



The Saint Raphael's News



Spring 1 January 2025/ Matthew 2:1-12
"They offered Him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh"

HAPPY NEW YEAR: Welcome back to everyone for the Spring term. I hope that everyone had a good Christmas holiday. The children have settled back to school really well. They all look very smart and as always their behaviour has been fantastic.

ADVENT: We had a wonderful Advent season in school with many activities and events. Thank you to all parents, carers, families and staff who made it such a special time for the children. The Christmas Fair raised an amazing £1300. Thank you for all your support. The money will be used to enhance the children's environment and learning. We have purchased some Chrome books to enhance our Computing work.

CATHOLIC LIFE: We celebrated the feast of the Epiphany in Assembly this week. Parish Masses - Please see the parish website for the most up to date information on services at St Peter's and Raphael's Church. If you wish to contact Father Philip his phone number is 0161 338 2575.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME: 2025 will be a special year in the lives of our children who are on the Sacramental Programme. The children in Year 3 will this year make their Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Thank you to Father Philip and Deacon Antony for their constant help and support with this.

The children who are currently in Year 3 and have registered for the Sacramental programme are beginning their preparation. The key dates are below. If you have not yet registered your child on the Sacramental Programme and would like to do so please contact school. This can include children who are in Years 4, 5 and 6 as well.

The key dates for the Sacramental Programme this year are below;

We will have an enrolment meeting to outline the programme on **Tuesday, 14th January** at 3.30pm in school. This is for parents and their children and we will outline the programme. This will be followed by an Enrolment Mass on **Thursday 16th January** at 10am in school. All are welcome to this Mass.

The dates for the Sacraments in 2025 are:

- Sacrament of Reconciliation - **Wednesday, 12th February, 2025** at 6pm at St Peter's and St Raphael's Catholic Church
- First Holy Communion - **Saturday 10th May, 2025** at 10am at St. Peter's and St Raphael's Catholic Church.

We are looking forward to celebrating these special occasions in the life of our children, families, parish and school.

FREDDY FIT DAY: On Tuesday, 7th January we had Freddy Fit in school as part of our Healthy School initiative. The cost for this day is covered as part of our Sports Premium funding.

UNIFORM: The children have returned to school looking really smart. Please could we ask that PE kits are in school each day. Also can we ask that in line with our Uniform Policy **earrings or retainers are not worn in school.**

May God's love shine in our lives as we care, share and learn together

BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL PROVISION - MAGICBOOKING: Thank you for your support with the expanded Before & After School Provision and using Magic Booking in the Autumn Term. Please ensure you have made your bookings via your MagicBooking account for Spring Term 1 to secure your place.

Payments are made either at checkout with a debit card or by transferring tax free vouchers to the school. We remind parents that Tax Free Voucher receipts are only added as a credit when they have been received into the school bank account - this is processed every Monday.

CURRICULUM AT ST RAPHAEL'S: The half term overviews will be sent home via Seesaw and Tapestry this week outlining the areas of learning for your child this half term. These will also be available on the website.

ASSEMBLIES 2024-25:

The dates for class assemblies during this academic year are below. All are welcome.

Class	Date of Assembly	Theme
Reception	16 th May, 2025	TBC
Class 1	27 th June, 2025	TBC
Class 2	11 th April, 2025	Easter
Class 3	20 th June, 2025	Megacities/Manchester
Class 4	22 nd November, 2024	Romans
Class 5	8 th November, 2024	Remembrance
Class 6	11 th October, 2024	Harvest

RECEPTION ADMISSIONS: The Tameside Admissions Portal for Reception places in September 2025 will close on 15th January 2025. Further information is available at <http://www.tameside.gov.uk/admissions>.

PARKING: Please could we remind you that cars are not permitted on the school drive. We all want to keep our children safe and we know how busy the school drive is at the start and end of the school day with children and adults walking up and down the drive. Parking is available on the church car park and we ask that people park with consideration for others. We also ask that parents respect private carparks that are situated around school and do not use these to park as we have had complaints from residents.

WINTER WEATHER: This term can be when we see some of the worst winter weather. As a school we always endeavour to remain open and make every effort to ensure our site and premises are safe for the children. Please look at the school website for updates. If it is not possible for the school to remain open we will send a notice of closure to you by text message as well as posting on the school website. We will send information as early as possible following a risk assessment of the school site.

CONTACT DETAILS: Please ensure that we have the correct contact details for your children in school. If there are any changes to your mobile numbers and/or email addresses please inform us as soon as possible to ensure we have the correct contact information on our systems.

If you have any questions please contact school. Thank you for your continued support as we 'care, share and learn together.'

Mrs L. Lakner

Mrs Lynn Lakner (Headteacher)
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Next Newsletter: February 2025

SCHOOL DIARY

JANUARY 2025		
Monday 6 th	School opens for Spring Term 1	8.45am
Tuesday 7 th	Freddy Fit Day in school	All day
Tuesday 14 th	Initial Sacramental Programme meeting in school	3.30pm
Wednesday 15 th	Application deadline for Reception Places September 2025	
Thursday 16 th	Sacramental Programme enrolment Mass in school All welcome	10am
FEBRUARY 2025		
Thursday 6 th	Young Voices Concert	Evening
Tuesday 11 th	Safer Internet Day Theme 'Together for a better Internet'	All Day
Wednesday 12 th	Sacrament of First Forgiveness @St Peter's and St Raphael's Church	6pm
Friday 14 th	School Closes for Half Term	3.15pm
Monday 24 th	STAFF INSET DAY - School Closed for children	All Day
Tuesday 25 th	School opens for Spring Term 2	8.45am
Wednesday 26 th	Safe squad workshops for Year 6 in school	AM
MARCH 2025		
Wednesday 5 th	Ash Wednesday- the start of Lent	
Wednesday 5 th	Full Governing Board Meeting in school	4.30pm
Friday 7 th	World Book Day and Assembly	9.05am
Friday 14 th	Catholic Swimming Gala	Evening
Tuesday 25 th	Parents' Evening	3.30-6pm
Wednesday 26 th	Parents' Evening	3.30-6pm
APRIL 2025		
Thursday 10 th	Whole School Mass	9.15am
Friday 11 th	Year 2 Class Assembly	9.05am
Monday 14 th	Easter Retreat Week	All week
Wednesday 16 th	School Closes for Easter	3.15pm
Tuesday 29 th	School opens for Summer 1 Term	8.45am
May 2025		
Thursday 1 st	Class School Photographs	am
Monday 5 th	Bank Holiday School Closed	All Day
Saturday 10 th	Sacrament of First Holy Communion @St Peter's and St Raphael's Church	10am
Monday 12 th	SATS Week Year 6	Mon- Thurs
Friday 23 rd	School Closes for Whit holiday	3.15pm
June 2025		
Monday 9 th	School opens for Summer 2 Term	8.55am

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