ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

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

Friday 17th February 2023

Dear Parents / Carers,

Today we finish for half term and are looking forward to a week’s break. Time is flying by! We re-open on Monday 27th February at 8.50am.

This week, we held a parent’s information session on the Year 4 multiplication check that all Year 4 pupils complete in June. All Year 4 children are expected to know their times tables up to 12x12 for this test. Thank you to those parents who attended the meeting. For those who couldn’t make it, the powerpoint is on the Year 4 class page on the school website.

In Nursery, our children have been making fruit following the reading of ‘Baby goes to market.’ Reception have made their own story using Tales Toolkit including characters, setting, a problem to be solved and a resolution. Year 1 have written postcards from either a hot or cold place linked to their geography topic. In science, Year 2 have been learning about the lifecycles of a butterfly and a frog. Year 3 have had fun writing monster kenning poems and enjoyed coming up with horrible things the monster might do. Year 4 have been learning how to find equivalent fractions in maths using a number line to help them. In religion, Year 5 have been interpreting the imagery in DaVinci’s painting of the Last Supper. This week, our Y6 children had a World War 2 day. It was great to see so many children dressed up as evacuees. They baked biscuits using rations, completed de-coding activities, did some drama and sang some wartime songs. The children really enjoyed the day.

**Assembly**

**Your Father who sees all that is done in secret will reward you. Matthew 6: 5-6**

Next week, whilst we are on half-term, sees the beginning of Lent. Lent is the special time of year when we prepare ourselves for Easter. It is a time to pray more, fast (go without something or do something extra) and a time to give alms – support others in need. This week our assembly focused on Jesus being our hope and inviting Him to be at the centre of our lives and our Lenten journey. Through a game about spring cleaning, children learnt that now is the time for a fresh start in our relationship with God. We can put Jesus at the centre during Lent by making time to GIVE, ACT and PRAY.

**2C and 6H have their class assembly** on Monday 27th February. 2C is at 2.40pm and 6H is at 9.10am – parents are welcome to join us for our collective worship.

**Pupil Certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N | Tobi for being an amazing role model within class and always being ready to learn! | Emmanuella for finding her name card independently everyday! |
| RBD | Sofia for excellent independent writing | Hanna for having a super can do attitude. |
| RS | Patrick for being a really good friend to others | Leala for writing an amazing story! |
| 1D | Harlen for your positive attitude to learning and for having a growth mindset. | Olivia C for working hard during our RE lessons and drawing a lovely illustration of our favourite part of church. |
| 1G | Giovanni for always being a ready, respectful learner. | Igor for brilliant writing using lots of adjectives! |
| 2C | Mikaela for an amazing first half term with our St Clare’s family | Logan for a fantastic non-chronological report about hippos |
| 2O | Eliljah O for being a great friend to everyone in our class and always being so helpful | Alex D for creating a wonderful Zambian hut out of clay. |
| 3A | Tyssiana for having a fantastic week in all lessons and showing great determination in everything she does | Lennon for fantastic participation, determination and skill during our gymnastics lesson |
| 3K | Alexis for working really hard in Maths on her work in Fractions - well done! | Evie for putting together a great sequence of different types of rolls in her Gymnastics lesson! |
| 4H | Scarlette for supporting her table with work while also producing some excellent work herself. | Jessica for writing an incredible diary entry and showing perfect presentation with her new pen licence. |
| 4S | Liam for a super week and trying really hard with his presentation. | Sam for working really hard and building his confidence in maths. |
| 5G | Destiny for being a brilliant independent learner this week and always spreading joy in my classroom! | Eli for fantastic work in maths finding fractions of amounts. His times tables skills are paying off! |
| 5W | Yamar for a fantastic start to St Clare’s, really trying hard with her work. | Rosalie for her fantastic work in writing, always trying to include a variety of grammar and high level vocabulary. |
| 6F | Caleb for being consistently amazing in everything he does | Elian for really trying this week during his maths work on percentages |
| 6H | Ethan for being very polite and having lovely manners. | Kasey for some fantastic maths work this week! |
| 6S | Alex for having a positive growth mindset towards all of his learning. | Erin for her fantastic writing this week for her World War 2 narrative. |

**Headteacher Awards**

Macey in RBD for writing a good sentence independently.

Peter in 1G for trying really hard all week in maths and English.

Jake in 2C for clear and confident speaking in the assembly practice.

Jeff in 3K for a great kenning poem using the word devourer.

Logan in 4H for neat handwriting and using a range of Alan Peat sentences in his work.

Tommy in 6F for good work on percentages, fractions and decimals.

Amelia in 6S for writing a good World War 2 narrative with good vocabulary choices.

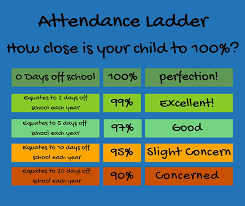
**Caritas Award**

This week the award goes to Woody in 6S for being so thoughtful and bringing in extra evacuee clothes in case one of his friends didn’t have any.

**Behaviour rewards**

This week we are very proud to say that all children who have had 10 weeks of ‘being green’ on our behaviour reward system received a bronze star. We have given out nearly 300 stars! These children are now working towards their silver star for 20 weeks of being green. We also have many children who are only one week away from receiving their bronze star. We have such amazing, well-behaved children at St Clare’s, so thank you for your support with this.

**Attendance**



Attendance has started to improve, so thank you all with your help on this. This week, our whole school attendance is 95.9%

1G have the best attendance this week with 99%. They will get a longer break as a reward.

**Nursery admissions September 2023**

If you have a child, or know of a child, who was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 they are eligible to apply for a Nursery place for September 2023. Please come into the main office in school and fill in an application form if you want a Nursery place for this September.

**Year 6 SATs week**

Year 6 SATs are due to take place from Tuesday 9th May to Friday 12th May. It is vital that holidays during this period are not booked. All Year 6 pupils will be expected to be in school every day during SATs week and on time due to the timings of the assessments. I know May seems a long way off, but it will soon be here.

**Debatemate**

Following on from last week’s competition, our team have been informed that in the first round they came 14th out of 50 schools nationally. What a wonderful achievement!

**St Joseph Penny boxes**

The season of Lent begins during our half term holidays. Lent is a season to pray, fast and give. The children have all been given St Joseph penny boxes in order to collect any loose, spare change yourself or other family members may have. The money raised will go to Caritas to support families within the local area. The boxes do not need to be returned to school until when we finish for Easter.

**The Big Lent Walk**

As part of our Lenten actions, the mini-Clares are organising a sponsored Big Lent Walk. The aim is that all the pupils in the school collectively walk 3223 miles which is the distance from Manchester to Jerusalem – the place where Jesus was crucified at Easter. The aim is for each child to try and walk 7 miles each throughout Lent. The children will be sponsored and the money raised will be sent to support the work of CAFOD.

**Uganda Appeal**

Our Chair of Governors, Ged Collins, is going to visit an orphanage in Uganda in April which he has done many times before. In order to offer love and support to our friends in Uganda who are in need of everyday items, we are going to collect toothpaste or soap for the children. Ged has asked that we wrap the item with a tag ‘from xxx your friend.’ He will then take the items over when he visits. We appreciate that times are hard at the moment for many families, but if you are able to send in one of the items, it would be greatly appreciated.

**Strike action**

Further strike action by the NEU is scheduled for Tuesday 28th February. Please ensure that you have read the letter sent out on Wednesday 15th February informing you of classes affected by the strike.

**Invitation to our Online Safety Parent Workshop**

We are totally committed to the digital safety and wellbeing of our students. As part of this we are running a workshop dedicated to helping parents understand the risks their children face in their online lives and the practical things parents can do to help.

Please join us for this hour long workshop in which Katherine Howard, Head of Community and Wellbeing at Smoothwall will provide you with lots of valuable insights and tools. Including:

● Information on the latest apps and games your child may have access to.

● The harmful content your child may be exposed to.

● How you can help your child to safely navigate online risk.

● How to access our brand new and FREE Online Safety Hub with dedicated guidance for parents.

● An introduction to a parental app that allows you to control what your child sees online, if they are at risk, plus other important features.

**Workshop Date: Monday 27 February**

**Time: 6.00-7.00pm**

**To join this special workshop please find below the link for the session.**

**https://smoothwall.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_ivfMbhX9TO-dFgF6y4LPnAWarm 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.

**Half term activities**

February Half Term is fast approaching. MCRactive and Manchester City Council are offering thousands of FREE

places for children eligible for benefits-related free school meals. Activities will range from Sport and Physical

Activities, Arts and Crafts and much more. In addition to the activities, their booked place will include a FREE meal

during the day.

For more information and to book your child’s space:

You will need to sign up for an MCRactive Go account https://www.mcractive.com/ (sign in) to book free February

Half Term activities. Once signed up, log into your account – Find Activities – Search by Category ‘MCR Holiday

Activity’. Use code: 79112 to book free eligible activities.

\*Please only book your child onto a holiday camp if they will be attending. Spaces at each camp are limited. If you

book a space and your child can no longer attend, please cancel your space as far in advance as possible, to allow the

opportunity for another child to take their space at the activity and free meal.

**Citizens Advice Energy Help line**

Families can ring 0808 164 4406if they are struggling with day to day living costs. If accepted, a payment of up to £49 three times a year is issued via a voucher. It only takes 24/48 hours to process

**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:**

Saturday 18th February - Sacramental Programme Day

Tuesday 9th – 12th May – Year 6 SATs week.

Thank you for your continued support – enjoy the half term break.

Mrs Howe.