



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

24th October 2025

Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents,

Half term is finally here!

The last eight weeks have certainly been action-packed, and we have so much to be thankful for. I think we are all ready for a well-deserved break!

We ended the half term on a high note with a fantastic visit from the *Premier League Primary Stars* team. The trophy was on display for everyone to see, and we were then treated to an incredible performance by MC Grammar, who brought the school alive with his rapping and enthusiasm.

The star of the show was our very own Michaela – Year 6 and Head Girl. Michaela won the national *Premier League* competition, which was judged by a panel that included several celebrities! Her poem, celebrating greatness, difference, and diversity, was truly inspirational. She is a wonderful role model for us all, and I wish to congratulate her on this outstanding achievement.

Wishing you all a restful half-term break, and I look forward to welcoming you back on **Monday 3rd November**.

With every best wish

Tamsyn Lawlor

Headteacher

Open Morning 4th November

We warmly invite prospective parents of children due to start **Reception in September 2026** to join us for our **Open Morning on 4th November at 9:30**.

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

04 November

09:30

Open Morning to View School

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

Marvellous Michaela A National Winner



Congratulations to Michaela in Year 6, who has won a national Premier League poetry competition on the theme of *Diversity*! Out of thousands of entries, the judges agreed that Michaela's poem stood out as the best. Michaela shared that she drew her inspiration from her family, school, and her faith in God. Her poem beautifully reflects the values we uphold at St Chad's, celebrating diversity and unity through the teachings of Christ.

As a result of her incredible achievement, the whole school enjoyed a very special assembly led by the Premier League, which even included the actual Premier League trophy! The assembly was hosted by Jez Weeks, who specialises in grassroots and community football, and featured MC Grammar, a multi-award-winning rapper who had the children rapping along to a well-known book and expressing pure joy through dance.

A huge thank you to Jade and the team at the Premier League for making this unforgettable day possible — and once again, congratulations to Michaela for inspiring us all with her talents and faith.



Yr6 Carbon Monoxide Workshop

On Tuesday Year 6 took part in an engaging Carbon Monoxide Awareness session, which combined acting, drama, and group work to help them learn about the dangers of carbon monoxide and how to stay safe. The session was led by Annalee, who was absolutely superb — both knowledgeable and entertaining. Her creative approach made the learning experience memorable and enjoyable for everyone. A big thank you to Annalee for delivering such an informative and fun session!



Chess

Surendra visited on Wednesday lunchtime to run a taster chess club. The Year 6 children really enjoyed the opportunity to test their skills and strategies. A big thank you to Surendra for giving up his time and inspiring our budding chess players! Please see the flyer at the bottom of the newsletter for more information about taster sessions with South Norwood Chess Club.



Nursery News



We have been fundraising for the guide dog association by guessing the name of a cuddly toy dog and whoever guesses the correct name will be able to take it home. On Wednesday we had a sponsored dog walk with our own puppies. They had to walk with us and stop when we did. We even tried walking a little way not using our sight. It wasn't easy but we didn't bump into anyone.

First Holy Communion 2026

Registration forms (printed on purple paper) are available at the back of the church in a white tray. Please take a form, read it carefully, and complete it if your child is in Year 3 or above at primary school and you wish them to receive Holy Communion in June 2026.

Completed forms should be returned to the Guild Room in person on either:

- **Saturday 22nd November** from 12 pm to 2 pm, or
- **Saturday 13th December** from 12 pm to 2 pm.

Forms received after 13th December will be deferred to the 2027 program. The First Holy Communion team looks forward to welcoming you all.



Yr4 Cricket

The children in Year 4 have had an exciting half term developing their cricket skills and gaining a greater understanding of the game. The children have been engaged and enthusiastic throughout this half term and we have seen some excellent batting and fielding skills. The children are keen to continue playing this sport throughout their PE lessons! As the coaching comes to an end, we were thrilled to hear that, this week, Coach Jon had nominated one of our children as the Player of the Week out of all the schools they coach with. Well done to Mayank, in St Martin Class, who demonstrated excellent power and control in his batting, worked exceptionally well within the team and supported his peers. We are very proud of your achievement!



Please Label All School Uniform

We are finding more and more uniform un-labelled; subsequently uniform is getting lost or going home with the wrong child and causing difficulty in reuniting those items to the correct child.

Please take time over the half term to check all your child's uniform is clearly labelled and re-write any unclear labels. It is very difficult for us to know whose coat, jumper, cardigan etc. belongs to whom when the writing is faint or there are only initials on it.

Labelling all school uniform items help staff return lost belongings quickly and prevent them from getting mixed up with other children's things.

This helps save money by avoiding the need to replace lost or misplaced items and reduces the amount of lost property that ends up in the lost property box.

Easy-to-apply iron-on or stick-on labels work well for clothing, while stickers can be used for shoes, bags, and water bottles etc.

Attendance

13/10/2025 - 17/10/2025		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	96.5	1
St Peter Rec	94.8	0.9
St Ann Rec	95	0
St Elizabeth	96.1	2.2
St Luke	95.7	0
St John Paul	97.7	1.8
St Martha	98	1.5
St John Bosco	99.3	1.4
St Martin	98.4	2.4
St Catherine	96.4	1.4
St Andrew Y5	98.3	1.7
St James Y5	96.3	3.3
St Therese Y6	96.8	0
St Brigid Y6	96.4	0
Totals	96.6	1.3

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 in the infants and St John Bosco in the Juniors.



Secondary School Deadline

Secondary School Applications – Important Reminder

The closing date for **secondary school applications** is **Thursday, 31st October**.

Please ensure that you have **completed the application process before this date**, including any **supplementary forms** required by individual schools.

This deadline is **very important**, as late applications will **not** be considered in the initial allocation round but will be allocated available places after all on-time preferences have been processed.

The Month of October Pray the Rosary



Our Lady of the Rosary, you care for each of us with tender motherly love. You wish us to truly turn to you so that you may care for us as a mother. Please bring all of our needs before the throne of your Divine Son, and we particularly ask today that you pray that we and all people may grow in true devotion to you!

AMEN.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Headteacher's Award



St Luke	Weslynn, Aaliyah
St Elizabeth	Yuthra, Desire
St Martha	Naella, Marcel
St John Paul II	Tony, Nathan
St John Bosco	Sky-Blue, Chizi
St Martin	Jayden, Rosie
St Catherine	Mathilda, Leonor
St James	Carter J, Lashonda
St Andrew	Kyle, Antonia
St Brigid	Abel, Joshua
St Therese	Gabriella, Anastasia

Gospel Value



St Luke	Kendrick, Shammah, Vatiza
St Elizabeth	Nora, Ethan, Iremide
St Martha	Rousset, Ararat, Shasanth
St John Paul II	Mya, Frank, Nyla
St John Bosco	Logan, Ryden, Micah
St Martin	Whyshoun, Jazelle, Leonard
St Catherine	Zofia, Choyce, Micaiah
St James	Maria, Anaiyah, Emmanuel
St Andrew	Elisha, Gilad, Charlotte
St Brigid	Joseph, Kamiyah, Ksawery
St Therese	Michael, Tony, Inam

Next two weeks at St Chad's

Monday 3rd November	
Tuesday 4th November	Open Morning for Perspective Parents 9:30
Wednesday 5th November	
Thursday 6th November	Judaism Visitor Yr6
Friday 7th November	Cross Country—John Fisher Deacon Flavin Yr6 - Vocations & Commitment
Monday 10th November	Anti Bullying Week
Tuesday 11th November	
Wednesday 12th November	
Thursday 13th November	World Kindness Day
Friday 14th November	

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 FORTNITE

AGE RESTRICTION
PEGI
12

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

With over 650 million registered users, Fortnite remains one of the most played and discussed online games globally. Known for its vibrant graphics, fast-paced gameplay, and cultural crossovers with everything from music artists to superhero franchises, the game continues to capture the attention of young people. This guide outlines the risks trusted adults need to know about, including game updates, and offers practical safety tips to help address them.

ALWAYS ONLINE

There's no single-player, offline mode in Fortnite; it can only be played online. Internet access can sometimes be an issue when you're out and about, both in terms of connectivity and using up data. You may find that dedicated, young Fortnite players are often less enthusiastic about family time or trips away – such as days out and holidays – than you might expect.

IN-GAME COSTS

Fortnite is free to download and play, but it does offer various additional purchases – limited-time cosmetic 'skins', music tracks, V-Bucks, and battle passes. Children can feel pressured to spend money on V-Bucks – the in-game currency – to avoid missing out, particularly on exclusive items that frequently come back. Some items may not return to the store for years, while Battle Pass rewards are often 'gone when they're gone'.

VIRTUAL VIOLENCE

There's no avoiding that Fortnite is about shooting other players to eliminate them from the contest. That said, there's no blood or gore. The violence is rendered in a cartoonish style, and there are frequent comical touches to lighten the mood, such as mini-games and emotes. Guns and other weapons often look and behave realistically, so discretion is advised. Past seasons have introduced characters and references from mature franchises like The Witcher and Halo.

CROSSPLAY AND PARTY CHAT

Fortnite is popular with many gamers of various ages. Crossplay allows friends to play with each other, regardless of whether they're on an Xbox, PlayStation, Nintendo Switch or PC, while the Party Chat feature allows them to talk to each other during the game. This can put youngsters at risk of exposure to strangers, inappropriate language, and cyberbullying.

FREQUENT UPDATES

Seasonal releases introduce new map changes, gameplay mechanics, and cosmetics. Ongoing updates can increase screen time and potential for distraction as children try to unlock rewards before the season ends. These regular releases help to hold players' interest, but also give young gamers plenty of reasons to keep coming back. Seasons often change thematically.

POP CULTURE REFERENCES

Part of Fortnite's appeal is its ongoing crossovers with other popular franchises, ranging from film and TV shows like Power Rangers and Avatar: The Last Airbender, to comic book characters including Batman. Other collaborations with games, artists, and influencers may expose children to music, language, or ideas that are more suitable for older audiences.

Advice for Parents & Educators

DISCUSS SAFE SOCIAL INTERACTION

Talk with children about who they're playing with online. Coordinate play time with the child's friends for socialisation and safety in numbers. Encourage them to avoid private voice chats with strangers and remind them not to share personal information. Use real-life examples to explain potential risks, and remind them that if they see something concerning, they should tell a trusted adult.

SET SPENDING LIMITS

Fortnite's rotating store is a not-to-suggest mechanism for cooking players into buying sought-after items before they disappear for weeks or months. This could lead to surprise transactions on bank cards if children are tempted into an impulse purchase. Parents could consider getting a prepaid card for the child or ensuring that purchases require adult authentication. This can be done through parental settings on a console or account settings in the Epic Games app on PC.

ENJOY FORTNITE TOGETHER

Fortnite also offers split-screen gameplay, meaning that two people can play simultaneously on the same console or computer. This can be a good option for siblings or for when a child's friends visit, but it also offers an opportunity for parents to do something fun with their child, while making sure they're playing the game safely. Who knows? You might even teach them a thing or two!

BE WARY OF SCAMS

The immense popularity of Fortnite with younger audiences – that are generally more trusting – means there's no shortage of scammers looking to fraudulently obtain passwords and other personal data through techniques like phishing. As the developers point out on many of Fortnite's loading screens, they never ask for a player's account password outside of the game. Make sure any young player knows this.

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 AOL, TechRadar, and plenty more.



**SOUTH NORWOOD CHESS CLUB
(SNCC)**



BEGINNERS CHESS SESSIONS

South Norwood Chess Club (SNCC) founded in 1881 are proud to offer **free** Chess sessions for beginners at:

WEST THORNTON COMMUNITY CENTRE
731-735 LONDON ROAD, THORNTON HEATH, CR7 6AU
BUSES: 60, 64, 109, 198, 250 AND 289

The **drop-in** sessions are for **SIX weeks** on

Thursdays from 5pm to 7pm

October 2nd to November 6th, 2025.

Under 18s are to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

So, there is no need to book. Just turn up.

E: southnorwoodchess@hotmail.co.uk

W: www.westthornton.org/south-norwood-chess-club/

For **updates** of our future sessions please send e-mail to: sncc1881@btinternet.com with subject title – "Chess Sessions Updates"



SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY CHESS SESSIONS SPONSORED BY
SOUTH NORWOOD CHESS CLUB (SNCC)



Chess Sessions held in memory of our late Club President Martin Cath (1938-2023)

ISSUED: 28 OCTOBER 2025

NIGHT OF LIGHT

CHRISTIAN, CHILDREN'S EVENT



FRIDAY 31st OCTOBER 2025, 5PM
ALL CHILDREN WELCOME

FANCY DRESS CODE: SAINTS (OR CARRY THEIR SAINT SYMBOL), ANGELS, BIBLICAL CHARACTERS OR WEAR WHITE (TO SHOW ALLEGIANCE TO CHRIST)

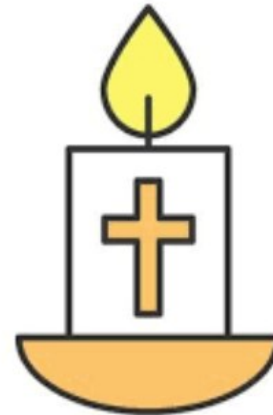
NO WITCHES, WIZARDS, DEVILS, GHOSTS OR OCCULT RELATED CLOTHES OR ACCESSORIES

On Friday 31st October (the Feast of Halloween - All Hallows Eve) safely place a light in your window as a sign to passers-by that yours is a Christian household and Christ is your light.

COME AND CELEBRATE THE GLORY OF GOD - A FUN EVENING FOR ALL AT THE CHURCH/HALL

For more information contact Fatima 07557400034

St Chad's Church



Tales From the Lighthouse

Families and children are invited on a voyage of music, puppetry and storytelling, as a mysterious stranger helps a lonely lighthouse keeper rediscover the magic, beauty and power of the sea that surrounds his home.

Date: Sunday 26 October
Time: 11am-12pm & 2pm-3pm
Venue: Stanley Hall
Cost: From £10
Ages: Ages 5+



Windrush Adventures

Celebrate Black History Month with Dawn as she travels from Jamaica to England on the Windrush Ship.

Date: Wednesday 29 October
Time: 11am-12pm & 2pm-3pm
Venue: Society Hall
Tickets: From £8
Ages: Recommended ages 3-7

[Book now](#)

Save 10%, use code
AHOYMATE