



St. Chad's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter



'Be who you were created to be'

Web: www.st-chads.lancs.sch.uk Twitter: @StChadsChorley

Thursday 13th March 2025

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

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well. Just a thought for the day... although we are still having frosty mornings and some chilly days, we have also enjoyed some lovely days and there are signs of spring starting to pop up. Unfortunately, we often find ourselves rushing around and missing the beauty that is happening around us. Perhaps we should follow Roald Dahl's advice...



"And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it." Children still 'believe the magic', so maybe we should look to our children for inspiration, tune-in to our inner-child and pause to stare in awe at the wonder of the world.

Saying all that, I'm afraid today's newsletter is rather lengthy... sorry! With three busy weeks left of the term, it is helpful to share all events and information that you'll need to know. There are ample moments of 'magic' in these events though! We just need to remember to look. On the busiest days I may need to be reminded, so please feel free to point them out to me when you see them! Thank you, as ever, for your support.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE CHILDREN WHO ARE DOING THEIR FIRST RECONCILIATION NEXT WEEK, WENESDAY 19TH MARCH. THE FINAL PREPARATION SESSION IS ON SUNDAY 16TH MARCH AFTER 9:15AM MASS.



EASTER ASSEMBLY – SAVE THE DATE

All are welcome to join our Easter Assembly on **Thursday 3rd April at 9:30am**. The children will lead us in song, narration and drama to retell and reflect on the Easter Passion Story. Please use the back doors to the main hall any time after drop-off.

LENTEN CHARITY FUNDRAISING – GOOD SHEPHERD APPEAL

One of our Christian duties during Lent is to 'give alms', so we have arranged a '**Legs for Lent**' day, **Friday 21st March**. Children are invited to wear wacky legwear, with the top half being normal school uniform. We kindly ask for a donation to our Lenten charities using the "Legs for Lent" payment item in ParentPay. Suggested minimum donation of £1 per child, however, you can pay more if you are able to. Many thanks for your support.



WEDNESDAY WORD – LENT EDITIONS

[Click for this week's Wednesday Word](#)

END OF TERM SCHOOL CLOSURE TIMES

As usual, at the end of term **school closes at 2:15pm** and **After School Club will run until 5:00pm**. With such low numbers at our After School Club on the last day of term (usually 2 or 3 children), it is not viable to operate the club. From the end of summer term, we therefore kindly ask that parents make arrangements for their child/ren to be collected at the end of the school day. Thank you.



GEOGRAPHY EXHIBITION – MONDAY 17TH MARCH 3:15-4:00pm

Thank you for your efforts to support your children to produce an exhibit. We are really looking forward to celebrating the knowledge and skills they have developed throughout their topic this term. Please send projects in by Monday morning. We will dismiss children after school in the normal way then, for those who are able to, children will guide you to view the projects. If you are collecting from ASC, your child may take you to see their projects when they are picked up.

CROSS COUNTRY – CHANGE OF DAY

For **next week only**, cross country club will be moved from Monday to Tuesday. This is to allow the children an opportunity to show off their Geography exhibitions on Monday.

HYDRATION WEEK

Next week (17th – 21st March) is Nutrition & Hydration Week. Teachers will be educating the children about the importance of hydration, with the intention that children are more likely to take the opportunities to drink water during the school if they understand the health and wellbeing benefits. These will be delivered at an age-appropriate level, along with reminders of how they can access their water throughout the day. I am also sharing information about how children access their water in each class – see chart at end of newsletter. This differs according to the age of the class, e.g. younger children don't have bottles on tables as water is often spilt on their work. As a parent, I am mindful that a child's natural defence mechanism, when challenged as to why they haven't drunk their water, may be to say they aren't allowed, so I hope sharing the systems with you helps to clarify what is and isn't allowed across the school and supports conversations at home.



PARKING



One of our local residents have recently returned home from work to find their driveway blocked. This has happened to them on 4 occasions over the last two weeks, usually during collection from clubs, so I'm sure we can appreciate their frustration. Please remember that if there is no space on the roadside, the Red Cat kindly allow parents to use their car park. The Parish Centre also has a car park just a minute walk away. Thank you for parking considerately and safely.

WORLD BOOK DAY

What a lovely cosy day we had! I hope the children enjoyed the day and further developed an appreciation for books and reading. See photo of the After School Club children also enjoying the activities after school. Thank you to those who have kindly made a donation in support of our book fund from World Book Day. So far we have raised **£136**. We will keep the payment item open on ParentPay until Easter for anyone who still wishes to make a donation.



MISSION STATEMENT ARTWORK

Thank you to the children who submitted their Mission Statement-inspired artwork. They were all absolutely incredible! So much so, that we have made a display of them in the school hall – see below. We have arranged to work with a textile artist who will use the designs to inspire a wonderful centrepiece in the main hall.



PTA EASTER BINGO – TICKETS NOW ON SALE



We are delighted to be hosting our annual Easter Bingo event again this year on **Tuesday 1st April at 6.00pm**. Due to the size of our school hall, there will be a total number of 200 entry tickets available, so please be quick to secure your spot! Items on ParentPay have been allocated to the eldest / only child to make it easier to administer so please purchase all tickets required through that one child on ParentPay. Thank you.

To purchase entry tickets: please use the “Easter Bingo Entry Tickets” item on ParentPay and select the number of entry tickets you would like (priced at 50p each). We are limiting entry tickets to immediate family (parents and children only) to allow as many families to attend as possible.

To purchase Bingo Ticket Booklets: please use the “Easter Bingo Tickets” payment item on ParentPay. These booklets are priced at £1.00 each and there is no limit to the amount you can purchase. We would advise each person playing bingo, has at least one ticket booklet, but the more you have, the more chance you have of winning! These will be available to purchase on the night also.

To purchase Flyer Tickets: please use the “Easter Bingo Flyer tickets” item on Parent Pay. This is an additional game of Bingo which will be played at the very end and there will be a BUMPER prize for this game. Flyer tickets will also be priced at £1.00 each.

There will be a small ‘tuck shop’ available selling some juice and small treats for the children but families are welcome to bring along their own food and drink also. We are super excited to be able to bring this much-loved family fun night back again this year and we look forward to seeing you there!

EASTER BINGO DONATIONS

To populate the prizes, we kindly ask that children make a donation. We thank you for your support with this. Every penny raised for PTA will be spent on enhancing the school for your children.

See chart below for donation requests for each class:

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Small eggs (e.g. cream egg etc)	Easter crafts (see below info)	Normal Easter Egg	Normal Easter Egg	Normal Easter Egg	Normal Easter Egg	Small eggs (e.g. cream egg etc)

Rather than winning huge bundles of chocolate, this year we’d like to include some more wholesome Easter craft activities in the prizes. There are some lovely cheap options available in places like The Works and supermarkets. To get an idea of options, please click on the links: [Example 1](#) [Example 2](#) [Example 3](#) [Example 4](#) There are many others available, so please just choose one that is affordable.

EASTER LUNCH

We will be offering our Easter lunch on **Wednesday 23rd April**. The menu will be:



Roast Chicken with Potatoes, Veg & Gravy

or

Cheese Whirl and Beans

Followed by

Easter Treat Dessert

This menu will be available to the whole school on this day. If your child does not normally have a school lunch on a Wednesday but wishes to take part, please email Mrs Southworth bursar@stchads.lancs.sch.uk to add them onto the list (please also confirm their meal choice). Children who normally have a school lunch on a Wednesday do not need to reply, they will choose from the menu on the day as usual. Payment for this lunch should be made via the Pupil School Meal payment item on ParentPay for children who are in KS2 (unless entitled to Free School Meals).

SPRING / SUMMR 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 \(click for link\)](#). This should update changes to your device. Click on 'Subscribe to this Calendar' and follow the instruction.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
Sunday 16 th March	9:15am	Sacramental Preparation (session 3)
Monday 17 th March	3:15-4:00pm	Geography Exhibition
Tuesday 18 th March	9:00-12:00pm	Y6 Pilgrim Mass at St Mary's
Wednesday 19 th March	6:30pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation
Thursday 20 th March	9:15am	Class 5 Mass
	-	Be Happy Day Lunch
Friday 21 st March	-	Legs for Lent
Tuesday 25 th March	-	Feast of the Annunciation
Thursday 27 th March	9:15am	Class 1 Mass Postponed to 24/04/25
Friday 28 th March	2:30pm	Class 2 'Celebration of the Word' (parents invited)
31 st March – 2 nd April	-	Year 1 Road Safety Course
Monday 31 st March	-	Easter Bingo donations deadline
Tuesday 1 st April	6:00pm	Easter Bingo
Thursday 3 rd April	9:30am	Easter Service in school
Friday 4 th April	2:15pm	School closes for Easter
Tuesday 22 nd April	-	School reopens for summer term
Wednesday 23 rd April	-	Easter Lunch
Wednesday 23 rd April	7:30pm	PTA Meeting in school
Thursday 24 th April	9:15am	Class 1 & 2 Mass
Thursday 1 st May	11:00am	Service in church (May, the Month of Mary)
	TBC	Spelling Bee at Holy Cross (TBC)
Thursday 8 th May	9:15am	Class 4 Mass
12 th – 15 th May	-	Year 6 SATS Week
19 th – 23 rd May	-	Sports Week
Tuesday 20 th May	1:30pm	Sports Day (weather permitting)
Thursday 5 th June	-	Y3-5 Anderton Centre Trip
	9:15am	Class 5 Mass
Friday 6 th June	9:30am	Music Concert
Sunday 8 th June	9:15am	Sacramental Session 4 (Pentecost)
10 th – 13 th June	-	Hothersall Lodge Trip (Y6)
Thursday 12 th June	2:00pm	Good Shepherd Mass - Leyland (Y5)
Sunday 15 th June	9:15am	Sacramental Session 5 (Father's Day)
16 th – 18 th June	-	Reception Road Safety Course
Thursday 19 th June	9:15am	Class 3 Mass
	TBC	Thomas Martland Maths Competition (Holy Cross)
Saturday 21 st June	11:00am	First Holy Communion
Wednesday 25 th June	7:00-9:00pm	Swimming Gala
Thursday 26 th June	9:15am	Class 2 Mass
Friday 27 th June	2:30pm	Class 1 'Celebration of the Word' for parents
Monday 30 th June	-	Y4 Communicants Celebration Day
Wednesday 2 nd July	-	New Classes Sample Day (& High School)
Thursday 3 rd July	9:15am	Class 1 Mass (with Buddies)
Friday 4 th July	-	Year 6 Retreat Day at St Joseph's
Tuesday 15 th July	6:00pm	Year 6 Celebration Evening
Thursday 17 th July	9:30am	Final Assembly (all invited)
Friday 18 th July	3:15pm	Art Gallery
Monday 21 st July	9:30am	Whole School Mass of Thanksgiving
Tuesday 22 nd July	2:15pm	School Closes for Summer

REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS...

BE HAPPY DAY LUNCH

We will be offering a “Be Happy Day” lunch on **Thursday 20th March**. The menu will be:

Harmonious Hotdog with Smiley Faces & Glorious Garden Veg
or
Playful Pasta Bake with Gleeful Garlic Bread & Sunshine Salad
Followed by
Wonderful Waffles or Joyous Jelly & Incredible Ice Cream



This menu will be available to the whole school on this day. If your child does not normally have a school lunch on a Thursday but wishes to take part, please email Mrs Southworth bursar@stchads.lancs.sch.uk to add them onto the list (please also confirm their meal choice). Children who normally have a school lunch on a Thursday do not need to reply, they will choose from the menu on the day as usual. Payment for this lunch should be made via the Pupil School Meal payment item on ParentPay for children who are in KS2 (unless entitled to Free School Meals).

200 CLUB RENEWALS – PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN

Just a reminder that it's now time to renew / join the 200 club for the next 12 months (March 2025 - February 2026 inclusive). School's would struggle to fund the cost of the levy from within school budgets, so our 200 Club is a fun way to raise funds to pay the church and school levy and members of the 200 club have the chance to benefit from the prize money. With dwindling numbers in the 200 club over recent years, however, school is having to subsidise more each year to cover the cost of the levy, meaning that we have less of our budget to spend directly on the children. Although contributions from families is completely voluntary, the more parents, staff, governors and parishioners that are in the 200 club or who pay the levy, the less school has to subsidise from our school budget, so if you feel that you can contribute in this way, it really does help make a difference.



To renew your 200 club subscriptions for the next 12 months, or to join the 200 club if you are not already a member, please use the new items which have been added to ParentPay. If you do not wish to renew or join the 200 Club, please instead consider paying the voluntary £10 levy via the “School Levy” payment item which has also been set up within ParentPay.

CLUBS FOR THIS HALF TERM - REMINDER

There are many clubs on offer this half term. In an attempt to keep things simple, we have produced a chart with all details in one place. Please see document sent with last week's newsletter, which also contains links to book on where necessary. We hope this helps.

RAISE BIG DONATIONS FOR OUR PTA!



If you are planning on booking your Easter or Summer Holiday during March with TUI, please use EasyFundraising to make your booking (see link below) as **TUI has made a Classroom Commitment to give a £100* donation to St Chads PTA Fund if you book a holiday this month.** With no minimum spend required, all TUI bookings (excludes flight-only bookings) will raise a HUGE £100 limited-time donation. [Booking Link](#)

SHOPPING ONLINE



Please remember to use Easyfundraising when you do any shopping online, book your next Holiday or buy home, travel or car insurance.

Over 6,000 shops including Amazon, Argos, Boots, Etsy and many other high street stores, fashion brands and sites will donate to:

St Chad's PTA Fund at no extra cost to you! You can raise donations when you buy gifts, decorations, food and lots more.

Scan the QR code or visit : <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stchadspta/>



PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

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".

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.

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 in Year 4 or older who would like to help at Mass as altar servers are very welcome. Please have a word with Fr Mark who will explain how you can get involved.

	Where are water bottles stored?	When can children drink water?	When can children use the toilet?
All classes		Children are encouraged to drink before and after every breaktime, on their way in and out of class.	Although children may use the toilet any time they need, there are also some set times when they are sent to use the toilet, mostly before breaktimes. For junior children, the teacher may ask, "Can you wait 2 minutes?" if it is a really important part of the lesson. If children can't wait, they are always allowed to go.
Reception	In boxes in the classroom	Any time, except during teaching time on the carpet (5-10 minutes).	Toilet in the classroom, which can be used any time.
Year 1	In boxes in the classroom	Any time, except during teaching time on the carpet (5-15 minutes).	Toilet just outside the classroom, which can be used any time.
Year 2	In their school bag on their own chair	Any time on request, except during teaching time on the carpet (10-15 minutes).	Toilet just outside the classroom, which can be used any time.
Class 3	In a box under their table, for quick access	Any time, except during whole-class delivery section of the lesson (10-15 minutes).	Children request to go to the toilet. To signal this, children put two hands in the air, rather than one, so that they don't need to actually ask. This allows teachers to quickly respond, rather than children waiting to be asked to speak if it is during a Q&A part of the lesson.
Class 4	In a box in the cupboard		
Class 5	On their table		

