



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

3rd October 2025

Dear Parents,

This week, we began reflecting on the themes of Harvest and sharing.

Sunday's Gospel reading invited us to consider the importance of sharing what we have with others. St Brigid Class beautifully led us in a liturgy this morning, helping us to give thanks for the Harvest and encouraging us to think about those in need around the world.

Looking ahead, on **16th October**, we will be supporting **CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal**, which this year focuses on the vital issue of **access to clean water**.

This week also marked the **Feast Day of St Thérèse**, and we were honoured to host a special Mass at **St Chad's Parish** for all staff from our Croydon Catholic schools. It was a joyful celebration of our school communities and the dedication that makes them such nurturing environments for children to grow — both academically and spiritually.

Wishing you all a restful and refreshing weekend.

In Christ, Mrs T Lawlor

Open Morning 14th October

We warmly invite prospective parents of children due to start **Reception in September 2026** to join us for our **Open Morning on Tuesday at 9:30am**.

Come and see St Chad's in action — meet our dedicated staff, explore our vibrant classrooms, and discover how we nurture a love of learning right from the very start of your child's journey. We look forward to welcoming you and sharing what makes St Chad's such a special place to learn and grow.



Grow
in Love,
Live in
Peace

Next Events

14 October

09:30

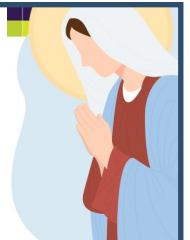
Open Morning to View School

Reception Places
Still Available for
2025/2026
Admissions - Apply
Now!



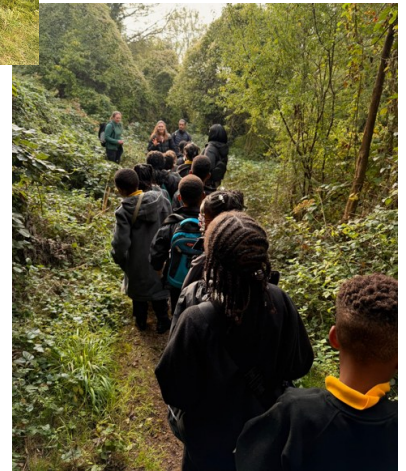
The Month of October

Pray the Rosary



Nature Calling

On Thursday, Year 3 took part in *The Nature Calling Movement Day* at Hutchinson's Bank in New Addington – a nationwide arts project helping young people connect with nature through creativity and movement. The children enjoyed an artist-led walk and an interactive game trail, exploring and observing the natural environment. Back at school, dance artists Tilly and Aaron worked with them to create nature-inspired routines, which they later performed confidently to the whole school. It was a joyful celebration of nature, creativity, and teamwork. A big thank you to The Nature Calling team and our staff for making it such a memorable day!



Black History Month

We began Black History Month by joining a national assembly. The children were reminded of the significant contributions people of colour have made around the world and the importance of standing up against racism in all its forms. Throughout the month, we will continue to celebrate and showcase the achievements of Black people, both past and present.





Harvest Liturgy

This week, St Brigid's Class led our Harvest Liturgy, reminding us that we are all labourers in God's harvest. The liturgy focused on CAFOD's appeal to provide clean water for all, with thoughtful prayers and reflections. The children sang beautifully – with a special mention for their joyful rendition of the *Harvest Samba*.



World Poetry Day

This week, KS2 pupils took part in a special *live lesson* from the National Literacy Trust, exploring the theme of **Remembrance**. Through poetry, the children reflected on the importance of remembering those affected by war and conflict. The session helped pupils develop empathy and understanding, while also inspiring thoughtful writing and conversation back in the classroom. It was a meaningful and memorable learning experience for all involved.



Animal Kind

Year 1& 3 were delighted to welcome a special visitor from *Animal Aid* this week! The children learnt all about how to be 'animal kind' and took part in a range of fun and thoughtful activities. The session encouraged us to think about the small, everyday choices we can make to help keep animals safe — from being kind to wildlife in our gardens to making more caring choices about the products we use.



Yr6 Trip to Dulwich College



Year 6 have been studying Ernest Shackleton and the Endurance expedition to Antarctica. As part of their learning, they visited Dulwich College, where the original lifeboat that rescued the stranded explorers is kept. It was a fascinating trip, and the children were enthusiastic, knowledgeable, and exceptionally well-behaved throughout.



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.

We have had a very poor response to this request, if you are able please do make a donation, so that we can improve the provision for all the children.

Priest Reference Secondary Transfer



Fr Ambrose will be signing secondary school forms, in the Church Hall on:
Monday 13th October 6pm-8pm



CONGRATULATIONS!

Headteacher's Award



St Luke	Taleia, Shammah
St Elizabeth	Nora, Kamsi
St Martha	Naeto, Jeremiah
St John Paul II	Mya, Shana
St John Bosco	Lloyd, Ithiel
St Martin	Julia, Mayank
St Catherine	Hannah, Ife
St James	Jermaine, Manny
St Andrew	Siena, Noah O
St Brigid	Ameerah, Karis
St Therese	Erica, Jemiah

Gospel Value



St Luke	Amanda, Olivia, Uatiza
St Elizabeth	Raie, Malaika, Isata
St Martha	Esme, Anyli-Rose, Krystelle
St John Paul II	Nevaeh, Nathan, Melody
St John Bosco	Isaac, Isaiah, Christly
St Martin	Antonelle, Jazelle, Emmanuel K
St Catherine	Keziah, Micaiah, Ayomide
St James	Lashonda, Anaiyah, Emmanuel M
St Andrew	Kyle, Bella, Christian
St Brigid	Marlon, Shalom, Joseph
St Therese	Abel, Michael, Elvis

Next two weeks at St Chad's

Monday 6th October	
Tuesday 7th October	
Wednesday 8th October	KS2 Guest speaker -Parliament Assembly Geo Bus Yr6 London Fire Brigade—Yr2&5
Thursday 9th October	
Friday 10th October	World Mental Health Day
Monday 13th October	
Tuesday 14th October	Open Morning @9:30 am FA Cup Visiting
Wednesday 15th October	
Thursday 16th October	8:30 Coffee Morning—Early Language CAFOD Appeal Day—All children to wear blue
Friday 17th October	Yr5 Carbon Monoxide Workshop Stone Age Day Yr3

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.



Attendance

22/09/2025 - 26/09/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	99.4	1.2
St Peter Rec	87.2	0
St Ann Rec	97.6	0
St Elizabeth	97.4	2.2
St Luke	90.9	0.9
St John Paul	94.8	1.3
St Martha	93.8	1.4
St John Bosco	100	3.2
St Martin	96	1.2
St Catherine	100	0
St Andrew Y5	100	0.4
St James Y5	99.3	1.9
St Therese Y6	96.8	0.5
St Brigid Y6	95.9	0.5
Totals	96.5	1.1

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 St Ann's in the infants and St Catherine, St John Bosco and St Andrew's in the Juniors



Croydon Harvest featuring The Walnut Fair

Celebrate the autumn at Croydon's fun, free celebration of global folk stories, dancing, crafts, and performance!

Date: Sat 4 & Sun 5 October 2025, 12pm - 5pm, Croydon town centre

Croydon Harvest is back for an autumn extravaganza where giants roam and hope blooms!

Inspired by the history of Croydon's Walnut Fair (1314 – 1868) this centuries-old tradition comes back to life with plenty of surprises and spectacles. [Join us for a free family-friendly weekend like no other.](#)

- Folk dancing from around the world – see performances and join free workshops from Morris to Bhangra
- Street performances; theatre shows; face painting; fortune telling; and the return of the Magic Shed
- Harvest stories (for adults and children) from Africa, Asia, Mexico and even the rather off-putting tale of John Barleycorn...
- Vauxhall City Farm in The Queen's Gardens
- Street food; a craft and community market and seasonal cocktails at our Harvest Bar
- Autumnal crafts – create a Ukrainian wheat crown (vinok); rosettes; miniature baskets and much more
- Join the Jonkonnu Queen, the Walk of the Dandelion, and The Orbitza Parade

[Plus hear a talk on The Walnut Fair on Thurs 2 Oct, 6.30pm – 7.30pm at Croydon Clocktower.](#)

Pull on your cosiest jumper and step into the best of harvest!

Find out more at www.culturecroydon.com

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about EA SPORTS FC 26

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
3

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Our guide looks at the risks surrounding EA Sports FC 26 and our top tips to minimise them. This marks the third year since EA left the FIFA licence, and the game is mostly unchanged from last year. While Kick-Off mode is great for playing with friends and Career Mode allows players to fulfill long-term ambitions as a manager or player, Ultimate Team remains the main draw for many players – and it can get out of hand in terms of how much money players can invest.

AN ANNUAL RELEASE SCHEDULE

As was the case with the last two EA Sports FC games and the FIFA series before it, the franchise rolls out once a year with updated squads and new features. This can make it expensive to keep up with, particularly when so many dedicated players are keen to get their hands on the latest edition.

VOICE CHAT

Voice chat can be enabled across all platforms, meaning young people can speak to anyone they play with or against. While it can be switched off, some children will no doubt want to speak to their friends while they play. This also means they may encounter strangers much older than them, which can expose them to inappropriate language or behaviours.

IN-GAME PURCHASES THROUGH ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is the big draw for EA Sports FC, letting players spend real money on packs that they can open to build a squad of the world's best players. They're not always easy to obtain, and new, improved versions of players will be regularly added as limited-time offerings. Young people could feel pressured into spending money and experience fear of missing out.

SCAMMERS IN ULTIMATE TEAM

Ultimate Team is managed by EA itself, but that hasn't stopped scammers from looking to dupe players out of money and in-game coins. Some scammers sell their accounts, which is a violation of EA's terms of service, while others will 'sell' coins – something the developer is still working to crack down on. Some try to gain access to others' accounts, potentially giving them access to payment information.

POTENTIAL FOR ADDICTION

While EA Sports FC is potentially addictive, thanks to its fast-paced gameplay and mirroring of the real-world skill and glamour of football, Ultimate Team's focus on limited-time rewards and the lottery of winning packs can make it feel closer to gambling than gaming, which may lead to addiction and impulsive spending of money.

Advice for Parents & Educators

PREPARE FOR ANOTHER GAME IN A YEAR

The annual-release cadence aligns with the return of the school year, and can be a great way to incentivise good behaviour at the start of term, if children are applying themselves and preparing for a new year of school, or were particularly well behaved in the summer. EA Sports FC 26 could make a great reward.

LIMIT SPENDING

If you're worried about children accidentally spending real money in Ultimate Team, whether in game or on the EA Sports FC companion app, don't link a payment card to their account. Reclaiming funds can be a mountain to climb, and the dopamine hit of opening flashy packs with stick animations means one purchase can lead to another very quickly. It's also worth adding a prepaid card if you'd prefer them to make their own choices with their budget.

MONITOR VOICE CHAT

As in-game chat is open, be sure to adjust the settings in EA Sports FC 26 to lock it down. If children want to chat with their friends while they play, consider setting up a safe space for them to call, to allow them to play without fear of outsiders.

BE VIGILANT

As with last year, there are ways to keep scammers at bay. Ensure passwords are locked down, and consider using a password manager application to keep them secure. EA will never contact players through the game itself, so be vigilant with incoming messages, and block and report suspected spam. EA will contact players by email if needed, but they will never ask for usernames or passwords. Players should also avoid buying in-game currency from unofficial websites – doing so can lead to accounts being banned and could cost players money in the process.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is an experienced freelance writer and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for seven years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and therefore understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published at sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



#WakeUpWednesday

The National College