



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you had a good summer, and it was lovely to welcome the children back to school on Wednesday. This is my first newsletter as Executive Headteacher at St Chad's and I look forward to getting to know you all in the coming weeks.

Welcome to the new families who join us this term - we hope that you will be very happy here with us. We have some new faces on the staff team too: Mrs Bolshaw (class teacher in Year 4 - St Martin de Porres); Miss Jones (class teacher in Year 2 - St John Paul); Mrs Cowmey (SENCO); Mrs Jones, Mrs Francis and Mrs Snape (TAs).

St Chad's has an excellent reputation within the Catholic community and my first few days here have clearly shown why. The staff of St Chad's are a hardworking, professional team who place the children at the centre of all they do; it is a pleasure to work with them. Mrs Mitchener, Mrs Mooney and I will work closely together to build on the school's strengths in the year ahead.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

Mrs Vassallo and Staff

Our Faith

In assembly on Wednesday, we talked about the gift of friendship and about how Jesus tells us to love one another as He loves us. The children shared many ways in which we can show friendship to each other as we begin our new school year and they referred to the Gospel Values which are threaded through all that the school does.

GOSPEL (John 15:15-17)

One day, Jesus said,

"If your friendship with me is a real friendship, it will bear a great harvest. But there will be no harvest at all, if our friendship is broken.

You need me.

I have one aim. I want you to know the happiness I know. I don't want anything to spoil your happiness.

This is the secret of it - my secret: love one another as I have loved you.

You are real friends of mine, if you do what I have told you.

Remember - you did not choose me. I chose you to be my friends - and I want you to be friends with each other."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Safeguarding

The wellbeing of our children is of paramount importance to all staff. Should any parent have a concern regarding a child's wellbeing, please inform the school's Designated Safeguarding officer: Mrs P Mitchener.

We also have two Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Davern and Mrs Mooney. In cases where school staff have concerns, they have a statutory duty to discuss the issue with one of the Designated Safeguarding Officers to seek further advice.



Communications

We will send you a list of key dates for the year next week. In the meantime, here are two important dates for your diary:

Wednesday 20th September: Meet the teacher at 5pm

Thursday 14th September: Year 6 SATs and PGL meeting at 5pm

We shall be looking at the format of the newsletter this half term and are open to your suggestions and feedback. If there are any areas you would like to be included, please let us know via the main office.

Attendance

Regular attendance at school is vital so that children can progress in their learning and friendships.

If your child is unwell, please leave a message on the answer phone or email the office by **8am**. The office staff check registers and must follow up on any unexplained absences by 9.15am, so your cooperation with this is appreciated.

Routine medical and dental appointments should be scheduled for outside school time. Holidays in school time cannot be authorised. From next week, we shall share attendance data for each class in the newsletter.

Attendance Ladder

How close is your child to 100%?

0 days off school	100%	Perfect!
Equates to 2 days off school each year	98%	Excellent
Equates to 13 days off school each year	93%	Good
Equates to 22 days off school each year	88%	Concerned
Equates to 32 days off school each year	83%	Very Concerned
Equates to 47+ days off school each year	75% or Below	Extremely Concerned

From next week...

We will share information and photos of the children at work. Watch this space!



St Elizabeth	Logan, Isaac, Isaiah
St Martha	Monisade, Simeon
St John Paul	Jamal, Ire
St John Bosco	Mikaere, Ebose
St Catherine	Michael, Jayda
St Martin	Elvis, Ksawery
St James	Darasisi, JR
St Andrew	Mason, Khadel
St Therese	Jah'Mari, Kyran
St Brigid	Crystal, Israel

Hope

Have you been to see hope yet? She is being proudly displayed in Waterstones Croydon. If you haven't you still have time. Please take a photograph of yourself with Hope and send it into the office. We will be putting some in the upcoming newsletters.

