vouchers on Wednesday, 12th February. This voucher can be redeemed at a supermarket of your choice.

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 School Gateway. Any accounts with arrears need to be cleared before the half term break. If you are struggling to pay, please speak to the school office and a payment plan can be arranged. If arrears are not cleared your child will need to have packed lunches until they are.

NURSERY PLACES FOR JANUARY: Are you looking for a nursery place or know someone who is? Is their date of birth on or before 31.03.2022? If so, we have places within our nursery available for your child to start in April! 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. Edmund's Manchester** and we should pop up.

SPECIAL PRAYERS: Please remember the following people in your prayers this week: Jo Phillips and family, all involved with caring for the sick of our community, Caritas, our families on the Sacramental Programme those families seeking asylum from war torn countries, Father Paul, Father Anthony, the Presentation Sisters, the Missionary Brothers of Charity, our children and staff and all other private intentions at this time.



BEDTIME PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, thank you for calling us to follow you. Please help us to be your faithful followers - helping our world to become a better place. Amen

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

*Guide us on our journey
as pilgrims of hope.*

