



9th February 2024

St Chad's Catholic Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents,

We have now reached the half way point in our school year, and have much to be thankful for. Our wonderful community is growing day by day, and every visitor to the school comments on the calm atmosphere, the warm welcome from staff and the beautiful manners of our children.

We are all very proud of St Chad's!

Today has been an INSET day and closed for children. We wish you a happy half term, and will see the children again on 19th February.

God bless,

Mrs Vassallo and Staff



Congratulations Miss Dench!

Miss Dench celebrated a milestone birthday yesterday which was marked in true St Chad's fashion.

Happy birthday, Miss Dench!



Nursery News

We have been learning about Chinese new year and how they will celebrate the year of the dragon this Saturday. We made Chinese lanterns and cooked our own stir fry, having a go at using chopsticks to eat it.



THE GOSPEL IN CHURCH

Sunday 11th February



The Wednesday Word

One day a man who had leprosy came to Jesus because he wanted to be healed. The man knelt in front of Jesus and said, "If you want to, you can heal my leprosy." Jesus was filled with compassion and said, "Of course I want to." Then Jesus reached out to touch him and said, "Be healed!" At once the man's leprosy disappeared and he was healed. Before sending the man on his way Jesus said firmly, "Don't tell anyone about this. Just go and show yourself to the priest, and take an offering to the Temple as commanded by Moses, and everyone will know that you have been healed." But, instead, the man went and told everyone what had happened. This meant that Jesus could no longer go openly into any town, but had to stay out in the country. Even so, people would still come to him from everywhere around . Mark 1:40-45

Foundation Governor Roles at St Chad's

Background

The governing body's responsibility is to work in partnership with the school's senior leaders to promote continuous improvement in the performance of the school , whilst developing its Catholic ethos. This involves establishing a development plan; setting challenging, but achievable targets; interpreting information to assess progress and supporting Christ-centred and Christ-like teaching and learning for all.

The governing body has statutory responsibility for overseeing the school's financial viability and is the employer of all staff. Aligned to its improvement role, the governing body is there to be a 'critical friend', providing the right balance between supporting and challenging the performance of both the leadership team and the school.

There are different routes by which different types of governors are appointed and there are rules regulating the composition of the governing body. However, once appointed, all governors have equal status, regardless of the category under which they have been appointed. The role of governor is a voluntary one and is unpaid.

Foundation governors are appointed by the Archbishop to ensure the school's particular character is preserved and developed. As such, all foundation governors must be practising Catholics.

Our appeal to you

We wish to appoint to a number of foundation governor positions. If you are a practising Catholic and would like to help St Chad's on the next stage of its development, I would love to hear from you. Please email the school office (office@stchadsprimaryschool.com) marked for the attention of Mrs Vassallo. Thank you.

Exciting News - 18th February



Archbishop John Wilson will be visiting St Chad's parish on Sunday 18th February and Fr Ambrose would love him to meet as many members of our school and parish community as possible.

It would therefore be wonderful if as many children and families as possible, could attend the 10:30 Mass on that date. Please could the children attend in full school uniform. Many members of the staff will be attending, what we hope will be a lovely celebration of our faith and community.

St Josephine Bakhita

Today marks the Feast Day of St Josephine Bakhita, an inspirational saint who overcame slavery and unimaginable cruelty, whilst remaining steadfast in her Faith.

St Josephine is a shining example of what it means to forgive, saying:

“If I were to meet those who kidnapped me, or even those who tortured me, I would kneel down and kiss their hands. Because, if those things had not happened, I would not have become a Christian and would not be a Sister today.”

On St Josephine Bakhita’s Feast Day, please keep in your prayers all those who are victims of trafficking and modern slavery.

Heavenly Father, you gave us the great example of St. Josephine Bakhita and blessed her with an open heart full of charity. Help us to be forgiving of others as she was. Help us to be thankful for our freedom and to know that we are only truly free through our faith in You. Amen



Safer Internet Day 2023

On Safer Internet Day all KS2 took part in a BBC Live Lesson which focussed on looking at AI technology ; what AI technology is and tips for saying safe online in an AI world.



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 three Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officers: Mrs Davern, Mrs Mooney and Mrs Vassallo. 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.

Please look at the following links to help you protect your children whilst they are online. We know that this is an area that parents often find confusing and ask us for support with.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/#children>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/inappropriate-explicit-content/>

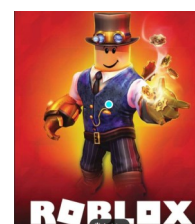


Message for Year 6 Parents

On **Monday 19th February at 8.40am**, Danielle Bumford Sinclair (new Head of School, Coloma) and her colleague Stephen Srikantha will visit St Chad's to meet with parents of those who have applied to Coloma. It is for adults and is optional, and a chance to meet Danielle as Head of School. During the meeting, she will discuss any questions or comments you may have about Coloma; as there have been a lot of changes in the school, she would like to reassure you that you have made a good choice. The meeting will last about 30 minutes.

Roblox - Important Reminder

This week some children have been heard talking about using Roblox and the chat function in the playground. Please ensure that you supervise who your child is talking to (ideally they should not be using the chat function), and have all the relevant parent settings activated.



The Big Bird Watch

Cafod/Green Club took part in the RSPB's yearly Big School's Bird Watch to see what birds are coming into our school grounds. They then made bird feeders to hang in our school grounds to encourage more birds into our environment.

Together, we
made it count.

This is to certify that

St Chad's RC Primary School

took part in
Big Schools' Birdwatch 2024.

Thank you very much!

Signed

Rachael Albon
Big Schools' Birdwatch
Coordinator



Big Schools'
Birdwatch

Ash Wednesday

This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 14th, during half term. It is the beginning of the Lenten season and a holy day of prayer and fasting. Please make every effort to attend a service at St Chad's Church and to talk to your child, children about its importance.



ROUND TOWERS
YOUTH SECTION

**GAELIC FOOTBALL
TASTER SESSIONS**

BOYS & GIRLS 8YRS - 16YRS

FREE!



Trinity School
Addiscombe Road
Croydon
CR9 7AT

Every Wednesday
From 7th Feb
5.45pm - 7.00pm



FOR MORE INFO:

Danny O'Donovan **07796 934748**
Timmy O'Donovan **07809 642060**

REQUIRED:
TOP, SHORTS, SOCKS & TRAINERS
(NO FOOTBALL BOOTS WITH STUDS)



General Knowledge Quiz

Eight KS2 children attended the Croydon Heat of the General Knowledge Quiz this week. They competed against 11 other teams and worked together brilliantly to answer some very tricky questions. Team 2 finished in 5th place which is a fantastic achievement! Team 1 finished in 2nd place and qualified for the semi-finals! Well done to all.



Mobile Phones– A polite reminder, again

We would like to remind you that the use of mobile phones is prohibited on school site. Therefore, when dropping off or collecting your child, please ensure your mobile phone is away and not in use. Several parents have raised concerns recently, that they have seen mobile phones being used on the school playground.



This is to ensure the safety of all of the children at St Chad's Primary school and is part of our safeguarding policy.

Online Safety

During Half Term we know that some children spend more time online; either gaming or on social media. With this in mind, please follow the link below to find online safety advice and information guides regarding keeping children safe when online, gaming, screen time, digital resilience and cyberbullying. A gentle reminder: to access social media platforms, including WhatsApp and You Tube, the minimum age is at least 13 years, and in most cases, 16 years. Please ensure the appropriate parental controls have been set on all devices children have access to - this may include your own phone.

[Internet Matters e-safety information and resources](#)



The next coffee morning is to be led by a Croydon Educational Psychologist, who is going to talk about communication and play with children. This will be held on **Tuesday 5th March at 9.00am.** Please note the change to the usual day.



Next week at St Chad's

Sunday 18th February	10:30 Mass at St Chad's Church with Archbishop John Wilson
Monday 19 February	School reopens Adoration for Years 4 and 5
Tuesday 20 February	Animal Aid visit Apple Store visit for Y5
Wednesday 21 February	
Thursday 22 February	
Friday 23 February	