



St. Chad's Catholic Primary School

# Newsletter



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

Web: [www.st-chads.lancs.sch.uk](http://www.st-chads.lancs.sch.uk) Twitter: @StChadsChorley

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

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



## ADVENT MASS

**THIS COMING MONDAY IN SCHOOL  
ALL INVITED TO THIS SPECIAL CELEBRATION**



**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 9:30am in the school hall.** This will be a beautiful Advent Mass for both school and parish and our children will lead the readings, prayers and hymns. Please enter via back doors to main hall after drop off, or any time before 9:30am if you prefer to wait in the car or elsewhere.

## CHRISTMAS FAIR – THIS EVENING 5:30-7:30PM

### FINAL UPDATES AND REMINDERS:

**Thank you SO MUCH to everyone for your generous donations and support!**

**The fair simply would not be possible without it.**

- 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.
- The raffle will be drawn in school tomorrow and winners announced on email/Seesaw.
- Entry is entirely free via the main entrance and everyone in the community are very **welcome** to join us.



## FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT – SUNDAY 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER

### ADVENT: A SEASON OF HOPE



In the four weeks leading up to Christmas, we await in hope for the arrival of Jesus. It is such a busy time of year for everyone, so we often forget that Advent should be a time for prayer and preparation.

We therefore use signs, symbols and scripture to regularly remind ourselves of the real meaning of Christmas – God becoming one of us, through the birth of Jesus. Indeed, in this week's Gospel, Jesus reminds us to be watchful...

*"Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." (Matthew 24:37-44)*

## SPREADING CHRISTMAS JOY LOCALLY, WHILE HELPING THOSE IN NEED GLOBALLY



You may remember last year that we raised an amazing amount of money for CAFOD where we purchase some World Gifts for those in need of our help at Christmas. On Friday, we will be sending home a cardboard bauble. We are asking children to complete a design on their bauble, sending Christmas wishes to their friends in school, and bring it back into school so that we can hang it on our Christmas tree in the entrance. We invite you to send the bauble into school, rather than Christmas cards, and invite any monies saved in purchasing Christmas cards to be donated to World Gifts from CAFOD (entirely voluntarily). The link below will take you to the page that will show you how much of a difference your money can make this Christmas.

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/collections/frontpage>

A new payment item has been added to Parent Pay should you wish to donate. If your child would still like to send in Christmas cards then please feel free to do so. Please send the baubles in as soon as they are ready and don't worry if you don't have any string at home as we can attach this when the children bring them in. We had some incredible designs last year and they really brightened up the entrance to the school. We look forward to seeing all of the wonderful designs and thank you in advance for your support.

## POSADA – TRAVELLING NATIVITY

What is Posada? Posada is an old Mexican tradition where young people, dressed as Mary and Joseph, travelled from house to house asking for a room for the night and telling people about the imminent arrival of Jesus in the weeks leading up to Christmas. On Christmas Eve they would visit the local church to re-enact the nativity and place figures of Mary and Joseph in a crib. At St. Chad's, we would like to invite you as families to share in this tradition.



Each day, we will choose a different member of the class to take home our Posada. They will bring home a bag containing the nativity characters, a prayer and a candle. We would like you to use the figures to re-tell the Christmas story and share a prayer together as a family to take a quiet moment in what can be such a busy time of year. Please take photographs of your time with the Posada and send it to your child's teacher on Seesaw. The class teacher may then share this with the class the next day. Please then return the Posada so that the next family can share in this special tradition. Let's see if the Posada can make it to every family in school!

## YOUTH MASS



A very special mention to the children who took part in the Youth Mass last Sunday. They were all given jobs to do, which they did brilliantly. Fr Mark created such a welcoming environment, as ever, and the children received a round of applause for their contributions. We plan to build on this in the new year, contributing to a vibrant and welcoming Church where our children can give us hope and optimism for the future of our parish. Look out for updates early in 2026!

## PARISH COFFEE MORNINGS

In the meantime, our parishioners continue to welcome families and also offer the following opportunities to chat over coffee and DELICIOUS CAKE!! These take place in the Parish Centre at around 10:30am after Sunday Mass. N.B. Children's games on 14<sup>th</sup> Dec too.



**Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> November:** Coffee morning and cake!

**Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> December:** Coffee morning, cake and children's games

## MUSIC, CHOIR AND DANCE CONCERT

We are making an opportunity for the choir, dance clubs and those who learn instruments in school, to perform for the school and parents on **12<sup>th</sup> December at 9:30am**. Please enter via back doors to main hall after drop off, or any time before 9:30am if you prefer to wait in the car or elsewhere.

## 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
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> November	-	Lancashire Day Lunch
	5:30-7:30pm	Christmas Fair
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30am	Coffee morning in Parish Centre
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	9:30am	Advent Mass in School Hall
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	-	Elves Behaving Badly Lunch
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	-	Class 3 & Class 4 Panto Trip
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	3:30pm	Infant Nativity Plays in school
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	9:30am	Concert (choir, dancer club and musicians)
Sunday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	10:30am	Coffee morning in Parish Centre
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	1:00pm	Children singing for ladies of the parish
	6:00pm	Junior Carol Service in church
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	12:00-1:00pm	Christmas Lunch – <b>CHANGE OF DAY</b>
	-	Christmas Parties (party clothes) – <b>CHANGE OF DAY</b>
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	2:15pm	School Closes for Christmas Holidays
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	-	School reopens for spring term
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> January	7:00-8:00pm	PTA Meeting in school

## CHRISTMAS EVENTS 2025 & PARENT PAY - REMINDERS

We have created a document which was attached to a previous Newsletter titled 'Christmas Events 2025' 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 much easier for you, and ensures you don't miss anything you wish to take part in.

### PARENT SECRET GIFT STALL

In past years, we have had this stall in class 1a at the Christmas Fair, however, this year, we will instead be running this stall on Christmas Party day on **Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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 AND CAROL SERVICE TICKETS ETC

Whilst we would prefer to offer tickets for nativities free of charge, we kindly ask for a minimum donation of £1 per person, payable on ParentPay, as this helps us replace tired looking costumes, Christmas decorations, lights, backdrops etc which can be costly but difficult to fund from within school budgets. We hope that £1 per ticket seems reasonable.



## PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2026

If you, or someone you know, has a child due to start primary school next September who may be interested in St. Chad's, they can register their interest by completing our online form using the link below so that they can be sent details of the admission process. They can also register to come and look around school during the daytime by completing the second form below.

Register of Interest Form : <https://forms.office.com/e/ZM6E4NrgAU>

School Visit request Form : <https://forms.office.com/e/7FigE3CwET>

Both forms are also available on our website in the Admissions area of the Key Info page. Primary applications should be made online at [Lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://Lancashire.gov.uk/schools) or by using the QR code above by the deadline date of 15<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

Do you have a child starting  
primary school in September 2026  
and living in Lancashire?

Closing date: 15 January 2026

You must apply even if a brother or sister is already at the school,  
or the school is linked to your child's nursery.

Apply for a school place now by scanning  
the QR code or visit [lancashire.gov.uk/schools](http://lancashire.gov.uk/schools)



## ST CHAD'S PARISH WINTER WARMER EVENING WITH 'THE SYMBOLICS'!

Hot pot/butter pie and dessert, bring your own drinks, St Chad's Parish Centre, Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2025, 7:30-10:30pm, Doors open 7:00pm, Tickets £10. See flyer attached to newsletter with details.

## SPECIAL LUNCH DAYS

### ELF BEHAVING BADLY LUNCH

We will be offering our Elf Behaving Badly Lunch on **Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December**. The menu will be:  
Cheeky BBQ Chicken or Quorn Pizza with troublemaker Tater Balls & Veg

Or

Prankster Creamy Tomato Pasta with Giddy Garlic Bread

Followed by

Rascally Doughnut Rings & Sassy Chocolate Sauce



### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

We will be having our traditional Christmas lunch on **Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December (CHANGE OF DAY)**. The menu will be:

Festive Roast dinner with chipolata sausage, Roast & Mashed Potatoes, Veg, Stuffing & Gravy

followed by

a Festive Dessert

**(A vegetarian option MUST be pre-booked by 28<sup>th</sup> November.)**

These menus will be available to the whole school on these days. If your child does not normally have a school lunch on a these days but wish to take part, please ask for your child to be added to the list by emailing Mrs Southworth at [k.southworth@stchads.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:k.southworth@stchads.lancs.sch.uk). Children who normally have a school lunch on these days do not need to reply, they will choose from the menu on the day as usual. 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).

## DERIAN HOUSE – ELF ARMY PLUSHIES



St. Chad's are proud to be supporting 'Derian House' again this Christmas. From next week, we will be selling Elf Army Plushies which are priced at £2.00 each and will be sold during morning breaktimes by our Year 6 children. Children are invited to bring money in with them, should they wish to purchase one of these items (Again, this is completely optional). Please send in the correct change as the money goes straight into a collection box so we can't provide any change. All money raised will go directly to Derian House charity.



## EBB & FLO BOOKSHOP EVENTS

Hello Bookshop Friends! The weather's turned frosty and our Christmas window is done - have you seen the beautiful illustration of The Great Bear by Annie Booker?

We've a busy time planned leading up to Christmas including loft sessions with Kate Bufton who will be returning to ebb & flo with her popular festive Book Art workshops, transforming old books into Wreaths, Christmas Trees and Gingerbread Houses. Kate first worked with us when we opened the bookshop in Gillibrand Street so it's wonderful to have her back in our new space.




Book your place at the bookshop or online <https://ebbandflobookshop.co.uk/product-category/event-tickets/>

The Yorkshire Shepherdess Amanda Owen will be here on **Saturday 6th December** between **11-12 noon** to sign copies of her first children's book Christmas Tales From the Farm, a lovely gift book for children aged 7+.

This is a ticketed signing and you can book a slot here...

<https://ebbandflobookshop.co.uk/product-category/event-tickets/>



**Yorkshire Shepherdess Amanda Owen**  
**Book Signing at ebb & flo!**

Saturday 6th December  
11-12noon  
£14.99

Book via the link in our bio, or in the shop!



**Christmas BOOK ART WORKSHOPS**

Work with local artist Kate Bufton to make your very own Gingerbread House, Christmas Tree or Wreath

Saturday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> December
Family workshop- Gingerbread House 10.00am-11.00am £16	Family workshop- Gingerbread House 10.00am-11.00am £16
Wreath Making workshop 11.30am-1.30pm £26	Christmas Tree workshop 11.30am-1.30pm £26
	Wreath Making workshop 2.00pm-4.00pm £26

Book through our website or in the shop

## REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

### PTA MEETING – SAVE THE DATE

Advance notice that the next PTA meeting will be held in school on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 7:00-8:00pm. We are trying to plan a different day each meeting to suit different circumstances. Amongst other things, we will be planning dates for future events and meetings. More details to follow in the new year. All very welcome, as ever!

## 'FAITH IN ACTION'



### Derian House:

From next week we will be selling Christmas Plushies, in aid of Derian House Children's Hospice.

### Chorley SVP:

See attachment last week for Christmas toy appeal, as well as requests from their socials:

### Help the Homeless:

Donations from the Junior Carol Service



### Christmas Shoebox Appeal – Support for Ukraine:

Thank you for those who were able to donate to this. The parish were thankful for your support, as will those who receive your packages. Donations can still be accepted at:

	<p><b>DEADLINE:</b></p> <p>Please try and bring shoeboxes and/or donations to us by <b>Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November</b></p> <p><b>Don't worry:</b> Any shoeboxes received after this date will still be sent to Ukraine.</p>
<p>'Ukraine Unit' (The White Hart) Mealhouse Lane, Chorley, PR7 1DZ. Weds 2-4pm &amp; Sats 10am-12</p>	



### World Gifts for Cafod:

Children are invited to complete a design on their bauble and bring it back into school so that we can hang it on our Christmas tree in the entrance. We invite you to send the bauble into school, rather than Christmas cards, and invite any monies saved in purchasing Christmas cards to be donated to World Gifts from CAFOD (entirely voluntarily) using the payment item which has been added to ParentPay.

<https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/collections/frontpage>



## LITTLE CHURCH

All our children are invited to come along to St Chad's Church for Sunday Mass at 9:15am, where they are welcome to join in the Children's Liturgy at "Little Church". This is a lovely way for children to understand and engage with Mass, whilst making friends and nurturing their faith. What a beautiful gift!

### 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.

