



## Sacred Heart RC Primary School

'Where Every Heart is Sacred'

Week Commencing: 3rd September 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! Thank you for preparing your children so beautifully for the start of the new school year; it has been delightful to see the happy, smiling faces of your wonderful children again after the long summer break and wonderful to hear happy chatter and laughter once again filling our school site. I have thoroughly enjoyed hearing all about their summer holidays and I am delighted by how well the children are settling into their new classes.

Thank you to all of the staff who worked so hard over the summer preparing their classrooms and their curricula for what I'm sure will be a very rewarding academic year ahead. Lastly, thank you, parents and carers, for adhering to our school uniform policy which ensures that all children are equal in the eyes of their peers, regardless of their family's financial circumstances.

As you know, following the retirement of our beloved former Headteacher, Mrs Walker, I now have the great privilege of leading Sacred Heart RC Primary School, ably supported by my fantastic team of talented, caring and committed staff and governors.

Having served the children and families of this parish for the past eleven years in my various roles of Teacher, RE Lead, Reading Lead, Assistant Headteacher and Co-headteacher, I am in the fortunate position of already knowing most of you and your children well. I look forward to getting to know the rest of our school-parish family, including our new families, just as well in the coming months. It is an honour to have been entrusted with leading our wonderful school forward; I will continue to work as diligently as ever, with Christ and the best interests of our 341 children, 50 staff and 350 families at the centre of every decision I make.

As well as welcoming 40 new children to our school this September, we also welcome Miss Chaudry (Class 3 Teacher), Miss Mills (Class 6 Co-teacher), Miss Nathan (Nursery TA), Mrs McGovern (Reception TA) and Mr Entwistle (Romero TA). In our school office, you will find one familiar face and one new member of staff: Miss Dolan is replacing Miss Tennant for the duration of her maternity leave and has already been working hard to learn the ropes for this exciting new chapter. Miss Tennant and her baby, Freddie, are doing beautifully at home. Miss Tennant is a devoted mother and she and Kieran have been blessed with the most beautiful, contented baby. You will still see Mrs Slater around school and often in the office until her maternity leave begins on September 13th; we will be taking very good care of her as she navigates her third trimester with her second baby.

Another exciting new chapter is also about to begin and this one is bittersweet: our beloved School Business Manager, Mrs Warner, recently secured a very exciting promotion in the finance department of a large academy and will therefore be leaving Sacred Heart on Friday 20th September. She will be missed dearly but we selflessly wish her well and we are very hopeful that we will still see her often in her new role as Business Support Manager. In true Mrs Warner style, she has been working her socks off all summer to ensure that her replacement is able to hit the ground running on September 23rd. Our new School Business Manager has in fact already joined us and some of you may have even met her by now. Her name is Mrs Ellis and she comes with a wealth of experience from industry and primary education.

The staff and I look forward to a positive and joyful year ahead as we continue to grow together as a community; supporting each other to the best of our ability, ensuring our children can reach their full potential in a safe and caring environment, maturing into responsible and respectful young people who hold the future in their hands. As always, your child's class teacher will be available to speak with you most days after school but if you would like to discuss something at length, please let them know and they will set some time aside for a longer face-to-face appointment.

I will be on the yard most mornings and am always happy to hear your news as well as your constructive views about our school. Your feedback, along with that of others, will continue to help shape our future priorities and plans. If you ever wish to discuss anything in detail with a senior leader or with our Special Needs leader, please feel free to make an appointment with me (Headteacher), Mr. Wilson (Deputy Headteacher), or Miss Garland (SENDCO).

Wishing you all a very happy school year ahead!

Yours, in Christ,

Mrs Botham

Headteacher



## Mission Statement

**'Where Every Heart is Sacred'**

We have been revisiting our Mission Statement in classes and in assemblies this week. Perhaps you could talk to your children about the special words that guide our interactions and focus our relationships throughout our time together at Sacred Heart:

'Our school community serves the common good to the benefit of all;

Where the rights and dignity of every human person are respected and

**"Every Heart is Sacred".**

We support and encourage everyone to reach their full potential.

We are witnesses to God's love through our actions; inspiring hope, nurturing love and caring for our Common Home.

We serve each other peacefully, joyfully and truthfully so that all

**"have life and have it the full".**



## Curriculum

<https://sacredheartschool-gorton.org.uk/curriculum/>

We are very proud of our bespoke school curriculum. It has been thoughtfully and sensitively planned, taking into account the social-economic demographics of the school and the world in which we live. Learning in each area of the curriculum is sequenced so that children build on their prior knowledge and skills and are able to store new learning in their long term memories. Please visit the curriculum area of our school website; here, you will be able to see the curriculum topics your child will be covering this year and the progression of skills and knowledge throughout the school.

## Safety Procedures

As usual at this time of year, we are reviewing our practices and policies. As part of this important work, we completed a lockdown practice in school today. In primary schools, lockdown drills are a chance for children to practice their excellent hiding skills and I'm pleased to share that our children were experts at hiding! In fact, some of our children were so good at hiding in their classrooms that I genuinely thought they must have been in another room! The children were all excellent at staying quiet until their teachers heard the signal that lockdown was over. Despite the serious message behind lockdown drills, our staff did an excellent job of making the exercise positive and fun for the children and everyone had lovely smiling faces when my team and I visited their classes to let them know that the practice was over and they could return to their learning.



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## Manchester Against Hate

An important message from Amanda Corcoran, Manchester Director of Education

### Manchester Message

Everyone who lives in this city has the right to call it their home; the place where they feel safe; and the place where they belong.

But, for some of our people, those feelings have been replaced by fear after serious issues both here and across the country.

We want everyone to know that we will never accept hatred based on skin colour or faith.

We never want people to be too scared to go out, which is why we will be working even more closely with the police on what you tell us.

We defeat hatred by keeping Manchester strong, and by asking everyone to get updates only from places that they know are truthful and trusted.

You can report a hate crime, including racism and Islamophobia to Greater Manchester Police by calling 101 or going to a police station.

Further details can be found on [GMP's website](#).

If you are scared or need help for you or your community, please contact us on [community@manchester.gov.uk](mailto:community@manchester.gov.uk).

You won't have to give your name and anything you say will be kept safe.



## PE Days

The Class Pages of our website is under development so here is a summary of PE days this term:

**Nursery & Reception:** PE days will be shared once the children are settled into their new classes.

**Class 1** (Mrs Tabib): Mondays & Fridays

**Class 2** (Miss Andrew): Wednesdays & Thursdays

**Class 3** (Miss Chaudry): Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Class 4** (Miss Leadbetter): Mondays and Wednesdays

**Class 5** (Miss McLaughlin): Tuesdays and Thursdays

**Class 6** (Mrs Lord & Miss Mills): Thursdays

(NB: C6 will go swimming every Tuesday 10.09.24 from until Christmas).

**Class 7** (Mr Cleary): Mondays (not 07.09.24) and Fridays

**Class 8** (Mrs Bowen & Mr Wilson): Wednesdays and Fridays

**Class 9** (Miss Wynne): Thursdays and Fridays



## Trips to the Imperial War Museum

All of our Y5 and Y6 children will be visiting the Imperial War Museum on the following dates:

Monday 9th September - Class 7

Monday 16th September - Classes 8 & 9

Details have been shared with parents and carers via ParentMail; information about the museum is available [here](#).

We wish our oldest children a safe journey and a wonderful trip!

Sacred Heart RC  
Primary School

has raised the sum of

£570.10

to help people build a brighter  
future through CAFOD's projects  
around the world

**THANK YOU**

Your fundraising will help children like Messi in Liberia live their lives to the full and flourish

## Fundraising

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Thank you so much for your generous donations to all of our fundraising endeavours last year! I am delighted to share the above certificate, forwarded by Cafod during the summer holidays, commemorating the amazing £570.10 that we shared with this very worthy charity, thanks to you! Should you wish to read it, more information about Cafod is available [here](#).

# Education Sunday

8th September 2024

Education Sunday falls on the second Sunday of September (8 September, in 2024) just as the new academic year starts and is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 176 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead.

## **Prayer for the New Academic Year**

Dear Lord,

We think of the children and young people close to our hearts  
and know that they are precious in your sight, fearfully and wonderfully made.

We place them into your hands.

Strengthen and nurture them.

Be with them in their coming in and going out,

at home and at school,

in their sports, activities and clubs,

their friendships and their quiet times.

Mould them in your image, forming and reforming.

Through the positive influence of those whose lives cross theirs.

Through the love and example of those who care for them

and through the constant love of your Son, Jesus,

who walks alongside them each step of their lives.



Don't forget to check our X  
feed! [@SHGorton](https://twitter.com/SHGorton)

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