



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

9th May 2025

Dear Parents,

Although it was a short week, it has been another busy and productive one at St Chad's. It was wonderful to see the school filled with red, white, and blue yesterday as we marked the 80th anniversary of VE Day. The children took part in engaging classroom activities, helped decorate the school with bunting, and enjoyed a lively musical parade to round off the afternoon. A big thank you to all the children and staff for making it such a memorable and historic occasion.

Year 6 have been working especially hard this week as they make their final preparations for the SATs, which begin on Monday, 12th May. We have been keeping them in our prayers, and I encourage you to continue praying for them—that their dedication and efforts will be richly rewarded.

Looking ahead, our next school event is the PTFA School BBQ, which will take place after school on Friday, 23rd May. I hope many of you will be able to attend and support what promises to be a fantastic community event.

I now have a list of class representatives and will be reaching out soon to ask for your support in helping plan our upcoming Summer Fayre.

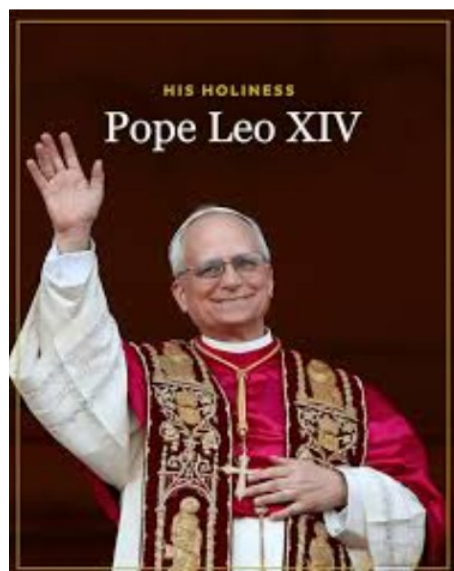
Finally, we offer our prayers for our newly elected Pope—Pope Leo XIV. May he be guided with wisdom and grace in his new ministry.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

In Christ
Mrs T Lawlor



Welcoming our New Pope



We are all delighted that the Conclave has chosen our new Pope. Over the coming weeks, we look forward to learning more about him and exploring how his teachings can guide us in deepening our understanding and love of our Lord. This is a special time for our community, and we will be sharing prayers and reflections as we welcome our new spiritual leader.

Prayer for Pope Leo XIV

Faithful God,
You guide us on the path of life
and your goodness is our
constant companion.
Be with our new Shepherd, Pope
Leo XIV,
in his service of the Church.
Fill him with the power of your
Spirit,
the peace of your presence
and the compassion of Christ.
May he walk with you,
in wisdom and humility,
and lead us, together with all
God's people,
to embody your love for the
world.

VE Day Celebrations



On Thursday, the whole school came together to commemorate the 80th anniversary of VE Day. All year groups marked this special occasion, taking time to remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our democracy.

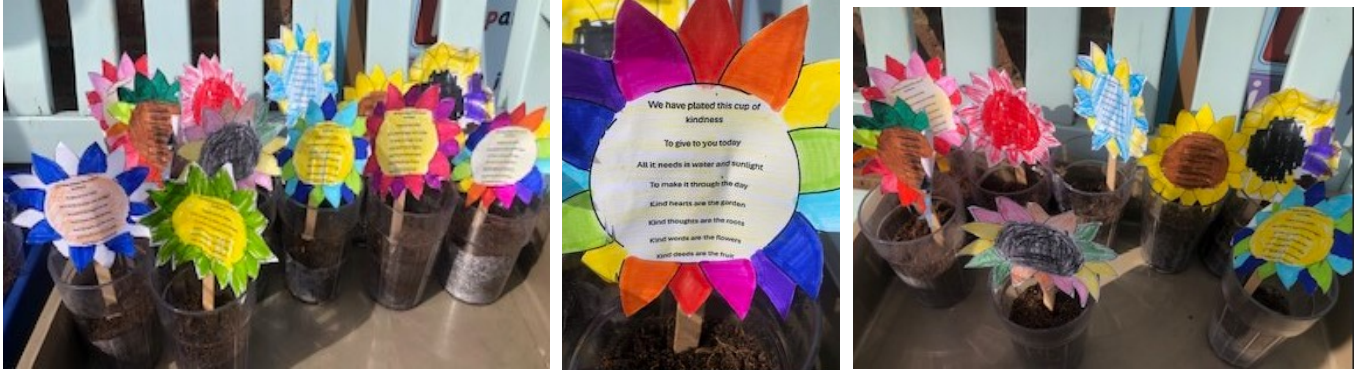
The juniors watched a live assembly and took part in a range of engaging activities, including hosting their very own street party! At 2:15pm, the entire school gathered to form a huge conga line to a classic Glenn Miller tune—a joyful moment that brought everyone together. A special thank you to Abdul in Year 6 who confidently led the hand jive, brilliantly accompanied by Mr Moonsam!

Thank you to Mrs Gant and Gallagher for helping to organise the events.



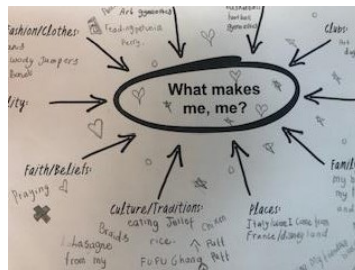
Cups of Kindness

Cafod Club and the infant Gardening club made 'cups of kindness' to give out to each class in school. They planted seeds in each cup and enclosed a message of kindness to share with others.



My London Project

Year 5 took part in the second stage of the 'My London Story'. They found out more about the Museum of London and what type of artefacts and exhibitions it houses. We then started to plan and discuss about making a piece of digital artwork for next week. The children had to think about items that were meaningful to them and the reasons why they were important to them and prepare to bring them in to share next week to make up the digital artwork collaboration.



Kindness Ambassadors

Year 5 Kindness Ambassadors Spread Positivity Nationwide!

Our Year 5 Kindness Ambassadors took part in a 52 Lives Kindness Ambassador meeting, joining schools from across the country. They proudly shared the thoughtful and generous acts of kindness happening in our school and gathered brilliant new ideas to bring back. The children represented our school with big smiles, confidence, and enthusiasm—we are so proud of the positive impact they're making!



Nursery News

Nursery took part in the celebrations for the VE day. They listened to people's real life stories to understand what it would have been like back then and we discussed how they would have felt. We heard some 1940's music that made us get up and dance as well as taking part in other activities. This afternoon they joined in with the rest of the school to do the conga.



Attendance

28/04/2025 - 02/05/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	100	0.5
St Peter Rec	96.3	0
St Ann Rec	98.6	0
St Elizabeth Y1	96.8	1.6
St Luke	99.1	1.7
St Martha Y2	99.3	0.4
St John Bosco	100	0.4
St Carlos	90	0.4
St Martin	100	1.5
St Catherine	97	1.9
St Andrew Y5	93.6	0.5
St James Y5	94.7	0
St Therese Y6	97.5	0
St Brigid Y6	99	0
Totals	97.3	0.7

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 Martha's in the infants and St John Bosco & St Martin's in the Juniors.



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies to help parents and educators cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

- 1 CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**
 Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than ignored. This recognition empowers children to confidently express their ideas and feelings, ensuring everyone's perspective is valued in school and home settings.
- 2 CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION**
 Regular, open communication and active listening to children, showing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences, creates a supportive environment. Encouraging open communication builds trust and empowers children to express their needs and concerns as a vital part of their family, school, and community.
- 3 MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION**
 Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in the classroom or at home. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Encourage them to share ideas and opinions, fostering a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.
- 4 FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS**
 Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, siblings, and families. Strong, healthy relationships are foundational to a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of isolation. Encourage social interactions through group activities, team sports, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.
- 5 CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES**
 Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming to everyone. Inclusive spaces, whether physical or virtual, ensure everyone can comfortably participate. Promote feelings of safety and acceptance, creating environments where everyone's voice is heard and valued, and belonging is actively reinforced.
- 6 MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**
 Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, respectful, and empathetic behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviours, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.
- 7 BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY**
 Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to identify their feelings and respond to others' emotions. An emotionally literate child can better understand, regulate, and communicate their feelings, leading to a deeper sense of belonging and interpersonal connection with groups.
- 8 SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP**
 Encourage peer mentorship as a key strategy within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of camaraderie and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they mutually build stronger bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and thriving thrive.
- 9 RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY**
 Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's sense of value and belonging and offers a tangible boost. Celebrate both academic and non-academic successes, highlighting a positive environment where children feel supported, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.
- 10 ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY**
 Quickly address any incidents of bullying, ensuring a safe and inclusive environment. Ignoring bullying sends a message that it is acceptable, leading to increased isolation and anxiety. Promptly addressing incidents reinforces a culture of respect and belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert
 Anne Statham is Director of Inclusion Education (Lead) and Director for Wellbeing and Family Partnerships of Leigh T Trust. With extensive experience in systems, mental health in schools, and support in educational settings across the UK, she is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.

#WakeUpWednesday The National College



Gospel Value



St Elizabeth	Ararat, Lorenzo
St Luke	Sophia, Ayla
St Martha	Logan, Kaima
St Carlos	Jamal, Layton
St John Bosco	Simon, Joaquim
St Catherine	Joshua E, Nicole
St Martin	Mena, Gilad
St James	Melvin, Inam
St Andrew	Ksawery, Gabriella
St Therese	Abdul, Milan
St Brigid	Marlon, Evans

St Elizabeth	Tiffany, Rousset, Lorenzo
St Luke	Denzel, Sophia, Zahra
St Martha	Isaac, Fabiola, Ryeden
St Carlos	Onyx, Leonor, Zofia
St John Bosco	Aaron, Hunter, Emmanuel K
St Catherine	Noah B, Anaiyah, Elijah
St Martin	Justin, Akonobe, Elisha
St James	Elvis, Abel S, Tahlia
St Andrew	Alex, Tony, Arianna
St Therese	Milan, Ezra, Zofia
St Brigid	Chanelle, Darasimi, Ikem