 

ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

Guided by Jesus Christ, our teacher, we journey together learning to dream, believe and achieve.

Friday 27th January 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Happy New Year to any of our families celebrating the Chinese New Year. To celebrate the event, our Early Years and Key Stage 1 children enjoyed learning a Chinese dance on Thursday. In Nursery, our children have been tasting a range of Chinese food including rice, noodles and crackers. They found them very tasty! Our Reception pupils have been making potions and writing the ingredients for them. In art, Year 1 have been learning different techniques associated with making collages. This will help them when they make a final piece based on animals. Linked to their history topic, Year 2 have made carvings of Zambian patterns on clay. Year 3 pupils have been busy designing an advert for a Stone Age arrow. In science, Year 4 have been researching the melting points of some solids and presented their findings on a graph. Year 5 have been learning about our Bishop John Arnold in their RE lessons. Year 6 have been introduced to algebra in maths this week and have coped very well with this new learning.

**Assembly**

**Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fishers of men.” And they left their nets at once and followed Him. Matthew 4: 19-20**

In assembly this week, we focused on the call to follow Jesus, just as the disciples did. Through Gospel readings and a game, the children learnt that We follow those who love us and want what is best for us. God loves us and wants what is best for us, so He sent Jesus to show us the way. We too can follow Jesus by living as He did.

**6S**

6S will be leading our assembly on Monday morning at 9.10am. Parents are very welcome to join us.

**Pupil Certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N | Rory for making very good choices all week! We are all so proud of you! | Mickey for wonderful speaking and recalling how Chinese New Year is celebrated |
| RS | Frank for doing super Chinese dancing in our workshop this week! | Phoenix for doing so well in her reading every day! |
| RDH | Anthony John for showing an improved attitude towards his learning | Macey for showing great patience and working hard on her handwriting. |
| Y1G | Delina has been working hard this week to make sure every piece of work is finished. Keep it up! | Brody for being a shining example when Year 1 went to church. |
| Y1D | Antoni for being a fantastic class role model and after finishing his own work, helping others to complete theirs. | Jakub W for setting an incredible example in church this week to the rest of the class! |
| Y2C | Freddy for being amazing all week in class | Blessing for trying her hardest to read every night at home |
| Y2O’H | Donald for trying so hard in maths and English. He has produced some amazing work! I am very proud of him! | Oliver for having a wonderful imagination and using this in his English. His writing is beautiful. |
| Y3K | Zach for recognising that a classmate needed some assistance in a lesson when he’d finished his own work, and stepping in to offer his help. | Molly  for a real growth in confidence in class, resulting in some brilliant answers and responses during lessons and discussions. |
| Y3A | Sofia for making such fantastic improvements across all subjects since the holidays and always striving to be the best she can be. | Annie for trying so hard with our new Maths topic (length) this week and increasing her confidence as a result. |
| Y4H | Ryan B for always being 100% focused on his work and always being so polite. | Jagger for some incredible descriptive writing in English this week. |
| Y4S | Poppy for being a fantastic friend who is always really helpful and looks out for everyone. | Nadia for fantastic descriptive writing about Vikings in English. |
| Y5RW | Noah for working extremely hard in every lesson this week. | Bella for fantastic work in P.E, moving into space and receiving a pass. |
| Y5G | Lennon for always having beautiful manners and a polite, respectful attitude in school. | John Joe for amazing work in maths on long multiplication and dividing 4 digit numbers! |
| Y6F | Nekendor for always being an example to her peers and trying her best in everything. She is an absolute pleasure to teach | Tommy for always wanting to do his best in his homework. He tries really hard with it every week. |
| Y6H | Leo for always being polite and having lovely manners | Tyler for working hard independently at algebra |

**Headteacher Awards**

Ugochi in RBD for great dancing in the Chinese workshop.

Macie Mae in 1D for trying really hard with her writing.

Alex D in 2OH for fantastic mathematical recall.

Hepzibah in 3K for a great advert for her Stone Age arrow.

Poppy C in 4H for good use of fronted adverbials in her writing.

Denis in 6H for explaining mathematical processes really well to a school visitor.

Grace A in 6F for a very good understanding of vocabulary and expressions used in a wartime poem.

**Caritas Award**

The award this week goes Leo in 6H for using his God given talents to the full and, in doing so, helping those around him. Well done Leo!

**Dodgeball**

On Thursday evening a group of our Year 6 children took part in a dodgeball competition. Seven schools took part and our team was amazing. They played six games in total, winning five of them. The team are now through to the Citywide Finals representing Manchester. Not only did they win, but the team were also commended on their sports values too (honesty, respect and passion). What a fantastic achievement! Thank you to Mr Aldred and Mrs Albuquerque for taking the children to the competition and giving them this opportunity.

**Attendance**



Unfortunately, our whole school attendance has slipped this week to 92.3%%. Unless your child is genuinely unwell, they should be in school. 158 days of learning have been lost this week through absences which equates to 790 hours of lost learning. School attendance is closely monitored by the leadership team for regular absentees and any noticeable patterns of absence and families will be contacted where there are concerns. If you are struggling with any aspect of attendance, please contact school.

The best class for attendance this week is 5W with 99.4% which is excellent attendance. Well done!

**Nursery admissions September 2023**

If you have a child, or know of a child, who wants to attend our Nursery setting in September 2023, please call into the school office for an admission form. The office staff are starting to collate the information.

**World War 2 Day**

Our Year 6 children will be experiencing a World War 2 day on Tuesday 14th February in school. The day will entail lots of fun activities such as ration baking, drama, singing war time songs, and breaking codes. We would love for the children to come to school dressed up as evacuees for this event.

**Strike action**

I am sure that you will have seen in the news that the NEU has balloted for strike action. As a result of this, nine of our classes will be closed to pupils on 1st February. I have sent out a separate letter regarding this on Wednesday which you should have already received. Further strike days are currently planned by the NEU on 28th February, 15th and 16th March.

**Safer Internet day**

On Tuesday 7th February we will be joining schools and youth organisations across the UK in celebrating Safer Internet Day 2023. Safer Internet Day is a global campaign to promote the safe and responsible use of technology, which calls on children and young people, parents, carers, teachers, social workers, law enforcement, companies, policymakers and more, to help to create a better internet. Using the internet safely and positively is a key message that we promote in school/our group/our club, and celebrating Safer Internet Day is a great opportunity for us to re-emphasise the online safety messages we deliver throughout the year. We would be delighted if you could join us in celebrating the day by continuing the conversation at home. To help you with this, the UK Safer Internet Centre have created some free activities and information for parents and carers which are available at: [www.saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents](http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/SID-parents) . Whether you have 5 minutes to start a conversation or hours to spare, there are top tips, quizzes and films which you can use at home with your child. If you have any concerns or questions about keeping your child safe online, please do get in touch with your child’s class teacher/Mr Flint or our Designated Safeguarding team.

**Warm spaces**

Find a Warm Welcome Space Today

Nearly 3000 registered organisations have opened free, warm, welcoming spaces for the public this winter across the UK. You can use [this Warm Welcome Interactive Map](https://www.warmwelcome.uk/#find-a-space) to find your nearest warm space, including libraries and other spaces in Manchester and further afield.

**Support**

We know that families may experience difficult times and difficult situations throughout a year, especially with the cost of living increase. We are here to support you in any way we can - should you need it. If you are experiencing any financial or other worries, please get in touch. If we are unable to help you, we may know of a group who can help. Please contact Mrs Sylvester at school for a discrete conversation if you require some support.

Manchester City Council have a webpage called Helping Hands which is a helpful pocket guide for residents of Manchester containing information on the support available to those who may need help and advice.  [Help with the cost of living crisis | Manchester City Council](https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands) There are two other sources of information that you may find useful:

Manchester City Council information about [Council support if you're in financial difficulty](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.manchester.gov.uk%2FFinancialSupport&data=05%7C01%7Cmarie.hall%40manchester.gov.uk%7Ca4aa4f0c9a134ec12e8408da868c0750%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637970233215899576%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=5J1%2BI4tIlhc%2BxwRIYuQtUI6EgZDycNN%2Fn2HbMi6SbMA%3D&reserved=0)

Information on wider support - [Help with the cost of living crisis | Manchester City Council](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.manchester.gov.uk%2FHelpingHands&data=05%7C01%7Cmarie.hall%40manchester.gov.uk%7Ca4aa4f0c9a134ec12e8408da868c0750%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637970233215899576%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=cUIFB%2F9glR%2BEyOVOeflqXAXqnEB9NHL1DU5xPfC6w5g%3D&reserved=0)

**Manchester City Council Cost of Living Advice Line**

To support Manchester residents through the cost-of-living crisis, Manchester City Council will be providing an advice line that will offer:

1. Support with benefits and help with your rent (this is an existing offer made available through the contact centre)

2. Advice about debt and paying bills (this will be done in conjunction with Citizen Advice Manchester)

3. Food support (residents will receive a call back to understand their needs and connected into a local food offer)

4. Support getting online (residents will be linked in with the Council’s digital inclusion team)

**By Phone:** The advice line can be accessed via a free phone number **0800 023 2692**. The line will be open 9:00-4:30 Monday to Friday. Agents on the phone line will have access to language line for those residents whose first language is not English. **Sign Video** will also be available for residents who may require this facility.

**On line:** An on line form will be available at <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands> for those who do not wish to contact by phone. The advice line will also have its own web page that will have links to information of how residents are able to access support. <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/helpinghands>

**Upcoming dates:**

Wednesday 1st February – NEU strike

Wednesday 8th February - Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 14th February – Year 6 World War 2 day

Saturday 18th February - Sacramental Programme Day

I hope that you all enjoy the weekend break.

God bless,

Mrs Howe.