ST CLARE’S R.C.P NEWSLETTER

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

Friday 21st October

Dear Parents / Carers,

Well we have come to the end of our first half-term of this academic year. It has flown by! I think everyone is ready for a restful week.

This week, we celebrated Harvest Festival in church with a lovely service led by the children. We have a lot to thank God for which the children did so beautifully. Thank you to everyone who sent in non-perishable food items which we have sent to the St Clare’s food bank. As usual, we are overwhelmed with your generosity – thank you. The parish also wish to pass on their thanks. They are so grateful for food you sent in as the demand within our community is high.

We have also celebrated Black History Month this week. Our Year 5 children took part in a workshop on Tuesday and did a performance for the key stage 2 children focusing on various influential Black people including Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King. They reminded us all that we are all equal and that the colour of a person’s skin should not be a reason to treat someone differently – we are all loved by God. Lots of classes also took part in Bollywood Dance lessons as part of our focus this week. It was great fun!

In addition to this, Nursery have been celebrating the feast of Diwali by making candles of light. Reception have been learning about people who help us and that we dial 999 in an emergency. Year 1 pupils have been using part/ whole models to help them learn their number bonds to 10. Year 2 have been making their Traction Man shields this week. Thank you for sending in cardboard for the children to use on their designs. Linked to their geography topic, Year 3 have made clay volcanoes. Non-chronological reports on animals have been written by Year 4 this week. Year 6 spent the day at Our Lady’s on Wednesday. They took part in a mental health workshop, did some coding on the computers and some Brazilian jiu-jitsu. What an exciting day!

**Pupil Certificates**

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|  | Pupil of the week | Achievement |
| N | Savanna for amazing ideas during carpet times! | Szymon for trying really hard to sit nicely on the carpet |
| RBD | Yohannes for always having an incredibly positive attitude towards everything he does! | Finley for making some excellent choices in reception this week. |
| RS | Ollie for super behaviour this week and for helping his friend during PE. | Sean for doing super maths work this week! |
| 1D | Shay for trying hard with your learning and making good choices. | Mia for excellent listening in our PE lessons this week. |
| 1G | Anthony for being a kind, hard-working member of our class. | Rehoboth for his great acting skills this week in our RE lesson about the story of Zacchaeus. |
| 2C | Rayarna for being a kind and thoughtful member of our class. | Henry for an amazing description of super villain Scissor Shark |
| 2O | Henry for always trying his best in his work. | Elijah for creating a wonderful superhero shield! |
| 3A | Uvie for always putting 100% effort into everything he does | Sofia for some fantastic work with exchanges in column subtractions this week |
| 3K | Harry for some fantastically written research into his chosen volcano for his NC report! | Eunice for being a wonderful friend and classmate and for always being willing to help out! |
| 4H | Sam for always being focused and being the perfect role model! | Tope for trying really hard in his English this week and showing an improvement in his behaviour. |
| 4S | Maddison for a fantastic week, she has been trying so hard in all of her work and making brilliant choices. | Sam for being really focussed this week and producing great work in English. |
| 5G | Nathaniel for excellent sportsmanship in P.E. Demonstrating his netball skills, supporting his teammates and bringing lots of positivity. | Alfie for working hard to produce an excellent adventure narrative about a Dragon Slayer with big improvements to his punctuation and spelling. . |
| 5W | Kelvin for having a fantastic attitude towards school, always trying his best and wanting to improve his work/ | Dennan for his fantastic work in maths this week. Working really hard on numbers in the thousands. |
| 6F | Izabelle for showing what a fantastic hard-working pupil she can be this week! | Muhamed for his excellent presentation of his work in his books. |
| 6H | Zac for putting his all into the exciting activities at Our Ladies, and having such enthusiasm for everything he did. | Dacee for working really hard on her writing, and producing an excellent non-chronological report. |
| 6S | Erin for always being a fantastic friend and helping others around her. | Alex for a fantastic effort with his maths learning of BIDMAS this week. |

**Headteacher awards**

Milena (RS) and Elijah A (RBD) for writing CVC words independently.

Dawid in 1D for making a tremendous model of the planets.

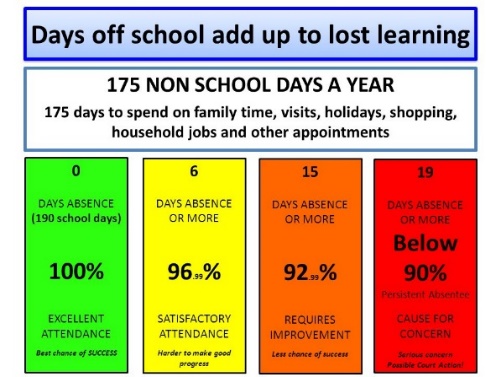
Eunice and Julia in 3K for amazing singing in church.

Miley in 4H for a great improvement in her writing and Jessica for making a fantastic maths game.

Ollie K in 5W for great presenting during the Black History workshop.

Michael in 6S for great Brazilian martial art moves.

**Attendance**



Well done to 6F as they had the best attendance this week with 96.8%

Attendance this week is 92% which is poor. Absences this week mean that 181 days of learning have been missed.

As you can see from the image above, keeping your child off school (unless they are very poorly) has a detrimental effect on their education. They miss vital learning. Similarly, not having your child in school for the start of the school day means that your child misses part of their lessons. In our Early Years and Key Stage 1 classes, phonics sessions take place every day at 9.00am. These lessons support your child’s ability to read – they need to be in on time to attend them.

**Mrs Cohen’s Retirement**

Today we say goodbye and thank you to Mrs Cohen who has worked at St Clare’s for over 31 years. She has been a very dedicated and valued member of our school community and we wish her a very long, happy and healthy retirement. We will miss her!

We also say a temporary goodbye to Mrs Moorcroft who begins her maternity leave today. Next time we see her, she will have a new little bundle of joy.

**Parents Evening**

Thank you to everyone who attended parents evening last night. It is lovely to share the wonderful things the children have been learning so far this year with you. It is an opportunity for you to see the progress your children are making and raise any concerns / comments you may have with the class teacher.

**Admissions 2024/25**

We are proposing a change to our admissions criteria for the 2024/25 academic year, so that our policy is in line with diocesan guidelines. We are holding a six week consultation period where you can express your views on the policy / admission arrangements. If you have any comments, please email the school on admin@st-clares-manchester-sch-uk by 12pm on 2nd December 2022. The proposed policy is shared on our school webpage. Please see it on <https://www.st-clares.manchester.sch.uk/our-school/essential-information/admissions-information>

**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 6 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>

If any parents are struggling with the admissions process and wish to apply to Our Lady's High School we are more than happy to support with this.  They just need to contact Ms Tkaczuk on [h.tkaczuk@olsc.manchester.sch.uk](mailto:h.tkaczuk@olsc.manchester.sch.uk).

**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:**

Tuesday 1st November – Mass in church for All Saints and All Souls 9.15

Tuesday 8th November – Year 3 trip to the Marist centre

We finish today for half term and re-open on Monday 31st October. Doors will open at 8.50am as usual. I hope that you all have a lovely half-term break and get to spend some quality time with your families.

Take care,

Mrs Howe.