



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

23rd May 2025

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful week we've had at St Chad's!

The highlight of our week was undoubtedly the *Marian Celebration and the Crowning of Mary*. The floral tributes were simply beautiful—thank you all for your generous contributions. The children's singing was truly delightful and helped to create a reverent and joyful atmosphere for this very special occasion. A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Mitchener and Mrs. Savage for leading the liturgy so thoughtfully.

Earlier this week, I had the pleasure of attending the *Catholic Schools Swimming Gala*. It was a fantastic, well-organised event, and my thanks go to Mrs. Mooney for her hard work in making it happen. It was inspiring to see pupils from our Catholic schools competing with such maturity and sportsmanship. A special shout out to **Sorriah in Year 6**, who brought home a **gold medal** in the girls' butterfly event—well done, Sorriah!

As we look ahead, our Year 6 pupils will be heading off on their **residential trip** this weekend, returning on **Bank Holiday Monday**. Please join me in keeping them in your prayers—for their safety, good weather, and a trip full of memories. A sincere thank you to the dedicated staff who are giving their time to support the residential.

This afternoon, I'm very much looking forward to our **PTFA BBQ**—a lovely way to bring our school community together before we head into the break.

Wishing you all a **peaceful and restful half-term**. Thank you, as always, for your continued support and involvement in school life.

In Christ
Mrs T Lawlor



RNLI



Yesterday, representatives from the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) visited St Chad's to speak to Years 4, 5 and 6 about how to stay safe around water and along the coast. The children learned about the meanings of different coloured beach safety flags and what to do in an emergency situation. They also explored the important "Slip, Slap, Slop" message to help keep themselves safe. The sessions were informative and engaging, and the children listened thoughtfully and asked some excellent questions. It was a valuable opportunity to reinforce life-saving safety skills as we approach the summer months.



Digital Art Work Session

St James' class continued their work with the Museum of London by taking part in a Digital artwork session. The children all brought in a meaningful object from home that they photographed and wrote about. They also each had the opportunity to be filmed performing a dance or movement in front of a green screen which will be used and displayed in the London Museum.



Crowning of Mary



We were blessed with a truly beautiful and spiritually uplifting Crowning of Mary Liturgy this week. It was a special occasion where our school community came together in prayer and reflection, honouring Our Lady in a meaningful and reverent way.

The playground was filled with an array of lovely flowers, each one adding to the beauty of the celebration and symbolising our devotion to Mary. The children participated reverently, and their voices in prayer and song brought a touching sense of peace to the liturgy.

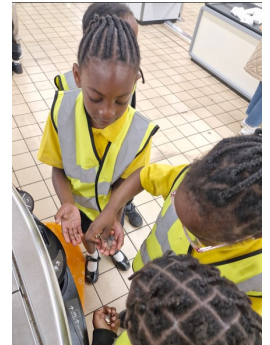
We were also delighted to see so many parents join us for this special celebration. Your presence added a warmth and unity to the day, and your support means so much to the children and staff alike. It was a wonderful example of faith and community in action.



Reception's Trip to Sainsbury's



As part of our topic on growing we have been reading the book 'Kitchen Disco'. Its a very funny book about fruits having a party when we are sleeping at night! Today we went to visit Sainsbury's to buy some fruit. We had a shopping list and had to work together to find the fruit we needed. Then we went to the self checkout and bought the fruit. It was very exciting putting the money in and getting some change. We listened well to our adults and were very well behaved. Two members of the public stopped to ask us which school we came from and told us how wonderfully behaved we were! When we got back to school we made fruit kebabs, wore our fruit masks and had a fruit disco. It was so much fun! -Miss Roberts



Swimming Gala

The Catholic Swimming Gala on Wednesday was a fantastic celebration of sport, spirit, and community. The event brought together students from nine schools, each showing wonderful sportsmanship and enthusiasm. It was heartening to witness such friendly competition, with swimmers giving their best in every race and cheering one another on from the side-lines.

A special congratulations goes to Soriah, who delivered a stellar performance to win gold in the Butterfly - we are incredibly proud of her achievement.



The Rosary

As part of our devotion during the month of May, children from Years 2 to 6 gathered together in prayer to share a decade of the Rosary. This special time of reflection honoured Our Lady and brought a peaceful sense of unity to our school community.

The quiet reverence and focus of the children was truly moving. It was a beautiful expression of our shared faith and a powerful reminder of the importance of prayer in our daily lives and how praying the Rosary helps us grow closer to Jesus through the eyes of His mother.



Catholic Netball and Football

Last Saturday, two netball teams and one football team proudly represented St Chad's at the Catholic Schools Football and Netball Tournament hosted by **Margaret Roper School**. All of the children played with great enthusiasm, determination, and sportsmanship. Their performances improved with every game, and they were an absolute credit to the school throughout the day. We are incredibly proud of how they represented St Chad's, both on and off the pitch. Well done to all the players — and thank you to the staff and families who supported the teams!



Yr5 Trip to Hampton Court

Year 5 had a fantastic trip to Hampton Court Palace to enhance their learning about the Tudors. The children thoroughly enjoyed immersing themselves in the rich history of the palace, exploring the magnificent grounds, and discovering the fascinating people and stories from Tudor times. It was a memorable day that brought their classroom learning to life, and the children represented St Chad's with curiosity, enthusiasm, and excellent behaviour throughout.



Yr6 Static Electricity

This week, Year 6 had a brilliant time investigating static electricity as part of their science learning. Through a series of hands-on experiments, the children explored how static charges are created and how they interact with different materials.

Using balloons, paper, and other everyday items, they discovered how static electricity can attract and repel objects — and even make hair stand on end! The excitement in the classroom was electric, with plenty of laughter and amazement as their experiments came to life.

It was a thoroughly enjoyable session, and most importantly, the children deepened their understanding of the science behind static electricity in a fun and memorable way.

Well done, Year 6, for your curiosity and enthusiasm throughout the investigation!



St Elizabeth	Olamaria, Tiffany
St Luke	Ayla, Melody
St Martha	Sienna, Governor
St Carlos	Shalom A, Hannah
St John Bosco	Mayank, Monisade
St Catherine	Moyin, Maraim
St Martin	Bella, Trevell
St James	Benjamin, Elvis
St Andrew	Kamso, Erica
St Therese	Jessica, Michelle
St Brigid	Soraiya, Chanelle

Gospel Value



St Elizabeth	Oliwia, Jeremiah, Tofunmi
St Luke	Ayla, Nyla, Tony
St Martha	Christly, Britney, Logan
St Carlos	Micaiah, Mathilda, Liora
St John Bosco	Favour, Joaquim, Simon
St Catherine	Luna, Mikaere, Nicolle
St Martin	Lashonda, Rhyma, Mena
St James	Michaela, Abel A, Inam
St Andrew	Jayden, Jayda, Alex
St Therese	Abdul, Kayla, Ella
St Brigid	JR, Marlon, Neriya

Attendance

12/05/2025 - 16/05/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	98.5	0.5
St Peter Rec	93.8	0.8
St Ann Rec	94.6	1.8
St Elizabeth Y1	97.9	0.5
St Luke	97.4	2.2
St Martha Y2	98.6	0.7
St John Bosco	95.2	1.3
St Carlos	100	0
St Martin	100	1.5
St Catherine	100	2.2
St Andrew Y5	95.5	0.9
St James Y5	96.8	0
St Therese Y6	99	0
St Brigid Y6	99	0
Totals	97.6	0.9

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 the 3 classes with 100%- St Martin, St Catherine, and St Carlos. Well done also to St Martha's in the KS1

Fantastic a attendance last week with 98.1 across the school!



This is to certify that the pupils of
St Chad's Catholic Primary School

have achieved the
Bronze Award

on the Woodland Trust's
Green Tree Schools Award



Darren Moorcroft
Chief Executive



CAFOD Club

Cafod / Green Club have been working on trying to achieve the Woodland Trusts Green Trees award. They have had to do many outside learning challenges 'and nature projects in order to gain the award. They have now successfully achieved the Bronze award.



Cafod club and Ks1 gardening club celebrated World Bee Day by making Bee houses to hang in our school grounds to encourage more bees into our playground .



Play on the Pitch

On Thursday, eight lucky Year 3/4 pupils had the incredible opportunity to take part in small-sided games on the Crystal Palace FC pitch at Selhurst Park. They joined children from other local primary schools in a fantastic celebration of sport and the many benefits it brings — from teamwork and confidence to fitness and fun. The children had a brilliant time playing on the pitch and exploring the stadium. It was a memorable experience they won't soon forget, and they represented St Chad's with pride and enthusiasm throughout the day.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about VIOLENT CONTENT ONLINE

Around 70% of teenagers say they've seen real-life violence on social media in the past year – often from as young as primary school age. Just 5% actively seek it out, most encounter it through group chats or social media algorithms. From fights and pranks to hate speech and graphic media, exposure to violent content online is more widespread – and more harmful – than many adults realise.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MENTAL HEALTH AND TRAUMA

Children and young people report feelings of anxiety, guilt, shame or fear after seeing violent content. For some, these effects may be short term, but for those with existing vulnerabilities or past trauma, the impact can be more severe. Many also feel pressured to 'tough off' violent content to fit in with friends, even when they find it distressing.

BEHAVIOUR CHANGES

Exposure to online violence can lead to real-world decisions being made, such as skipping school or playing pranks. When children see weapons used in videos, it can heighten their perception that the world is unsafe and, in rare cases, increase the likelihood they'll consider carrying a weapon themselves, such as a knife for protection.

ESCALATION AND PARTICIPATION

Violent videos often go viral quickly, what begins as an online argument can spill into real-world fights – which are sometimes filmed and shared to gain views or status. Some children even claim to 'share' or 'create' violent content themselves to gain attention or boost their reputation.

DESENSITISATION

Older teens may become numb to violent content after years of exposure, assuming they're unlikely to report it. Younger children also tend not to report it – usually because they don't believe anything will be done or because they're afraid of being 'outed' by their peers.

HARMFUL IDEOLOGIES

Violent content online may overlap with social, misogynistic or otherwise extremist ideas. These messages can discriminate others or glorify violence as a way to gain power, popularity or notoriety. Over time, this can normalise dangerous behaviours and attitudes among impressionable viewers.

DISPROPORTIONATE IMPACT

Not all children are affected equally. Those who are excluded from school, marginalised, disabled or neurodivergent are often more vulnerable to the effects of online violence. It's essential to consider wider context – including home life and access to safe spaces – when thinking about potential harm.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CREATE SUPPORTIVE SPACES

Many children feel adults are too busy or won't understand their experiences online. Take time to walk through more judgemental conversations about what they're seeing. If they don't want to speak to you directly, gently signpost towards trusted services they can turn to for support.

KNOW WHAT'S ILLEGAL

Some violent content is simply upsetting, while other examples may be criminal or of safeguarding matter that needs reporting. Help children understand the difference by staying informed about online laws and social media reporting procedures. A useful resource is reportonmild.com.

AVOID HARSH RESTRICTIONS

Fear of punishment is a major reason young people stay silent about violent content. Try not to overreact or blame. Instead, reassure children that they can speak openly and that asking for help won't get them into trouble.

UNDERSTAND TECH AND TRAUMA

Older children may already know how to block accounts or avoid triggering content. Help younger or more vulnerable children learn these tools and encourage habits that reduce exposure. Just as importantly, teach techniques that help them process distress – building resilience and emotional literacy for both online and offline life.

Meet Our Expert
 Dr. Holly Powell-Jones is the founder of Online Media Law UK and a leading UK expert in digital safety, media law and young people. Her PhD investigates children's understandings of risk online. She works with schools, businesses, and universities to provide award-winning education on the criminal, legal and ethical considerations for the digital age. Visit www.onlinemedialaw.co.uk for more.

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The National College