

ST CLARE'S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

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

Friday 22nd July



Dear Parents / Carers,

Well that's another year over. Thank you to you all for all your support this past year. Catholic education is a partnership between school, parents and the church and we all want the very best for our children. Our children and staff are wonderful and they have worked hard over the past year. There has been lots of learning taking place and we are making progress on addressing the learning gaps left from the Covid pandemic. It has been a packed year with lots of different activities taking place to enhance the children's education and to give them experiences that they might not otherwise have experienced. The children have been on school trips; been to the theatre; watched chicks hatch; led assemblies; taken part in sports days and experienced many workshops including graffiti art and drama. They have met an astronomer; created willow sculptures; had a mobile farm visit; taken part in a World War 2 experience day and our choir took part in Young Voices and the Big Sing. There have been a host of after school clubs including art, sport, singing, chess, Mini-Clares and forest school. A large group of children have experienced music lessons and performed for parents in our Music showcase on Monday morning. We had the pleasure of listening to drummers; violinists, pianists and brass. Thank you to our music teachers for teaching the children to a good standard and to Miss O'Hara for organising the event. It was a chance to showcase the very talented children to have here at St Clare's. Please encourage your child to participate in all the activities offered to them.

Year 6

Today, we say a very fond farewell to our Year 6 pupils who have been a huge credit to St Clare's and you during their time with us. They have had a busy few weeks. They took part in a day of reflection at the Marist Centre; ran an Enterprise morning; led a leavers service for their families in church; performed their end of year play; and been for a meal at TGI Fridays. We hope that their last few weeks with us have been happy and memorable. These events are what they will remember in years to come. Thank you to our Year 6 staff for organising them and giving up their time to ensure the children had the opportunity to partake in these activities. The children have shown great resilience over the last few years surviving a global pandemic and this week extreme weather conditions. Their spirits were not dampened.

As they move on to pastures new and begin the next stage of their learning journey, we all wish them every happiness and success. We will miss them all and hope that they leave with many happy memories and lasting friendships. We hope that they remember our Mission Statement of 'Guided by Jesus Christ our teacher, we journey together, learning to dream, believe and achieve.' The world is their oyster and they are capable of great things. Today, they left school to a guard of honour in recognition of the wonderful contribution they have made to life at St Clare's. Good luck Year 6 leavers!

Heatwave

We have certainly experienced extreme weather this week with record temperatures. On Tuesday, the school became particularly hot and we did give parents the option of picking up their children at 1.30pm. Whilst in school, we have kept the children as cool as possible and hydrated. Many classes sat with their feet in water to help keep them cool. Thank you to you all for your understanding – let's hope it's not that hot again for a long time!

Pupil certificates

	Pupil of the week	Achievement
N	All of nursery for having a wonderful first year in school! We're so proud of you all!	
RH	Pixie, for continuing to work hard in the heat and working out the missing numbers by counting on.	Shay, for his new found love of drawing and books. We have loved seeing you share these with us.
RC	All of Reception for having an amazing year, myself and Miss Cooke are so proud of you!!	
Y1S	Poppy Leigh for progressing so well in Year 1 - we're so proud!	Elisa for being a model pupil every single day!
Y1D	Denver for always being a kind and helpful member of the class.	Madeline for making such an improvement in your writing this year!
Y2M	All of Year 2 for having a very successful last year in KS1. Myself and Miss Albuquerque are so proud of every one of you!	
Y2L	Hepzibah for super effort in everything and being a great role model.	Phoebe for amazing progress across all subjects.
Y3M	Emmanuella for being a fantastic person and a great friend. She always makes everybody feel welcome in her games	Ollie for trying so hard this year in all of your work. You are such a superstar and you have an amazing work ethic. Well done!
Y3G	Ryan B for making great progress throughout the year both academically and in confidence.	Valeria for making amazing progress across all subjects this year - she has been a pleasure to teach!
Y4RW	Jack M for always demonstrating fantastic behaviour and attitude towards school and his work.	Scarlett for showing fantastic reading comprehension skills this week.
Y4S	Oliver Mc for always doing the right thing and being a great role model for everyone in the class.	Kaja for making fantastic progress this year, especially in her reading- well done Kaja!
Y5OH	Nekendor for being a role model throughout the year. She has such lovely manners and is a delight to have in the class.	George for making wonderful progress this year in his reading! I am very proud of him!
Y5K	Alex for having a wonderful Year 5 and for growing in confidence as the year has progressed!	Grace for being an absolute pleasure to teach and also for being a reading superstar - with over 3.5m words read!
Y5H	Leo for having an excellent year and always working incredibly hard.	Emily for writing an excellent persuasive letter and always having a great attitude in school.
Y6F	Will for just being an excellent help this week, keeping everything tidy and doing everything asked of him with no fuss	Lily for being excellent with the year 6 play and being an absolute overall star!
Y6H	Kian Monks for having a brilliant turnaround with his behaviour and acting sensible and maturely- I am so proud!	Jacob Jordan for his fantastic dedication to the school play.
Y6S	Noah B for his brilliant maths skills this week and brilliant team work.	All of 6S for their fantastic effort in their performance this week! They were incredible.

Headteacher awards

To all of Year 6 for being amazing pupils who have worked hard, been good role models, had fun, lived out the Gospel Values and been a privilege to have the pleasure to know.

Attendance

Whole school attendance this week has been adversely affected by the weather and is 86.4%. Attendance for the whole school year is 94%. We will be working hard with you from September to ensure that this figures remains about 97%.

Now that Covid is not the global threat that it was, attendance for children is expected to return to 'normal.' We no longer record children's Covid absences differently and any absence is included in our school figures. We have to at least meet the national expectation of 97% attendance. Poor attendance and punctuality seriously affect your child's

education. Research shows that poor attendance impacts your child's future. Our Attendance Officer, Mrs Burgess-Hamlet, is here to support any families experiencing challenges with attendance and punctuality and will be contacting families where this is the case from September. Please do not hesitate to contact her if you are need of advice or support.

Staffing

As you will have seen from the class structure for next year, we are gaining and losing some staff. This summer, we say a fond farewell to Miss McDermott and Miss Nicholas. Miss Meadows will also be leaving us in the autumn term. We wish them all every success on the next stage of their life adventure and we thank them for all they have done for the pupils of St Clare's over the years. They will be missed!

As we say goodbye to some staff, we welcome some new ones. We welcome into our school community Mr Keogh, Miss Gibson, Mr Cox and Mr Aldred who will be teaching classes here from September. I know that they will be made to feel very welcome – it is a common trait with our parents, staff and children.

School Uniform

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. It is important that your child comes to school in the correct school uniform. Most children wear the correct uniform and look extremely smart, so thank you. We will continue to address families who do not wear the correct uniform.

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>

Support

We know that families may experience difficult times and difficult situations throughout a year. 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.

If you find yourself in need of support during the summer holidays, there are various groups available including:

<https://middletoncentral.foodbank.org.uk/>

<https://manchestersouthcentral.foodbank.org.uk/>

<https://www.heart.co.uk/news/restaurants-cafes-kids-eat-free-summer-holidays/> with links to places where children can eat free this summer

Blackley Community Centre 0161 740 5321

<http://www.africanvoiceinmoston.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/northwardshousing/posts/food-pantries-in-higher-blackley-collyhurst-and-moston-are-offering-a-weeks-wort/10156608481376267/>

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

I hope that you all have a fantastic summer holiday, that you keep safe and get to spend some quality time with your friends and family. For some of you, it is the end of an era as your child ends their time at St Clare's. I wish you all every happiness going forward and thank you for being a part of the St Clare's family. Thank you for all you have contributed to school life and for your commitment to our school.

We will re-open for the new school year on **Monday 5th September at 8.50am.**

God bless you all,

Mrs Howe.