



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

2nd May 2025

Dear Parents,

What a glorious week of unseasonal sunshine we've had - and we're certainly not complaining! The PTFA made the most of the warm weather by selling ice creams after school, which proved incredibly popular. A big thank you to all the volunteers who helped organise this - your support is always so appreciated.

It was lovely to meet some of you at the coffee morning on Thursday 1st May. The discussion was both insightful and encouraging. We talked about the importance of more community events and increasing parental involvement - both to support the school financially and to strengthen our sense of community. With this in mind, the PTFA are busy planning some exciting events, including an after-school BBQ on **Friday 23rd May** and our **Summer Fayre on Friday 27th June**. Please keep an eye out for further details and ways to get involved.

The children looked incredibly smart in their summer uniforms for class photographs - thank you for helping to uphold our high standards in presentation.

We are thrilled to share that more families have selected St Chad's as their first preference for September 2025. However, we do still have a few Reception places available. If you know anyone considering schools for their child, please do encourage them to take a look at our website for more information or to arrange a visit - I'm always happy to meet prospective families and show them around.

Finally, please keep our Year 6 pupils in your thoughts and prayers as they prepare for their end-of-Key-Stage SATs.

Wishing you all a restful bank holiday weekend - we look forward to seeing everyone back on **Tuesday 6th May**.

In Christ

Mrs T Lawlor



On Tuesday 29th April 2025, Year 2 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Pizza Express in West Wickham.

Yr2 Pizza Express



We had a fabulous morning learning how to make and cook our very own pizzas. Everyone had the chance to choose their own toppings and get hands-on in the kitchen! The chef even gave us a special tour of the kitchens, showing us how everything works behind the scenes.



Afterwards, we sat outside in the sunshine and enjoyed eating our delicious creations. What a brilliant way to spend the morning!



My London Story Project

Year 5 have been selected to take part in the London Museum's exciting new project, 'My London Story', which aims to explore and understand young people's experiences of life in London today. This will be an ongoing project throughout the Summer Term.

The project began this week with an interactive theatre performance, and Year 5 had a fantastic time engaging with the actors and getting involved in the story. It was a memorable and inspiring way to begin their participation!



Eco Activities in the Sunshine!

This week, CAFOD/Green Club made the most of the sunny weather by planting sunflower seeds and helping to keep our school grounds tidy with a litter pick.

Meanwhile, the Infant Gardening Club also planted sunflower seeds - and the race is on to see whose sunflower will grow the tallest! We're looking forward to watching them grow over the coming weeks.



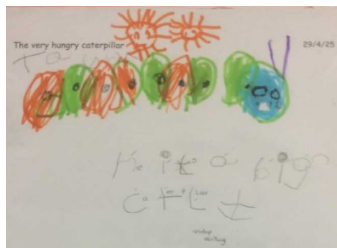
Nursery News

It's been an exciting week in Nursery filled with minibeasts and discovery! Olivia amazed her friends by bringing in her pet praying mantis, confidently sharing what it likes to eat and how far it can jump.

The children have been learning about caterpillars, even making their own edible version using carrot, cucumber, and peppers -which was as fun to eat as it was to make!

Inspired by *The Very Hungry Caterpillar* by Eric Carle, they created their own class story, drawing beautiful illustrations to bring it to life.

Today, the children were thrilled to spot bees visiting our bug hotel, sparking lots of wonder and conversation.



Attendance

21/04/2025 – 25/04/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	100	0
St Peter Rec	95.8	0
St Ann Rec	98.9	0
St Elizabeth Y1	98	0.7
St Luke	92.9	0.5
St Martha Y2	96.4	0.5
St John Bosco	98.4	1.1
St Carlos	91.7	0
St Martin	96.3	1.9
St Catherine	96.3	2.3
St Andrew Y5	86.4	0.6
St James Y5	85.7	0
St Therese Y6	92.5	0
St Brigid Y6	100	0.6
Totals	95	0.6

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.



Well done to St Anne's in the infants and St Brigid in the Juniors.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators SAFETY ON THE ROAD

Traffic-related incidents are a significant risk for young pedestrians and cyclists, so understanding road safety is crucial for children's wellbeing. While all road users share responsibility for keeping one another safe, this guide offers strategies for empowering young people to navigate the roads confidently and responsibly.

1 TAKE PRACTICE JOURNEYS

Making practice journeys with children is a great way to help them stay safe, thereby modelling responsible behaviours and having road safety conversations as they prepare to travel independently. Add extra preparation activities like spotting electric vehicles – which may have a green number plate – and point out how quiet they are. Children learn by watching others: remind them that their peers might not always be the best role models.

2 BE BRIGHT, BE SEEN

Visibility is lower during darker winter days, and drivers need to take extra care to look out for pedestrians. Wearing bright and reflective clothing can help make children more visible to drivers near roads. In poor daylight conditions, encourage children to wear light, bright or fluorescent clothing. When it's dark, wear reflective clothing or materials such as a reflective armband or jacket.

3 EYES UP

Encourage children to look up and keep their eyes on the road. Teach them to constantly watch for traffic and practise double-checking the road before crossing – looking right, left and then right again.

4 LIMIT DISTRACTIONS

Where possible, devices like phones should be kept away from children while out and about near roads. If they're carrying devices, these should be put away until they've reached their destination. Children must also avoid playing with toys or being distracted by friends. If a friend wants to show them something funny on their phone, there'll be time for that once they've safely arrived.

5 SLOW DOWN

Discuss the importance of waiting. Instead of crossing immediately, it can be tricky to judge the speed of traffic and spot obstacles that could cause a trip or a fall. For safety, children must stop and think before they get to the kerb and should always walk – not run – when crossing the road. They should avoid crossing until they're certain they have plenty of time. Even if traffic seems a long way off, it could still be approaching very quickly.

6 STOP BEFORE THE KERB

Teach children to stop before reaching the kerb – not right at the edge of it. Waiting before they get to the kerb allows them to see if anything's coming, whereas getting too close to traffic is dangerous. If there's no pavement, children should stand back from the road's edge but ensure they can still see approaching traffic.

7 CROSS SAFELY

Children should always find a safe spot to cross the road, prioritising zebra crossings or pelican crossings, footbridges and subways. Find a place where they can see traffic coming from both directions. Avoid crossing near junctions, bends in the road, or obstacles that block their view. Instead moving to somewhere they can see and be seen. Remind them to use their eyes and ears together when checking the road, so sometimes they can hear traffic before they can see it. Looking and listening while crossing helps them quickly spot traffic, including cyclists and motorcycles driving between other vehicles.

8 PARKED VEHICLES

Crossing between parked vehicles is very dangerous. Teach children to use extra caution if crossing in this way, and, ideally, avoid it altogether. They should use the outside edge of a vehicle as if it were the kerb, waiting and checking for traffic before moving. They should ensure vehicles aren't about to move, by looking for drivers in the vehicles and listening for engines running – but remember that electric vehicles may move all silently. They should always make sure there is a gap between any parked vehicles on the other side, so they can reach the pavement.

9 REVERSING VEHICLES

Children must never cross behind a reversing vehicle – it's extremely dangerous. Remind them to look for white reversing lights and listen out for warning sounds. Can they hear the engine sound or a radio playing inside the vehicle?

10 WAIT FOR THE BUS TO LEAVE

When getting off a bus, children must wait for it to leave before crossing so they can have a clear view of the road in both directions. This also allows them to see and be seen by other road users. Crossing near large vehicles is particularly dangerous and should be avoided.

Meet Our Expert

THINK! is a year-round national campaign that aims to encourage safe road behaviours – whether we're driving, cycling, horse riding or walking – with the aim of reducing the number of people killed and injured on the UK's roads each year. Find out more at: <https://www.think.gov.uk/education-resources/>



Gospel Value



St Elizabeth	Machau, Shasanth
St Luke	Rita, Zahra
St Martha	Isaac, Isaiah
St Carlos	Ife, Arabella
St John Bosco	Hunter, Kamiya
St Catherine	Tara, Siena
St Martin	Osi, Heather
St James	Tahlia, Abel A
St Andrew	Kamso, Erica
St Therese	Ella, Raphael
St Brigid	Asantia, Neriya

St Elizabeth	Esme, Naella, David O
St Luke	Abigail, Gianangelo, Nicole
St Martha	Chelsea, Whitney, Eliora
St Carlos	Monae, Shalom A, Shalom N
St John Bosco	Divine, Wyshown, Monisade
St Catherine	Emmanuel, Jermaine, Noah O
St Martin	Raheem, Sophie, Maria
St James	Shalom, Jesse, Melvin
St Andrew	Logan, Liesel, Kamiyah
St Therese	Topaz, Latifah, Angel
St Brigid	Alison, Joshua, Sharon