



St Chad's Catholic Primary School

6th March 2026

Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parents,

It was wonderful to see the sunshine this week — it has certainly been needed! The sunshine enhanced the children's enjoyment of St Chad's Feast Day, and the donkeys on the field provided a serene and calming activity for them.

We have received very positive feedback about the behaviour and attitude of our children from the Donkey Sanctuary worker, Kelly, and again today following the CAFOD assembly. The leaders commented on the children's excellent behaviour and their strong RE knowledge. Well done, St Chad's!

It was also wonderful to see so many people enjoying the Reading Café on Wednesday afternoon. It was a lovely activity, and I know the children really enjoy having their parents in school and engaging with their learning. Thank you to Mrs Gant and Mrs Chandler for working with Croydon Library to organise this event.

I hope you all enjoy a restful weekend, and we look forward to more warm weather ahead.

In Christ

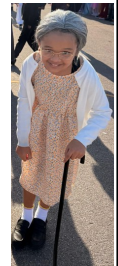
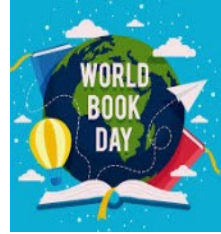
Mrs T Lawlor

On Monday, the children in St Catherine Class led the school in a thoughtful liturgy to mark the Feast Day of St Chad. Through their prayers, readings and reflections, they reminded us of the importance of our school saint and the values he shared through his life of faith, humility and service to others. It provided us all with a reflective start to the day, giving everyone the opportunity to pause and think about how we can live out St Chad's message in our own lives. The children encouraged us all to continue walking in his footsteps by showing kindness, helping others and living out our Gospel Values in the choices we make.

St Chad's Feast Day Liturgy

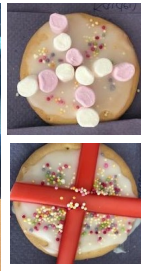


On Thursday we celebrated World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite book characters. The sun was shining brightly, which made everything feel even more special. We had a parade with the whole school, and it was amazing to see everyone walking together and showing off their costumes. There were so many different characters from books. It was exciting to see what everyone had decided to dress up as. Some people were brave heroes, some were magical creatures, and others were funny or mysterious characters. The colour's and creativity made the parade feel lively and fun. It was a great way to celebrate books, stories, and our love of reading together.



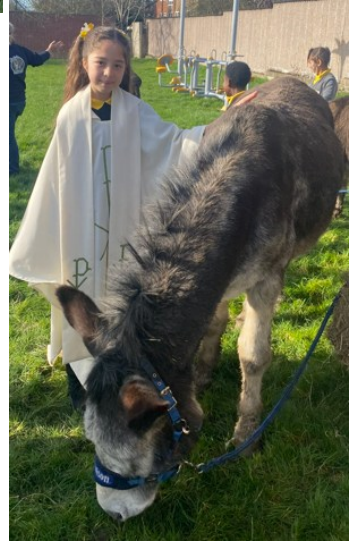
St Chad Feast Day Celebrations

A range of fun activities took place across the school on Monday to celebrate St Chad's Feast Day. Pupils enjoyed learning about St Chad while taking part in creative and engaging activities that helped bring the celebration to life.





Saint Chad's Feast Day Donkeys



Such a busy week in nursery! On Monday we enjoyed the donkeys visit, when we got to groom them. On Tuesday we had a jungle adventure where we heard and saw the animals as we made our way over the alligator infested water, through the squashy mud and tiptoed past the big cats to our camp in the rain forest. We made a camp fire and toasted marshmallows to eat. We loved dressing up as our favourite characters for world book day.

Nursery News



The Reading Cafe

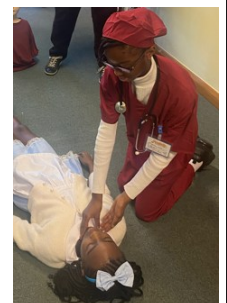
After school on Wednesday the 4th March the hall was filled with a warm and welcoming atmosphere as we hosted a special Reading Café for families. Parents and children from each year group were invited to spend time together sharing stories, exploring books, and enjoying the simple pleasure of reading side by side. It was wonderful to see families relaxing together, turning pages, and chatting about the stories they discovered. We were also delighted to welcome the outreach team from Croydon Libraries, who set up a stall to promote the local library services. They shared information about the many resources available at the library and helped families learn how easy it is to join. The children were excited to hear about the wide range of books and activities available to them through the library.



Yr6 First Aid



Year 6 received training from the British Red Cross and gained valuable knowledge about simple first aid in the event of an emergency. The session helped pupils understand how to respond calmly and safely if someone is injured or unwell. During the training, they learned how to place someone in the recovery position and what to do if a person is choking. They also explored how to treat common injuries such as burns and cuts, and how to deal with nosebleeds. The children found the session both engaging and informative, and it was great to see them building confidence in skills that could help keep themselves and others safe.



CAFOD CLUB

Cafod club and Gardening club worked together to make bird feeders to hang around our school grounds. Look out for them when you are walking through the school .



P.C Patel's Visit

In Reception we are learning about 'People Who Help Us'. Iyla-May's dad came in to visit us as he is a police officer. We learnt about the different ways police officers keep us safe. We learnt about stranger danger and what to do if we are lost. It was very exciting to see all the police uniform and PC Patel let us try some on! Thank you so much and I think we have some future police officers in the making. Miss Roberts and Miss Del Busto



THIRD SUNDAY
OF LENT



CAFOD Visit and Workshop

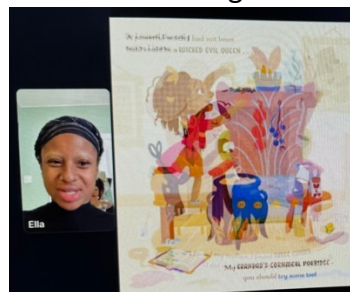
Today we were pleased to welcome Mary Carter from CAFOD, who led a special assembly for the children. She spoke about the important work CAFOD carries out around the world and how the money raised through fundraising helps support communities most in need. Mary shared examples of projects that provide families with clean water, education and sustainable ways of living. The children learned how their kindness and generosity can make a real difference to the lives of others.

This reflects the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, reminding us of our responsibility to care for our global family and work for the common good. The children are now looking forward to taking part in next week's Big Lent Walk, knowing that their efforts will help make the world a fairer place.



Yr2 Reading Workshop

This week, KS1 took part in the Scholastic Book Club reading workshops as part of their World book day activities. During the sessions, we explored four different books: Goldilocks by Ella McLeod and Rochelle Falconer, Ten Tiny Squirrels by Kael Tudor and The Flower Thief by Alice Hemming. After each workshop, the children had the opportunity to draw a character from the story with guidance from the illustrator. The children thoroughly enjoyed listening to the stories and taking part in the creative drawing activities.



Forgiveness and Peace Liturgy

“Those who promote peace have joy.”
Proverbs 12:20



This week we gathered for a Celebration of the Word focused on the Gospel value of forgiveness. Through prayer and reflection, the children thought about how forgiving others helps restore relationships and build peace in our school community.

This links to the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Promoting Peace, reminding us that we are all called to be peacemakers in our words and actions.



23/02/2026 - 27/02/2026		
Registration Group	Attendance %	Punctuality (lates) %
St Mary Nur	96	1
St Peter Rec	97.4	2.6
St Ann Rec	95.2	0
St Elizabeth	99.1	0.5
St Luke	96.5	0
St John Paul	96.4	3.6
St Martha	98.5	2
St John Bosco	96	2.3
St Martin	93.6	1.6
St Catherine	98.6	0.9
St Andrew Y5	100	0
St James Y5	99.3	3
St Therese Y6	95	0
St Brigid Y6	97.3	0
Totals	97.1	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 Elizabeth in the infants and St Andrew in the Juniors.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Headteacher's Award



St Luke	Nikyrah, Shammah
St Elizabeth	Elisha-Noah, Theodore
St Martha	Rousset, Naella
St John Paul	Shana, Ayla
St John Bosco	Fabiola, Ithiel
St Martin	Jazelle, Jayden
St Catherine	Layton, Ire
St James	Whole Class
St Andrew	Heather, Joshua E
St Brigid	Marlon, Zion
St Therese	Jacob, Michael

Gospel Value



St Luke	Gregorio, Ryan, Rahmahtullah
St Elizabeth	Nafisa, Luna, Nora
St Martha	Tiffany, Shakye, Shilo
St John Paul II	Caevan, Nicole, Abigail
St John Bosco	Makeeba, Leah, Ryeden
St Martin	Rosie, Joaquim, Paul
St Catherine	Rouge, Aleksis, Keziah
St James	Emmanuel, Danielle, Jermaine
St Andrew	Moyin, Emmanuel, Noah
St Brigid	Liesel, Karis, Joseph
St Therese	Jayden, Tony, Jayda

Next two weeks at St Chad's

Monday 9th March	Science Week
Tuesday 10th March	Yr1 visit to South Norwood Library
Wednesday 11th March	Science Quiz Girl's Football Tournament– Coloma
Thursday 12th March	Yr2 visit to National Portrait Gallery
Friday 13th March	Big Lent Walk—£2 donation for CAFOD Y2 Trip to The National Portrait Gallery
Monday 16th March	Rocksteady Concert
Tuesday 17th March	St Patrick's Liturgy –St Luke
Wednesday 18th March	
Thursday 19th March	St Joseph's Liturgy - St Elizabeth Talent Show 6pm
Friday 20th March	

2026 book missions



BookTrust
Getting children reading

January

Read a book that makes you laugh!

February

Tell someone about a book you love

March

Join the World Book Day celebrations

April

Read a book because you love its pictures

May

Read a poetry book or a verse novel

June

It's a summer of sport! Read a sporty book

July

7 July: A new Children's Laureate is here! Read one of their books

August

Read a book outside! What's the most unusual place you can find?

September

Send a letter or a drawing to your favourite author or illustrator

October

Read a scary book for Halloween!

November

Read a non-fiction book and tell a friend a cool fact

December

Swap your favourite book with your friends



My favourite books of the year are...

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR JUNIOR BAKE OFF

Aged between 9-15 and love to bake?
We'd love to hear from you!

WWW.APPLYFORJUNIORBAKEOFF.CO.UK



APPLICATIONS CLOSE 15TH MARCH 2026

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 Emotionally Based School Non-Attendance (EBSNA)

Tuesday 24th February 5:30pm

Helping your Child with Anxiety and Worries

Tuesday 3rd March 5:30pm

Helping your Child with Behaviours that Challenge (Primary age)

Tuesday 10th March 5:30pm

Introduction to Neurodivergence

Tues 17th March 5:30pm

Tues 24th March 5:30pm

Tuesday 9th December 2025 at 1:30pm



TALK TO US



Are you OK
Croydon?



10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

CREATIVE WAYS TO ENCOURAGE READING

Reading regularly has a life-long impact, yet recent data from the National Literacy Trust shows a decline in reading for pleasure among 8- to 18-year-olds, with just 32.7% enjoying it in 2025. Despite growing distractions, there are practical ways adults can spark a love of reading. This guide offers strategies and resources to help inspire young readers.

1 VALUE ALL READING

When we think about reading, it's very easy to picture a young person reading a beloved novel. However, reading is so much more than this. To help them understand why not show them how to create a 24-hour reading diary! Jot down all reading and then discuss this with them. By doing this, you can demonstrate the many ways we have to read.

6 TALK BOOKS

There are times when we need silence to read and focus on our books. However, we know that reading is a social experience, so we should also factor in discussion time. Reading the same book gives two people a connection and the opportunity to voice their thoughts and questions about it. Why not buy two copies of a book and read it together? Start the conversation.

2 WHEN THE SELECTION

Once we know reading can be varied, we need to think about the selection of reading material they can access. Visit a shop selling magazines, the library and a bookshop, and consider the range of material that is available within them. Then consider how you might broaden their reading choices, so all young people have access to a wide and varied selection.

7 RECOMMENDATIONS

As well as talking about the content of books, we can share what we are reading or have read recently. This can often act as a trigger for someone else to explore it. Then, when they've finished a film or series because someone else has recommended it, it's the same with books. If you know the young person well, you can tailor your recommendations and share why you think they'll enjoy it.

3 GIFT A BOOK

One simple way to encourage reading is to make books feel special. Gifting a book adds value and shows it's something to be treasured. Whether it's as a reward or for a celebration like a birthday, let the young person choose a title or ask one you know they will enjoy. This could also include a personal note inside.

8 GO DIGITAL

With the rise in online digital material, we can easily focus on the negatives. However, it also brings a wealth of opportunities. Resources can aid and enhance the reading experience for young people. They can read along with audiobooks, podcasts, and track their reading goals with resources like MyReads and apps like Goodreads for older children. Augmented reality books also bring books to life and offer a great way for engagement.

4 CONNECT WITH AUTHORS

Meeting authors can certainly spark an interest in their reading material. This might be through a live event in school, bookshop or by using the wealth of online material that is now available. Encourage young people to look at ways to connect with authors using live resources such as authorial and Just Imagine's Children's Authors Live.

9 RECONNECT

There can come a time when a love of reading seems to disappear. It does not mean it's gone forever. It generally means they have lost the connection. How do we get it back? Find the next place of reading material that sparks their current interests. The National Year of Reading has the 42 top magazines that see why it is there. As children grow and change, so do their interests. A visit to the local library is a great way to support the reconnection.

5 BUILD YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Assess training about reading for pleasure to widen your understanding of the topic and, more importantly, how to develop it. Explore a wide range of free resources that can be found online. The more you know, the better about you are to inspire a love of reading in others.

10 LEAD BY EXAMPLE

Let them see you reading. If you make time to read, you send a strong message to children: reading matters. Show why you enjoy it. It is to read, enjoy the work, learn something new or to be entertained? When children see reading as a normal and valued part of your daily life, they are more likely to adopt it themselves.

Meet Our Expert

Carl Pattison is a literacy advisor and early reading expert at The National College. Through his programmes, he supports schools to improve reading and writing. In addition to his independent work, he also works for a large secondary trust in the East Midlands as the strategic lead for their English and Library/Bookclub Centre.

#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

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.

