



St Mary's RC Primary School Newsletter Friday 22nd October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Just a final newsletter before we finish for the half term holidays. It has once again been a wonderful half term with many achievements. Thank you to all the parents, carers, families, staff, governors, parishioners and wider community members for all your support.

School closes today for one week half term. We return to school on Monday 1st November 2021.

Prize Draw Winners

Thank you to all of our entries in the Free School Meal Application draw. Congratulations to the following winners:

- 1st Prize – £100 Smyths Voucher – Destiny Stopher
- 2nd Prize – Amazon Kindle – Cody/Bailey Parker
- 3rd Prize – Amazon Kindle – Iyosayi/Oghosa Festus

Nuts

A reminder that some of our pupils do have nut allergies and therefore we are a **nut free school**. We kindly request that children's snacks and lunchboxes do not contain items which have nuts, this includes but is not limited to Nutella sandwiches, granola bars, treats or other food that contain nuts. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.



Show Racism the Red Card!



In support of Anti-Racism and the 'Show Racism the Red Card' campaign, pupils have attended school today wearing red clothes. This has coincided with the pupils learning where we have been focusing on Black History Month. All contributions from today will be donated to the charity. Thank you for your support!

Parents Evening

A text has been sent to all parents with a link to book a parents evening appointment. Please make an appointment if you have not yet made one. Appointments will take place via zoom or telephone call on 16th and 18th November.

Staff News

This half term we say goodbye to Mrs Campbell as she begins her Maternity leave expecting her 3rd child, we wish her all the very best. As we say goodbye to Mrs Campbell, we welcome back Mrs Nixon following her Maternity leave.

Secondary School Applications

The deadline is fast approaching for Secondary School applications. Parents/carers must make an online application by 31st October 2021 to the local authority where the school of their choice is, probably Rochdale. It could also be Manchester or Bury or Oldham. Look on the LA websites for details. For Rochdale, the link is:

<http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/schools-and-education/schooladmissions/secondaryadmissions/Pages/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place.aspx>

School Meals

After half term we are hoping to return to the hall at lunch time. We will be introducing a new hot menu for those children who have school meals – this can be found on our school website <http://www.stmrc.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Autumn-Menu-2021-1.pdf>

If your child would like to change from packed lunches to school meals or vice versa, the school office must be notified in writing.

Pupil Premium Funding

We would like to remind you that if you receive of one or more benefits, you may be eligible for benefits related free school meal funding. Children entitled to Free School Meals (also known as pupil premium funding) can choose to access school meals and subsidies for school milk, trips and visits. In addition, the school budget benefits from a grant which is used to impact on children's progress and development by allowing school to improve teaching and learning facilities, resources and training. If you are the parent/carer of an infant child, even though you are entitled to Universal Free School Meals you may still be able to claim pupil premium that supports the school budget. Please enquire for further information. To apply please visit <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/pdf/2018-03-13-free-school-meals-application-v1.pdf>

Reception Class Applications

Do you have a child born between 1st September 2017 and 31st August 2018? If so, please can I remind you that you must apply for them to start school online before 15th January 2021. You can apply via:

<http://rochdale.gov.uk/schooladmissions>. Even if your child already attends our Nursery class, you **must** still apply!

I am sure that you will agree the first half term certainly has flown by. It is delightful to see how our new Reception children have settled into full-time education and how all of our Nursery children have made a positive start to their educational journey. We wish you a wonderful half term break and will see you when we return to school on Monday 1st November!

Yours Sincerely



Mrs S Geddis
Headteacher