St. Chad's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter

'Be who you were created to be...'

Web: www.st-chads.lancs.sch.uk

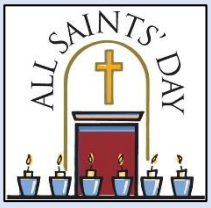
Friday 6th December 2026

Parish Newsletter Available at http://stchads-southhill.org/newsletter

HEADLINES FOR THE WEEK AHEAD:

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday 9th December	-	Trip to Dewa at Chester (Years 3-5)
	3:15-4:25pm	Spanish Club – spaces available
	3:15-4:20pm	Junior Dance Club
Wednesday 11th December	7:45-8:45am	Shinpo Martial Arts @ Breakfast Club
	3:15-4:20pm	Infant Dance Club
Thursday 12th December	-	Year 3 Swimming
	-	Mrs Strickland Piano & Vocals Tutoring
	3:15 – 4:00pm	Junior Choir
	5:00 – 6:00pm	Holy Cross Science Show (Year 6)
Friday 13th December	9:00 – 10:30am	Baby & Toddler group
	-	Flu Vaccines
	-	Mr Wadsworth Keyboard & Guitar Tutoring
	2:30pm	Class 5 Celebration of the Word (parents welcome)

ALL SAINTS' DAY



On **Sunday 1st November**, the Church celebrated **All Saints' Day**, a holy feast day when Christians give thanks for the lives of the saints and all those who have faithfully followed God. It is a time to reflect on their examples of faith, kindness and service, and to consider how we can follow their example in our daily lives.

SHHH... DON'T MENTION THE C WORD!

Yes, we're talking about Christmas! With the First Sunday of Advent not arriving until **29th November**, there is still a little time before our spiritual preparations for Christmas begin in earnest. Advent marks the start of the Christian liturgical year and is a special season of waiting, prayer and anticipation as we prepare to welcome Christ once again. However, while Advent may still be a few weeks away, **there are some practical arrangements that need to take place behind the scenes**. To help families plan ahead during what is always a busy term, this newsletter includes information about a number of forthcoming events and activities. I'm afraid this edition is therefore a little longer than usual, but we hope that receiving the information as early as possible will help everyone to stay organised and keep those diaries up to date!

FAITH IN ACTION

As we begin what is always one of the busiest terms of the year, I would like to remind families that any requests for donations to school, local causes or charities are **simply invitations to support if you are able and willing to do so**. Throughout this term's newsletters, you will see a **'Faith in Action'** section, highlighting appeals from charities and community organisations that are seeking support for those less fortunate than ourselves. Please feel free to give as much or as little as you can manage. These opportunities can also provide valuable conversations with your children about generosity, compassion and the practical ways in which we can put our faith into action. There will also be information about our Christmas Fair and the many ways in which you can support this community event. Thank you in advance for any support you are able to offer to our PTA and the local charities we feature throughout the term.

INVITE FROM THE WHITTLE-LE-WOODS WAR MEMORIAL COMMITTEE



Your families are invited to take part in the annual Remembrance Service to be held on **Sunday 8th November 2026**. The procession will, as usual, assemble in Whittle-le-Woods CofE School yard at **2.15pm** before proceeding to the War Memorial for the Service at 2.30pm. You are also invited to the Armistice Service which will be held from **10.45am** on **Wednesday 11th November 2026** at the War Memorial.

Yours sincerely, Mrs Tracy Morris, Clerk to the War Memorial Committee.

HALF TERM SPOOK-TACULAR CREATIONS

Thank you to those who entered this fun activity. There was some amazing effort and creativity on show. All entries were displayed in the hall on Tuesday and every class visited to enjoy looking at the pictures and reading the stories etc. As mentioned, every entry will be included in a random prize draw for each year group, which will be drawn today (Friday). Entry donations of £2 on ParentPay go towards the PTA, who spend every penny to improve and enrich your child's experiences at school.

ADVENT MASS – SAVE THE DATE



Please save the date for this special Mass to mark the start of our Christmas preparations, if you are able to join us – **Thursday 3rd December at 9:30am in church**. This will be a beautiful Advent Mass for both school and parish and our children will lead the readings, prayers and hymns.

HEALTH CHECKS IN SCHOOL



Whole School Nasal Flu Vaccinations

This will take place in school on **Friday 13th November**. Consent is now made online so look out for consent information being sent to you directly from Intrahealth.

ST CHAD'S PARISH BRASS BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT



The concert is in Church on **Sunday 22nd November** from 2.30pm until 4.30pm. It will be a fabulous afternoon of Christmas themed music, with the benefit of the fantastic church acoustics. Tickets are £10 which includes refreshments - **children are free**! Tickets available from Church after 9.15am Sunday Mass, or contact Angela on 07761983041 or Ann on 07708992621. Payment can also be made to the school office with cash.

200 CLUB WINNERS

Congratulations to our October winners:

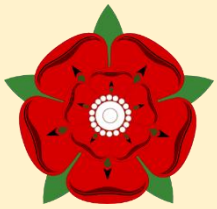
PRIZE	NAME	MEMBER NO.	AMOUNT
1ST	Harriet Middlehurst	106	£50.00
2ND	Hollie Massey	49	£30.00
3RD	Mrs M Ward	189	£20.00



SPECIAL LUNCHES THIS TERM

LANCASHIRE DAY LUNCH

We will be offering a "Lancashire Day" themed lunch on **Thursday 26th November**. The menu will be:



Red Rose Corned Beef Hash with Beetroot & Bread Basket
Or
Lancashire Cheese & Potato Pie with Peas or Beans (v)
Or
Oven Baked Jacket Potato with choice of filling & Salad
Followed by
Sticky Toffee Muffin

ELF BEHAVING BADLY LUNCH



We will be offering this lunch on **Tuesday 1st December**. The menu will be:
Assorted Buffet Sandwiches, Mini Pizza Bites & Cocktail Sausage
With Crispy Ridge Fries & Veg Stick & Dips
Followed By

Sprinkle Krispie Cakes or Fruit Wedges

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We will be offering our Christmas lunch on **Wednesday 16th December**. The menu will be:



Festive Roast Dinner with Chipolata Sausage & Yorkshire Pudding
Or
Cheese & Onion Slice
with Roast Potatoes, Mash & Veg
Followed by
Festive Christmas Treat Dessert

These menus will be available to the whole school. If your child does not normally have a school lunch on these days but wishes to take part in any, please ask for your child to be added to the list by emailing Mrs Southworth at k.southworth@stchads.lancs.sch.uk. Children who normally have a school lunch on these days do not need to reply. Payment for these lunches should be made via the Pupil School Meal payment item on ParentPay for children who are in KS2 (unless entitled to Free School Meals).

'FAITH IN ACTION'

Derian House:
We will soon be selling Christmas Beanies, in aid of Derian House Children's Hospice.

Help the Homeless:
Donations from the Junior Carol Services

Poppy Appeal:
Thank you for your donations.

Christmas Shoebox Appeal – Support for Ukraine:
We are again supporting our parish with this worthwhile cause. See extract form parish newsletter:
This Christmas we are sending shoebox parcels of goodies so that people who have lost so much during the conflict in Ukraine can have something for Christmas that might be useful and enjoyable. The box and lid must be wrapped separately and closed with a rubber band or string around it. Please then label it to show if the contents are for a Girl, Boy, Man, Women or Soldier (Male/Female). If it is for a child, please also add an approximate age group the parcel is appropriate for. Please donate gloves, scarves, hats, chocolate, sweets, toys, soap, socks, razors, plasters, compasses, matches, candles, heat pads, drink sachets, soup sachets, notepads, pens and perhaps even a letter or Christmas card. The donation can be left at the back of church in the Appeal boxes or dropped off at the school entrance. The final dates for donations will be at St. Chad's after Mass on Thursday 12th Nov.

AUTUMN TERM DATES FOR THE DIARY

N.B. Dates may be subject to change. We will update with changes and highlight new dates in yellow.
You may also subscribe to our calendar via the school website. Click on 'SUBSCRIBE' and follow the instructions for your device.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Monday 9th November	-	Years 3-5 Trip to Dewa Chester (see email sent)
Thursday 12th November	5:00 – 6:00pm	Holy Cross Science Show (Year 6)
Friday 13th November	-	Flu Vaccinations in school
	2:30pm	Class 5 Family Celebration of the Word (parents welcome)
Thursday 26th November	-	Lancashire Day Lunch
Friday 27th November	5:30 – 7:30pm	Christmas Fair
Sunday 29th November	9:15am	First Sunday of Advent Mass
Tuesday 1st December	-	Elf Behaving Badly Lunch
Thursday 3rd December	9:30am	Advent Mass in church
Sunday 6th December	6:00pm	Whittle-le-Woods Christmas Lights Switch-on
Tuesday 8th & Wednesday 9th December	3:30pm	Infant Nativity Plays in school
Tuesday 15th & Wednesday 16th December	4:00pm	Junior Carol Services in church
Wednesday 16th December	-	Infant parties (party clothes)
	-	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 17th December	-	Junior parties (party clothes)
Friday 19th December	2:15pm	School closes for Christmas

ATTACHMENTS:

- **Parish Newsletter**
- **Elf Behaving Badly Lunch Flyer**
- **Christmas Lunch Flyer**
- **School Christmas Events Flyer**
- **World Youth Sunday flyer**
- **Higher Wheelton Christmas Event Flyer**
- **Path Support Flyer**
- **Path Workshops Flyer**

CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2026 & PARENT PAY

We have created a document which is attached to this week's Newsletter titled 'Christmas Events 2026' which details how to buy tickets / pay for items for all events running up to the end of term. We hope that having everything listed in one place makes it easier for you to ensure you don't miss anything.

SAVE THE DATE - CHRISTMAS FAIR – FRIDAY 27TH NOVEMBER 5:30-7:30PM

Visit the traditional tombolas, lucky dip, raffles, mulled wine, cakes, refreshments, children's games, elf grotto (letter writing to Santa, crafts, etc), tuck shop, etc. Entry is entirely free and everyone in our St. Chad's community are very welcome to join us.

Donations:

To populate the various stalls, we kindly ask for some donations, albeit fewer than in previous years. We must stress that donations towards stalls are not compulsory, but are very much appreciated if you can manage it. To help make this manageable for you and to reduce the pressure of sending items in on certain weeks with children, we ask that donations are just dropped off in the school entrance anonymously in a bag any time up to **Friday 20th November**. The items we are asking for are:

Donation	Notes	Purpose
Chocolate	Bars, selection boxes, tubs, etc.	Chocolate Tombola
Bottles	Can be anything from shampoo to champagne!	Bottle Tombola
Parent 'secret' gift	Any gifts that our children may like to choose for a family member or loved one (e.g. candles, bath sets, gift sets etc.) Please also include a gift bag if possible. If possible, boys donate for dads and girls donate for mums.	Parents' Secret Gift Stall
The following are extra requests for anyone who is able to help…		
Raffle Prizes	We are also seeking any businesses or individuals who may be able to offer a donation for the raffle. If so, please kindly send into the school office.	Raffle

Helpers:

The Christmas Fair doesn't work without the help and support of staff and parents, mostly setting up, running the stalls and tidying up afterwards. We are starting to populate a list of volunteer helpers and will be in touch shortly to ask if you are able to help out.

Other Information:

- Most stalls will be cash only, so please come equipped with 50p's and £1s wherever possible, especially for the children's games.
- There will be a card reader on the refreshment stall, which can also be used to exchange £1 tokens, should you need them.

We expect this to be a lovely wholesome event for the whole community. Thank you for your support!

CHRISTMAS FAIR RAFFLE TICKETS



Raffle tickets are being sent home in bags tonight. **Payment for raffle tickets can be made on ParentPay** at the same time as you are purchasing tickets for our other Christmas events. All you need to do, is pay for the desired quantity of raffle tickets on ParentPay, then return the same number of raffle tickets to school in an envelope marked 'Christmas Raffle'. Tickets are priced at **£1 EACH**.

Please put your name or your child's name and a contact number on the back of each ticket being purchased and return to school! Returned tickets will then be entered into the draw, once we can see that payment has been made on ParentPay. **Please remind children to hand in returned raffle tickets to their class teacher during morning registration**. More tickets will be available at the Christmas Fair, but selling tickets beforehand is often more convenient for you and helps save time on the night! Please retain the raffle ticket counterfoils so that you know which numbers you have in the draw.

PARENTS' SECRET GIFT STALL

This will take place on **Thursday 17th December.** All children will visit the Secret Gift stall with their class at some point during the day and every child will be able to choose a gift from the stall and have it wrapped for a lucky parent so that they can take it home to save for Christmas Day. We are inviting parents to make a suggested voluntary donation of between £2 and £5 for this via ParentPay.



NATIVITY PLAYS – PLEASE READ AND SAVE THE DATES/TIMES

Our much-loved Infant Nativity Performances will be held in school on **Tuesday 8th and Wednesday 9th December at 3.30pm**. These productions are always among the highlights of the Christmas season. There is something truly special about seeing our youngest children retell the Christmas story with such enthusiasm, innocence and joy. The singing, acting and wonderful costumes combine to create a beautiful celebration of the Nativity, and the memories made are treasured by families and staff alike.

Whilst we would prefer to offer tickets free of charge, we kindly ask for a **minimum donation of £1 per person**, payable via ParentPay. These contributions help us to maintain and replace costumes, decorations, lighting and backdrops which naturally become worn over time. Although these items are costly to replace, they play an important role in creating the magical atmosphere that makes our Nativity performances so special. We hope that a £1 contribution per ticket represents a reasonable request and thank you, as always, for your support.

CAROL SERVICES – PLEASE READ AND SAVE THE DATES/TIMES

The juniors will once again host their annual **Carol Service**, a beautiful occasion of reflection, worship and spiritual renewal. Held in church, it is always a much-loved event for both our school and parish communities. As attendance continues to be very popular, we need to manage numbers carefully to ensure the comfort and safety of everyone present. While we would love to operate an open-door policy, our risk assessments limit the church congregation to 160 people. This would ordinarily allow only two tickets per junior-aged child.



To enable more family members to attend, we have decided to hold the service **twice this year**. To make this manageable for the children during what is already a busy and tiring season, both services will take place at **4.00pm** rather than in the evening.

Please save the following dates:

- **Tuesday 15th December, 4.00pm**
- **Wednesday 16th December, 4.00pm**

To ensure we can limit the numbers each night, we are asking you to book tickets through ParentPay with a maximum of 4 tickets per family **in total** across the 2 nights. See full details on the Christmas Events 2026 attachment. As in previous years, we are suggesting a minimum donation of £1 per adult, although you can donate more if you wish, as this raises vital funds for Chorley Help the Homeless. Although these dates have appeared in the newsletter since September, we wanted to provide an early reminder and explain the reasons behind our arrangements this year.

We look forward to welcoming as many families as possible to this special celebration of the Christmas story.

REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

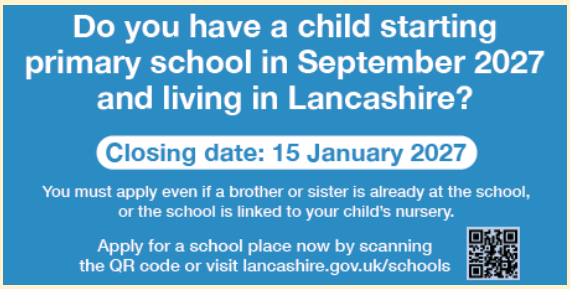
SCHOOL ADMISSIONS – SEPTEMBER 2027

We are already planning ahead for the next round of admissions for Reception in September 2027. It would be most appreciated if you could spread the word with family and friends who have an eligible child. Families may register their interest and book on to open days throughout the autumn term using the QR links below.





How and when to apply for a reception class place for September 2027:



TERM DATES 2027–2028

Our governors have now agreed the school term and holiday dates for 2027–2028. As usual, these largely follow the same holiday pattern as Holy Cross, helping families with children at both schools.

Please note that some INSET days are different, including around Easter, so families with children at both schools should check the dates carefully. We have received lots of positive feedback about our longer October half term, particularly as some families have been able to take advantage of cheaper holidays during the first week. We have therefore chosen to continue with this arrangement, both to align closely with Holy Cross and in response to parental feedback. Please see the attached term dates, which are also available on the school website.

LITTLE CHURCH

All our children are invited to come along to Church for **Sunday Mass at 9:15am**, where they are welcome to join in the Children's Liturgy at "**Little Church**". This is a really lovely opportunity to become part of the wider St Chad's family and support your family's journey of faith. Little Church volunteers are fully DBS cleared and provide a lovely nurturing envrionment for all children.

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

SEE FULL DETAILS IN PARISH NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE AT

http://stchads-southhill.org/newsletter



LITTLE CHURCH: All our children are invited to come along to Church for Sunday Mass at 9:15am, where they are welcome to join in the Children's Liturgy at "Little Church".

COFFEE MORNINGS: Regular coffee mornings will be held in St. Chad's Parish Centre every second Sunday of each month. Tea, coffee and cakes will be served for a small donation. Everyone welcome.

ALTAR SERVERS: Any young people who have made their first Holy Communion are welcome to become altar servers. Please have a word with Fr Mark who will explain how you can get involved.

PARISH CENTRES FOR HIRE: St. Chad's and St. Bede's Parish Centres are available to hire for use by groups and for some private functions**. Enquiries : St Bede's** call Aidan on 01257 271818 / **St Chad's** call 07719 718523. If you get the answerphone, please leave your name and number and they will call you back.

SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

Please follow these accounts to receive our feed and share with friends and prospective families. They are not intended as a communication tool, but rather for promoting the school to prospective parents. Thank you. **Facebook**: St Chads Catholic Primary School **Instagram**: StChadsChorley