 

ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

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

Friday 9th September

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back to a new school year!

I hope that you all had a great summer. It has been so lovely to welcome the children back to school. They have all settled back into the daily routine so well and made a great start to the year with a sensible and mature approach to their learning. We welcome all our new pupils and staff to St Clare’s and pray that their time here is productive, happy and memorable as we live out our Mission Statement during the course of each day. We wish all our past pupils luck and happiness in their new settings.

The children have been busy learning this week. All the children have revisited our Mission Statement, our school saint, St Clare, and what it means to be a member of a Catholic school and faith. Our Nursery children have spent a day in class getting used to their new surroundings and staff. Reception children have been getting to know each other and have been painting portraits of themselves as part of their ‘All about me’ topic. In Year 1, they have been learning about where fruit and vegetables come from and identifying them. Year 2 have been writing instructions using imperative verbs and time connectives concentrating very hard on their presentation. In science, Year 3 have been looking at different samples of rocks and identified their features. Year 4 have made some fabulous clay teeth models and labelled them. In art, Year 5 have been experimenting with different types of lines in their drawings. Our Year 6 children completed some online first aid training and wrote prayers about how we can support people in our community who may be suffering. We are looking forward to the rest of the year.

**HM Queen Elizabeth II**

We were all saddened to hear of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. It is an important moment in our history -momentous and significant. There is no denying that she was an amazing, inspirational leader. Her dedication to serving our country and fulfilling her role to society were evident throughout her whole life, including up to two days before her passing. Queen Elizabeth II was undoubtedly a great role model to us all. We spent time in our Friday assembly reflecting on her life and her wonderful characteristics.

The Queen’s Books of Condolence will be in Manchester Central Library and you can find more details on the website [manchester.gov.uk](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Flnks.gd%2Fl%2FeyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMjA5MDguNjM0MTU0NDEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwOi8vbWFuY2hlc3Rlci5nb3YudWsvP3V0bV9jb250ZW50PSZ1dG1fbWVkaXVtPWVtYWlsJnV0bV9uYW1lPSZ1dG1fc291cmNlPWdvdmRlbGl2ZXJ5JnV0bV90ZXJtPSJ9.heuQ2Crvt5yul8gz-fayFPx-vOFwdzY-7EFaBDfr_zc%2Fs%2F1475843485%2Fbr%2F143706534169-l&data=05%7C01%7Camanda.corcoran%40manchester.gov.uk%7Cff13c73c7dee4c911e8208da91c7c2c3%7Cb0ce7d5e81cd47fb94f7276c626b7b09%7C0%7C0%7C637982584403544266%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ZnuS%2FUF7D%2ByFDaIa%2BOzdXD1U3WuGl8pFAgeKWIQ0QRU%3D&reserved=0)

In order to honour Queen Elizabeth’s life and as a mark of our respect, we will wear red, white and blue clothes on **Wednesday 14th September**. Learning in the afternoon will be dedicated to Queen Elizabeth her life and impact.

We are awaiting information from the DfE as to whether school will be affected by the national mourning, in particular in relation to the Queen’s state funeral. As soon as I receive any information, I will let you know.

We pray that Queen Elizabeth rests in peace:

Gracious God,

We give thanks for the life of your servant Queen Elizabeth,

For her faith and her dedication to duty.

Bless our nation as we mourn her death

And may her example continue to inspire us,

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen

**Welcome meetings**

It was great to see so many of you attend our Welcome Meetings on Wednesday evening. It was an opportunity to see your child’s class, meet their new teacher and be given information about the year. Don’t worry if you were unable to make the meeting, as the powerpoint presentation will be on our school website on the class pages. <https://www.st-clares.manchester.sch.uk/>

**Pupil Certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N |  | Archie for having an amazing first day in his new Nursery Class |
| RBD | Ellis for settling into his new class brilliantly! | Elijah A for fantastic use of numicon to explore numbers and counting in the maths area. |
| RS | Phoenix for improving every day when we do the register! She has settled into St Clare’s amazingly well. | Talia for being such a kind friend to everyone and being so helpful at tidy up time! |
| 1D | Leon for settling into Year 1 so well. | Pixie for working hard to complete all of her challenges. |
| 1G | Nova for trying so hard in all her challenges and always helping adults around the classroom. | Racquel for fantastic number work this week! |
| 2C | Rory for trying his hardest in every lesson all week. | Honor for amazing use of time adverbs in her instruction writing. |
| 2O | Maria for being a wonderful role model to the class. She is always following our school rules! | Daniel for completing amazing work this week on instructions! He has tried so hard in his presentation and it shows! |
| 3A | Ire for a brilliant start to Year 3 and for always being a polite young boy | Tolani for being a Maths superstar in our first week back |
| 3K | Alexis  for an absolutely amazing start to life in Year 3! | Jacob for some very skilful work in our PE invasion games lesson. |
| 4H | Ryan for always smiling and working very hard in class. | Jessica for making an incredible clay model of human teeth in science. |
| 4S | Matthew for a fantastic start to year 4, he has been really helpful around the classroom and has been trying his best in everything. | Khadijah for creating a fantastic clay model of teeth in science with very detailed labels. |
| 5G | Bella for a wonderful start to year 5 and for setting an example by demonstrating perfect behaviour at all times. | Elano for an excellent attitude to learning and working hard on every challenge he is given. |
| 5W | Jaxon for having a fantastic start to year 5, always working his hardest and asking to help around the class. | Jack B for working extremely hard this week in his maths work. |
| 6F | Brooke as she has had a great start to Year 6 - trying her best in everything and producing some fantastic, well presented work. | Nekendorfor being the first one to complete her spelling homework.  Using purple mash, she went home and did both spelling activities! |
| 6H | Thomas for settling into Year 6 perfectly and being a model pupil. | Ella T for completing some amazing maths work and trying her hardest. |
| 6S | Lydia for settling in well to 6S, having lovely manners and being a perfect example of our school rules. | Oliver for his amazing research and writing of this non-chronological report in literacy this week. |

**Headteacher awards**

Emily in 1D for being so focused on her learning.

Racquel in 1D for amazing maths work.

Hannah in 4S for a great clay model of teeth.

Caleb in 6F for writing a beautiful prayer including a biblical quote.

Coby in 6H for his super, sensible, mature attitude.

Muhamed in 6F for always being so friendly, polite and smiling through the day

**Attendance**

Thank you to everyone for arriving at school in time to start the school day. The vast majority of children are on the school premises for 8.50am which is great.

It is really important that your child is in school and on time every day. I can not stress this enough and being absent or late has a massive impact of your child’s learning and progress. School doors open at 8.50am for a 9.00am start. Lessons begin immediately after registration. If you are experiencing any difficulty with attendance or punctuality, please contact the School Attendance Officer, Mrs Burgess Hamlett who will willingly support you and offer advice.

Attendance for this week is 95.1% which I did hope would be higher and we need to work to meeting the 97% national expectation. The best class this week is RS who had 100% - well done to them.

**Entering school**

Thank you to everyone who enters school via the main gates on Victoria Avenue or via Howden Road. These are our safe entrances. **Please do NOT walk down the road in between school and the church**. Cars frequently enter and leave our school premises via this road and we do not want any accidents. We would not let our children walk in the middle of the road on Victoria Avenue, so please do not teach them that it is okay to walk on this road either.

**School Uniform**

The children look very smart in their school uniforms. School uniform is an important part of life at St Clare’s. It gives all our children a common identity and hopefully a sense of pride and belonging. It helps to keep children focused on their education and not their clothes. It puts everyone on a level playing field and takes away the stress (for pupils and parents) of having to compete with peers for the newest, designer clothes.

As a reminder, our school uniform consists of plain black shoes; black or charcoal grey trousers / shorts, skirt or pinafore; a blue polo shirt; and a school cardigan or jumper. For PE the children must wear a white, round neck t-shirt, black school shorts and black pumps. Variations to this are not permitted. Please see our website for further details <https://www.st-clares.manchester.sch.uk/parents/uniform-information>

**Please make sure that you put your children’s name on their uniform**. It makes it very difficult to locate lost property if clothing is not labelled.

**High school place for September 2023 / Our Lady’s High School**

Please note that admissions to Our Lady’s High school for September 2023 is now open for our current Year 5 pupils. You must apply to Manchester Admissions in order to secure a high school place for September 2023. Having a sibling at the high school does not automatically mean that your child gets a place, you MUST apply by 31st October 2022. Please visit the Manchester admissions webpage for further details: <https://www.manchester.gov.uk/info/500322/secondary_school_admissions/7516/apply_for_a_year_7_secondary_place_for_september_2018>

All parents of children in Years 4 and 5 are invited to an Open Evening at Our Lady’s on Thursday 22nd September from 4.30pm-7pm.  The school will also be offering tours of the school during the school day from the Monday 19th September until the 30th September which parents can book through a google form on our website.

If for some reason you are not planning to send your child to Our Lady’s, please check with the relevant school for their Open evenings as you will need to apply for a high school place by October 31st.

**Support**

We know that families may experience difficult times and difficult situations throughout a year, especially with the cost of living increase. As a school, we are part of the local community along with our church. We are here primarily to educate and support our children, but that extends to their families too. 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 do not suffer alone, 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.

**Huggy Wuggy**

I have been contacted by a parent who has asked that you all be made aware of a children’s character / toy called Huggy Wuggy from the online game Poppy Playtime. The game is not deemed suitable for primary school children. Apparently, some disturbing lyrics accompany some of the songs from this game. Please be mindful of what your child is accessing online to help keep them safe and ensure that they are not viewing inappropriate, harmful material.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend. I’m sure that you will have some tired children this weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Howe.