



## St. Monica's RC Primary School

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5<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome everyone back to school today as we begin another year. It is always an exciting day on the first day back and although everyone is a little nervous, we all soon get back into the flow of things.

### **STAFFING**

We are also excited to welcome our new members of staff, Mrs Slater, Miss Benson and Mrs Russell and hope that you will make them very welcome as part of our St. Monica's family. They have already made such a positive impression with our staff and children.

### **MRS COSGROVE**

We are delighted to let you know that Mrs Cosgrove welcomed her new little girl Jessica into the world during the summer holidays. We send our congratulations to Mrs Cosgrove and all her family and look forward to meeting Jessica soon.

### **ASSISTANT HEADS**

While Mrs Cosgrove is on maternity leave, Mrs Groves and Miss Keville will be our Assistant Heads at St. Monica's. They have already been working hard to ensure that we continue to provide the best possible care and education for our children. Please do speak with either Mrs Groves, Miss Keville or myself with any questions or concerns in person or by emailing the office on [stmonicas.admin@trafford.gov.uk](mailto:stmonicas.admin@trafford.gov.uk)

### **SEND**

We also welcome back Mrs Agnew, who will be our new school SENDCO. Mrs Agnew's working days will be Monday to Wednesday and she will be a non-teaching SENDCO. This is an increase in time dedicated to SEND, as we see a big increase in the number of children who require additional needs.

Mrs Agnew will be studying for her specialist qualification in SEND, as she carries out her role, and I ask that you be as patient as possible, as she familiarises herself with the paperwork, procedures and children involved.



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The child is at the centre of everything we do

### **PASTORAL CARE/SEND ROOM**

We are very excited to introduce a Pastoral Care/SEND room to our school and have made some space for children who need some quiet and calm in their daily routine. Our fabulous PTA, the Friends and Family of St. Monica's, have invested in resources for this room and we are looking forward to developing its use over the coming weeks.

### **SEND FORUM**

You may remember that a group of interested parents/carers met in July to discuss some ideas around how we can continue to help those children with additional needs feel welcome and safe in our school. We intend to have the next meeting on this on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September at 9.10am (just after drop off).

### **COMMUNICATION (For new parents!)**

You should all be able to log in to Class Dojo and have access to your child's class. Please let the office know if you aren't able to access it. Class Dojo will be a way of your class teacher sharing any important messages about your child's class and will also be a way for our office and myself to share messages quickly across the school. If you are unable to access a device to access Class Dojo, then please contact the office and we will make sure that you receive messages in an alternative way.

I will also be sending a newsletter home each Friday, with a mixture of news from the week and highlighting important dates or information for the year ahead. Again, if you are not able to access these, please do let us know.

### **TIMES**

I would like to remind you that the school day begins at 8.55am and finishes at 3.25pm for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and finishes at 3.30pm for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Gates of both playgrounds will be open from 8.40am and teachers will be opening classroom doors at 8.50am. Gates will then be locked from 9.00am and children arriving after this will need to come into school through the main office.

If you have children entering school from both playgrounds, we ask that you drop off the younger child first.

If this is causing difficulties, please do just let us know and we can make reasonable adjustments.



## **MEET AND GREET SESSIONS**

Next Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September, we would like to give parents/carers the opportunity to come into your child's new classroom and meet their teacher and see where they are going to be spending lots of their time. These sessions will be for **Year 1 to Year 6** and will take place immediately after school at 3.40pm. Our teachers look forward to seeing you then.

We are all genuinely excited about the year ahead and look forward to sharing with you all of the exciting things that we have planned throughout the year.

As ever, if you have any questions or queries about anything whatsoever, please do contact our office or come and speak with me or any of our staff and we will do our very best to answer.

Kind regards,

Mr Mark Doherty  
Headteacher

