



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

6th June 2025

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to what we call Summer 2 - the final half term before the summer break!

I hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable bank holiday and half term. It was wonderful to see so many parents at the BBQ on Friday 23rd - a truly lovely occasion that I'm sure has helped set the tone for the upcoming Summer Fair.

I was delighted to join the PGL camp on Saturday 24th May. Our Year 6 pupils were having an amazing time and were excellent ambassadors for our school throughout the trip.

Our St Chad's children continue to make us proud, representing our school so well at the Catholic Schools Maths Quiz and the Gaelic Football Festival. Read on for more information about these fantastic events!

Thank you to St Carlos for leading a wonderful liturgy on Wednesday to celebrate Corpus Christi. The children demonstrated a strong understanding of the Eucharist and shared some beautiful singing and thoughtful reflections as part of their class liturgy.

This half term is always a busy one, and we look forward to sharing many more memorable moments with you as the term progresses. As always, please don't hesitate to get in touch – we're here to work in partnership with you.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend

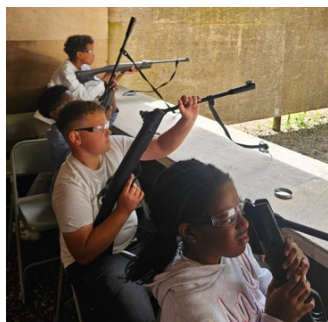
Mrs T Lawlor



Yr3 Visit to Morden Hall

On Thursday, Year 3 braved the elements and went to Morden Hall Park to begin our new science topic of 'plants'. We spent our time outside exploring the different flowers, plants and trees and trying to find out what they were called. We looked at different environments to see the types of flowers that are grown in different places. We were very excited to spot a grasshopper or two! Towards the end, we also looked at how seeds were dispersed leading to more plants growing. The children had a great day out!





Yr6 Residential

Over the Bank Holiday weekend, Year 6 enjoyed an unforgettable residential trip to Marchants Hill in Hindhead. The children threw themselves into a wide range of exciting outdoor activities, including the Giant Swing, Abseiling, Paddle Boarding, and Archery. They showed incredible resilience, teamwork, and determination, learning so much about themselves in the process. The four days flew by, and the children returned home with wonderful memories that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to the staff who gave up their long weekend to make this trip possible - Miss Dench, Mrs Gant, Miss McNicholas, Mrs Mitchener, and Mrs Mooney.



Gaelic Football Winners!



St Chad's Triumph at Catholic Gaelic Football Festival

We are delighted to share that St Chad's recently took part in the Catholic Gaelic Football Festival and emerged as the overall winners of the competition! The team got off to a solid start with a draw in their first match, and then went from strength to strength, winning the remaining five matches with impressive skill, focus, and teamwork. The children represented our school with determination, resilience, and great sportsmanship throughout the day. We are so proud of each and every one of them. Well done, St Chad's!



Maths Quiz

Yesterday, eight Year 6 children took part in the Maths Quiz at St Thomas Becket School. Competing in teams, they went head-to-head on the buzzer against the clock, tackling incredibly challenging questions. Both teams performed really well, showing impressive mathematical thinking under pressure. We are very proud of their knowledge and teamwork.



PTFA BBQ



A huge thank you to all the PTFA community members and parents who helped make the end-of-half-term BBQ such a wonderful success. There was a fantastic atmosphere of community spirit, fun, and togetherness. The food was absolutely delicious and went down a treat with everyone! We're so grateful for all the time, effort, and care that went into making the afternoon so enjoyable for all.



Corpus Christi Liturgy

On Wednesday, St Carlos Acutis class led a reverent and thoughtful liturgy on the feast of Corpus Christi. Through heartfelt prayers, reflective readings, dramatic acting, and beautifully sung hymns, the children helped the whole school understand the importance and meaning of Corpus Christi. Their respectful and engaging presentation offered a powerful reminder of the significance of the Eucharist, and the children of St Chad's came away with a deeper appreciation of this special feast.



Yr3 Roman Life Workshop

On Monday, Year 3 consolidated and furthered their knowledge of the Romans taking part in a full day of activities. We started our morning looking at the armour Roman soldiers would have worn and were able to try this on. The children were surprised at how uncomfortable the body armour was and couldn't quite imagine having to wear it all day! We also learnt about, and took part in a range of activities that would have been completed on a typical day such as; weaving, creating mosaics, polishing the armour, building bridges and many other things. We tried some of the food they would have eaten at that time, even though some wasn't quite to our liking! Our day ended with the children learning about the formations used in battle. It was a fun and exciting day for us all!



Attendance

19/06/2025 - 23/06/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	98.5	0
St Peter Rec	94.6	0.4
St Ann Rec	98.6	1.8
St Elizabeth Y1	100	1.1
St Luke	98.7	2.2
St Martha Y2	95	0.4
St John Bosco	92.6	1.7
St Carlos	99.6	0
St Martin	98.2	1.1
St Catherine	98.2	2.1
St Andrew Y5	98.2	0.9
St James Y5	100	0
St Therese Y6	98.5	0.5
St Brigid Y6	98	1
Totals	97.6	1

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 2 classes with 100%-
St Elizabeth and St James**

Fantastic a attendance last week with
97.6% across the school!



St Elizabeth	Lorenzo, David
St Luke	Sophia, Denzel
St Martha	Harlem, Leah Rose
St Carlos	Aleksis, Onyx
St John Bosco	Leonard, Micah
St Catherine	Brielle, Rodrigo
St Martin	Emmanuel, Iris
St James	Serena, Jayden
St Andrew	Ebere, Gabriella
St Therese	Nicolle, Malachi
St Brigid	Filip, Chanelle

Gospel Value



St Elizabeth	Tiffany, Anjali-Rose
St Luke	Gianangelo, Nicole, Caevan
St Martha	Ebun, Adhija, Jacinta
St Carlos	Leonor, Shalom A, Johanan
St John Bosco	Aaron, Rosie, Jazelle
St Catherine	Kyle, Emmanuel, Anaiyah
St Martin	Leilah, Mena, Ebose
St James	Abel S, Jesse, Joshua
St Andrew	Ksawery, Jonathan
St Therese	Latifah, Jessica
St Brigid	Ruby, Sharon, Noah

Are you a parent or carer? Do you want to know more about County Lines and Criminal Exploitation? If so, this webinar is for you.

Who are Catch22

Catch22 is a national organisation with over 10 years of experience delivering specialist support for young people affected by county lines, child criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation. We currently deliver the National County Lines Support and Rescue service- providing 1-2-1 support and a rescue service for young people and their families who are criminally exploited through county lines.

Session overview

This session is aimed at parent/carers (including foster carers/grandparents) to gain a understanding on the important issues surrounding county lines, as well as the impact that it can have on young people and their families, and the support that is available to young people who are impacted/suffering from County Lines and Criminal Exploitation.

Topics will include:

- County Lines, child criminal exploitation (CCE) and financial exploitation,
- Stages of recruitment,
- Push and pull factors,
- The National Referral Mechanism,
- The Psychological impact
- Social media, Debt bondage, plus more

Dates

- Thursday 12th June 2025 (18.30pm) | [Book a place](#)
- Monday 16th June 2025 (12pm) | [Book a place](#)
- Monday 16th June 2025 (18.30pm) | [Book a place](#)
- Tuesday 17th June 2025 (12pm) | [Book a place](#)

ONLINE PARENT/CARER WEBINARS

Jointly run by Off The Record and Croydon Drop In

Join us online for the following free workshops. Sign up via Eventbrite by scanning the QR code below. Cameras and microphones can be turned off.



Supporting your Child with School Transitions

Wed 4th June 7pm

Supporting your Child who Struggles to get to School

Wed 11th June 7pm

Helping your Child with Anxiety and Worries

Wed 18th June 7pm

Helping your Child's Behaviour (Primary age)

Wed 25th June 7pm

Introduction to Neurodiversity

Wed 2nd July 7pm

Supporting your Young Person's Low-mood

Wed 9th July 7pm



TALK TO US



Are you OK Croydon?



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about

EMOJIS

Emojis are more than playful expressions — they form a fast-evolving digital language that many adults struggle to decode. For young people, this 'secret code' is central to how they communicate identity, humour and emotions. With over 5 billion emojis sent daily on Facebook Messenger alone, understanding these symbols is key to engaging meaningfully with digital youth.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

GENERATIONAL MISCOMMUNICATION

An emoji like 🍑 (thumbs up emoji) might seem friendly to adults, but teens often interpret it as sarcastic or passive-aggressive. These differing interpretations can create confusion or unintended tension in cross-generational conversations.

SHIELDING BULLYING OR PEER PRESSURE

When embedded in emojis, mean-spirited jokes or exclusionary language can fly under the radar. Terms like 'lol' or 'stfu' may seem harmless, but they can be used to undermine peers in subtle ways.

RAPIDLY SHIFTING MEANINGS

Emoji meanings can change overnight. A person standing emoji (🧑) once signified awkwardness but might now be repurposed for something entirely different. This ever-changing lexicon can leave adults in the dark and young people vulnerable to misunderstanding or misuse.

MASKING DISTRESS OR HARM

Some emojis are used to discreetly signal troubling behaviours. For instance, 🍂 (falling leaves emoji) or 🍷 (wine emoji) might suggest drug use, while 🌸 (flower emoji) could hint at emotional struggles. Such usage can obscure serious issues, making them harder for trusted adults to detect.

NORMALISING RISKY BEHAVIOURS

Emojis can make harmful actions seem light-hearted or fashionable. Stings like 🍷🍷🍷 (wine emoji) or 🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷🍷 (party emoji) may appear humorous but can reference partying, intoxication or dangerous challenges, which might otherwise raise red flags.

Advice for Parents & Educators

LEARN THE LINGO

Stay updated with emoji trends and definitions using resources like emoji.pedia.org or Urban Dictionary. Knowing current meanings builds confidence when engaging with young people and helps spot potential concerns early.



CREATE SAFE SPACES FOR DISCUSSION

Encourage casual chats about emojis, online slang, memes, or social media trends. Showing interest without judgement reassures young people that they can talk about their digital world openly and safely.



ASK, DON'T ASSUME

Approach unfamiliar emojis with curiosity rather than suspicion. A light-hearted 'what does it mean?' (👉👉👉) can open conversation and show that you respect their knowledge.



PRIORITISE TRUST OVER SURVEILLANCE

While parental controls and monitoring tools can be useful, emotional safety matters most. Be someone children and young people feel they can come to — not just someone who's watching them.



EMOJI CHEAT SHEET - The following slang terms and emojis are some common examples - please be aware this isn't an exhaustive list.

COMMON EMOJIS:

- 👤 (Crown face) Foolishness or clowning around
- 👤 (Cold face) Cool, stylish or ruthless
- 👤 (Hot face) Intense attraction or excitement
- 👤 (Mac) Stone-faced, unbothered
- 👤 (Green) Slaying, as in doing great
- 👤 (Heading face) Over-affectionate or 'slimping'
- 👤 (Eyes) Watching drama unfold
- 👤 (Oooh) Greatest of all time (G.O.A.T.)
- 👤 (Nah) Confidence, sassiness, or indifference
- 👤 (Islington flag) Red flag: a warning sign about someone's behaviour

POTENTIALLY CONCERNING EMOJIS

- 👤 (Eye of corn) Slang for pornography (avoids censorship algorithms)
- 👤 (Snowflake, snowman, snow cloud) Can symbolise cocaine
- 👤 (Key, lying face) Related to cocaine use
- 👤 (Falling leaves, herb, maple leaf) Can symbolise cannabis
- 👤 (Pill) May reference drug use or prescription misuse
- 👤 (Wilted flower) Often used to convey emotional struggle or sadness
- 👤 (Snake) Can represent betrayal or being 'two-faced'
- 👤 (Water pistol) Sometimes used to reference violence or self-harm
- 👤 (Warning) Used to emphasise drama, threats or emotional turmoil
- 👤 (Steaming bowl) Refers to nudes ('noods' is an abbreviation of 'noodles')