



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

12th September 2025

Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Another busy and productive week at St Chad's!

It was wonderful to meet so many parents at our *Meet the Teacher* events and our first *Coffee Morning*. There were lots of thoughtful questions and suggestions, and we're excited to continue building strong partnerships with our families as we progress through the academic year.

A heartfelt thank you to Fr Ambrose for celebrating Mass with us this week. It was a beautiful way to begin our new school year, seeking Jesus' guidance as we embark on new journeys together.

Thank you all for your continued support. As always, we are here to work in partnership with you.

Wishing you a restful and happy weekend!

Beginning-of-Term Reminders & New Systems

Late Pick-Up Procedure

While we understand that things can happen from time to time, which causes parents to be delayed. We are currently experiencing a significant number of late collections. To manage this more effectively, we will be implementing a new system:

- From **3:15pm onwards**, any child not collected will be placed into the Afterschool Club.
- A **£12.50 charge** will be applied to cover the cost of supervision.

We kindly ask all parents to make arrangements to collect children on time where possible.

Morning Drop-Off Routine

This past week has been a settling-in period for everyone. Starting **Monday**, we will be returning to our usual drop-off routine:

- **Reception and Nursery parents** may continue to walk their children down the path.
- **Years 1 to 6** children are expected to walk into class **independently** each morning.

This change is to help reduce congestion and ensure a smooth and prompt start to the school day. Thank you for your cooperation and support—it is very much appreciated.

Here is to a positive and productive start to the new term and school year.



In Christ, Mrs T Lawlor

Beginning of Year School Mass

We were delighted to welcome **Fr. Ambrose** to school on Wednesday to lead our **Beginning of Year Mass**. During the celebration, Fr. Ambrose blessed our class candles, which we bring forward each Monday during Gospel assembly, as a reminder that we always walk in God's light.

It was a truly special celebration – thank you, Fr. Ambrose.



School Fund Donation

We would like to invite all families to make a voluntary contribution to our School Fund. We suggest an amount of £20 per family, though of course, any amount would be greatly appreciated. You can make any payments via your ParentPay account.

These funds will support the replacement of our outdated whiteboards with interactive whiteboards, ensuring our children have access to the latest technology to enrich their learning experience. By investing in these vital resources, we can create more engaging, interactive lessons and give every pupil the best possible opportunity to succeed.

Your donations will make a real and immediate difference in our classrooms. We thank you, as always, for your support.

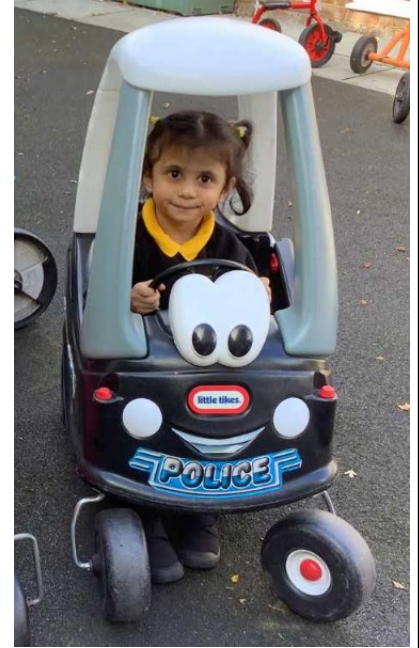
Attendance



Welcome back to St Chad's for the new school year! We are proud of our consistently high attendance and want to maintain these standards. Regular attendance is essential for your child's learning, progress, and overall attainment. Please ensure your child arrives at school on time each day and avoid taking term-time holidays. If your child is absent, we ask that you phone the school on the first day to inform us of the reason. Thank you for helping us support your child's education and achievement.

Nursery News

Some of our children have returned to nursery and are being wonderful role models, helping to settle all the new starters. They are learning how to build new relationships by using their words to talk to one another and by listening carefully too. Another important skill we are practising is sharing, so that everyone can play happily and work together. We are so proud of how brilliantly Nursery are showing good teamwork!



Coffee Morning

Thank you so much to all who attended our coffee morning on Thursday; we were delighted so many of you were able to stop by.

We shared many interesting conversations and questions about school and the PTFA. In addition to this, Stephanie our wraparound care manager was on hand to speak about Hope's Haven (the new St Chad's breakfast and afterschool club). Thank you again for taking time out of your day - your support very much appreciated!



Secondary School Transfer Meeting

Year 6 Parents' Meetings – Thursday 18th September

We invite all Year 6 parents to attend two important meetings on **Thursday 18th September**, starting at **5:30pm**.

- The first meeting will provide information about the **secondary school transfer process**, including guidance on completing the online form and details of upcoming open mornings and evenings.
- This will be followed immediately by a meeting about the **Year 6 residential school journey** taking place in **May 2026**.

Both meetings will run back-to-back and should take approximately one hour in total. Please note that this is a **parents-only meeting**, to ensure key information can be shared and heard clearly. The PowerPoints used during the evening will be available on the school website the following day.



THANKYOU!



A huge **thank you** to our wonderful PTFA for presenting the school with a generous cheque for **£2,000!** We are so grateful for all the hard work, dedication, and support they give throughout the year. The money will go directly towards supporting and enriching the children's provision, helping to create even more exciting opportunities and experiences for our pupils.

Compassion & Stewardship

This afternoon, Mrs. Mitchener led a beautiful liturgy supporting the children in living out their mission. The focus was linked to **Catholic Social Teaching on Stewardship**, with an emphasis on the **Gospel Value of Gentleness**. Children from **Year 1 to Year 6** took part in the celebration.



Today KS1 and KS2 watched the CAFOD National Assembly focusing on the *Season of Creation*. The assembly invited us to reflect on the beauty of God's world and our responsibility to care for it. Through prayer, stories, and inspiring messages, the children were encouraged to think about how they can become good stewards of creation, living out their mission to protect our common home. If you would like to watch it as a family, it can be found through the following link. Right click and then click on open hyperlink

[Primary: Season of Creation national assembly | CAFOD](#)

Priest Reference - Secondary Transfer

Fr Ambrose will be signing secondary school forms, in the Church Hall on:

Monday 8th September 6pm-8pm

Monday 22nd September 6pm-8pm

Monday 13th October 6pm-8pm



CONGRATULATIONS!

Headteacher's Award



St Luke	Liam, Amanda
St Elizabeth	Ethan, Malaika
St Martha	Ararat, Anjali-Rose
St John Paul II	Frank, Natalia
St John Bosco	Fabiola, Kymani
St Martin	Antonelle, Louis
St Catherine	Monae, Johanan
St James	Maria, Leilah
St Andrew	Rose, Joshua L, Emmanuel
St Brigid	Joseph, Liesel
St Therese	Inam, Tony

Gospel Value



St Luke	Olivia, Ryan, Aaliyah
St Elizabeth	Theo, Kamsi, Desire
St Martha	Olamaria, Machau
St John Paul II	Caevan, Nicole, Abigail
St John Bosco	Junior, Micah, Ebum
St Martin	Favour, Monisade, Joaquim
St Catherine	Zofia, Aleksis, Arabella
St James	Carter J, Jermaine, Georgia
St Andrew	Heather, Osi, Carla
St Brigid	Jayden, Abel, Karis
St Therese	Ebere, Melvin, Michaela

Next two weeks at St Chad's

Monday 15th September	
Tuesday 16th September	Lara Kenneavy— Reading For Pleasure Parent Workshop EYFS/KS1
Wednesday 17th September	
Thursday 18th September	Reception Phonics/Reading Parents Meeting 4:30pm Yr6 Parents -Secondary Transfer & PGL meeting 5:30pm
Friday 19th September	Yr2 Horniman Museum Trip
Monday 22nd September	
Tuesday 23rd September	
Wednesday 24th September	Mass at the Cathedral— A group of Yr6 children.
Thursday 25th September	
Friday 26th september	

St Chad's Wrap Around Provision



Hope's Haven
St Chad's Catholic Primary School
Breakfast & After-School Club

Breakfast Club
Open from 7:30am - £6 per session

After-School Club
Open Until 6:00pm - £12.50 per session

**Discount for Full Wraparound Care
(Breakfast & After-School)**
£16 per day

10% Discounts for Siblings

Club Manager
Stephanie Odewale

Starting
2nd September 2025

To make a booking for your child
please email Mrs Odewale at
wac@stchadsprimaryschool.com

Our **Wraparound Care** offers a safe, welcoming space where children can thrive before and after school. With high-quality, caring staff, delicious fresh food, and a wide range of stimulating activities, we make sure every child is happy, well looked after, and engaged. Safeguarding is at the heart of everything we do, giving parents complete peace of mind. Whether it's enjoying a healthy snack, getting creative, or having fun with friends, your child will love their time with

us.



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about CONSPIRACY THEORIES

Conspiracy theories are false or misleading beliefs that explain events as secret plots, often involving powerful groups. While once fringe, they are now more accessible through digital media, online influencers and because of algorithmic recommendations. The UK guidance document, *Keeping Children Safe in Education* (KCSIE) explicitly recognises conspiracy theories as potential content risks. This guide will help parents and educators understand the risks, spot the signs, and build children's resilience to conspiracy theories.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

UNDERMINING TRUST

Conspiracy theories can lead children and young people to distrust democratic institutions and their roles, teachers, and even their own families and loved ones. This erosion of trust makes young people more susceptible to extremist narratives by looking for more reliable sources of information.

ONLINE ALGORITHM TRAPS

Social media algorithms can affect recommendation services and content. Once a child engages with one conspiracy-themed video or post, algorithms push more of the same, thereby creating an echo chamber that can intensify their beliefs.

MENTAL HEALTH IMPACT

Exposure to high-level conspiracy content, such as global elites, viruses, or government control, can fuel feelings of concern, paranoia, or hopelessness. For some young people, it can trigger prolonged distress or obsessive thinking.

GATEWAY TO EXTREMISM

Conspiracy theories can often overlap with extremist ideologies, themselves, and other specific groups, such as politicians, scientists, or justice for white groups. Conspiracy theories in ways that foster hate, bigotry, and racialisation.

CONFLICT WITH PEERS

Belief in conspiracy theories can create isolation or conflict at school. Children may struggle with peer relationships if they express these beliefs or become alienated if others who disagree, wonder, or question can even result in a strengthening of their belief in the conspiracy theory.

ERODED CRITICAL THINKING

Young people influenced by conspiracy may reject evidence-based learning. This risks undermining their academic progress and weakening their skills to think critically, assess risks, or engage in healthy debate.

Advice for Parents & Educators

I WANT TO BELIEVE

CREATE SAFE CONVERSATIONS

Don't mock or dismiss any questions that children or young people ask about conspiracy theories, politics, crime, space, judgement-free spaces to talk. This strength-based trust and values focus builds their self-confidence in you.

PROMOTE CRITICAL THINKING

Teach young people how to assess information critically. Encourage them to ask themselves questions, such as: 'Who is trying to tell me this? What evidence is there? What do other trusted sources say? Are real examples from current events to explain your concerns and reasoning.'

MONITOR DIGITAL BEHAVIOUR

In spaces of the internet children are accessing, especially on platforms such as TikTok, YouTube, or Twitch, use parental controls, but more importantly, maintain ongoing dialogue about online experiences and behaviours.

REINFORCE RELIABLE SOURCES

Point children toward trustworthy and reliable sources of news and information from early on to make clear to the young person's age good habits of verifying facts using reliable sources, and teach them how to spot misleading content.

Meet Our Expert

Director of Digital Literacy and e-Safety at the National College, with over a decade of experience in education, as Director of Digital Strategy across multiple schools based on evidence to the national college, he specialises in digital safety, privacy, and parental voice.

