



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 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026**

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

## HAPPY HALF TERM

Over the past few days, we've noticed that many of our children (and staff!) are very ready for a well-deserved break. We hope the half-term holiday provides everyone with time to rest, recharge and return feeling refreshed. Thank you for all your support throughout this half term. We look forward to welcoming the children back as we head into the longer, brighter days of spring. Wishing all our pupils an enjoyable and restful half term.

## ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT

Ash Wednesday (Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> February) marks the start of Lent, a 40-day period of reflection and preparation leading up to Easter. It's a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving that ends on Holy Thursday (2<sup>nd</sup> April). As we are on half term for Ash Wednesday, please check the Parish Newsletter for service times next week <http://stchads-southhill.org/newsletter>.



## FOREST SCHOOL ONLINE FORM

We have received 39 responses to the online forms, so are just awaiting 11 more between Class 2 and Year 4. If you haven't already completed the online form, **please do so as soon as possible** to allow us to prepare for the first session after half term (see links below for quick reference). This includes a few consents to help us to keep your children safe, so your assistance is most appreciated. Many thanks. Please see full information about the forest school sessions in the 'Reminders' section of this newsletter.

[CLASS 2 FORM](#)

[YEAR 4 FORM](#)

## YOUNG VOICES CONCERT

I trust those involved enjoyed the amazing concert on Friday! The children were such a credit to you and the school and we hope that they loved the experience!

At St. Chad's, we have a carefully planned 'Personal Development' offer, which we routinely evaluate for its effectiveness and impact. Your input into this evaluation would be greatly valued and appreciated. As such, we invite parents to offer your feedback on the recent Young Voices concert and weekly choir rehearsals, using a short online form. It should only take a couple of minutes to complete. Many thanks for your time.

[LINK TO YOUNG VOICES FEEDBACK FORM](#)



## YEAR 6 LONDON TRIP

We are very excited about the forthcoming Year 6 trip to London after half term. The 'Speaker's Day' element of the trip includes:

- A guided tour of The Houses of Parliament and Westminster Hall
- Workshop themed around democracy
- A visit to Speaker's House (usually reserved for heads of state)
- Q&A with Sir Lindsay Hoyle
- Viewing of live debates in both the House of Commons and House of Lords.



We also take the opportunity to go on a river cruise and the London Eye, which allows the children to see the sights of London. What a wonderful day we have in store! Please pray for some nice weather.

## SAVE THE DATES & SURVEY REMINDER

The PTA are hosting their meeting on a different day and time each meeting, to try and accommodate different people's circumstances. The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February** at the earlier time of **3:30-4:30pm in school**. We are able to offer childcare for those on the school run who are attending the meeting.

Following a successful Christmas Fair, the PTA would like to gather parents' views to help them to evaluate the arrangements for this year, with a view to influence plans for future events. Your views would be welcomed. [CLICK TO ACCESS SURVEY](#)

## SAVE THE DATE – EASTER BINGO

This popular annual event will take place on **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March at 6:00pm**. Full details to follow.

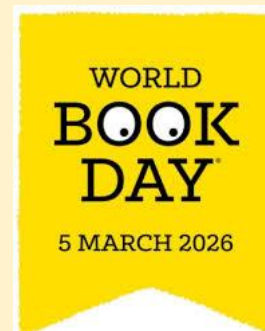
## YEAR 4 SACRAMENTAL SESSION 1

Thank you to those who have confirmed their participation in this year's sacramental programme. All details are on the letter sent a few weeks ago, but as way of a reminder, the first session is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> March after 9:15am Mass in church.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. On this day, your child can either dress as their favourite character from a book or simply come in their pyjamas with their favourite book. As an extra challenge, we are asking the children to perform a short extract from their book, and if they can do this off by heart, even better! This challenge is open to all classes, but if the younger children would prefer to learn a nursery rhyme to perform, this would be great too. We are asking for a voluntary donation for your child to dress up and all of the money raised will go towards new books to restock our libraries. An item will be placed on Parent Pay for this donation.

We would also like to decorate our school with photographs of the children reading in weird and wonderful places. We challenge the children to find the most unique places to read and send a photograph to share with their friends. If you would like to send in a photograph, then please send it in a private message on Seesaw to Mrs Topp. This should keep them busy over half-term. Happy reading!



## TEMPEST CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS



Photograph proofs were sent home in school bags last week. To get free delivery to school on your child's **Group** photograph, order by **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> February**. Order via the Tempest website using your unique link or visit [www.tempest-orders.co.uk](http://www.tempest-orders.co.uk). If you need any assistance placing your order, call Tempest directly on 01736 751555 (option 5).

## BUDDING AUTHOR'S



This half term, Class 4 have been studying the novel *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. Inspired by the author's captivating storytelling, the children have embraced their own creativity and taken on the role of authors. Over the past few weeks, they have carefully planned, written and illustrated their very own novels. We are incredibly proud of the dedication, imagination and hard work they have shown throughout this project. In recognition of their efforts, Miss Gillibrand has arranged for the children's books to be showcased at Chorley Library from 14th February to 28th February. This is a wonderful opportunity for the wider community to celebrate and enjoy their work. If you are visiting or passing by the library during this time, we would be delighted if you could pop in and read the children's books. If possible, please feel free to take a photograph of your visit and share it with Miss Gillibrand via Seesaw. The children would be thrilled to see their work being enjoyed!



## SHINPO MARTIAL ARTS CLUB

We are delighted that the new Martial Arts Club at Breakfast Club has been so popular and such a success over these first few weeks. The children seem to be thoroughly enjoying the sessions, and we are excited to see them continue to progress as we move into next term. The coaches have informed us that, this next half-term, they will be helping the children work towards their first official belt grading. **They plan to send out invites to take part in the belt grading and host it before the end of this next half-term! This means children taking part will likely have the opportunity earn their very first belt very soon!** This is a fantastic goal for the children and a wonderful way for them to recognise the progress they have made. It will also allow them to continue advancing through future belts as they develop their skills.



With this in mind, we now invite you to book the sessions for the next half-term, running from after the February half-term break until Easter. This is a five-week term, and the dates to book in advance are:

1. Wednesday 25th February
2. Wednesday 4th March
3. Wednesday 11th March
4. Wednesday 18th March
5. Wednesday 25th March

**Please could you book these Breakfast Club sessions via ParentPay as soon as possible** so that we can confirm numbers with the organisers enabling them to plan coaches and session content ahead of the new term. If your child is interested in joining these sessions and is in Year 1 – Year 6, please contact the school office [k.southworth@st-chads.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:k.southworth@st-chads.lancs.sch.uk).

For more information about Shinpo, please visit their website <https://www.shinpomartialarts.com/>.

## SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

Our new **Scholastic Book Club is up and running!** Look out for leaflets which were sent home in school bags earlier this week or go to <https://clubs.scholastic.co.uk/C-6FLKH9G4> to browse the latest books and order online. For **every £1 you spend** on this month's Book Club, **our school will earn 20p** in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your **order online by Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.**



## SPRING 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 12 <sup>th</sup> February	1:30pm	Last Y3 Swimming Session
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Pancake Day Lunch
	3:15pm	School Closes for Half Term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	9:00am	School Re-Opens
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	-	Forest School Sessions Begin (Year 4 and Class 2)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	All Day	London Trip to Houses of Parliament (Year 6)
	9:15am	Class 3 Mass in church
Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	9:15am	Sacramental Session 1 (Year 4 communicants)
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	6:00pm	SATS & RSHE Meeting (Year 6 Parents)
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15am	Class 4 Mass in church
	-	World Book Day lunch
Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15am	Sacramental Session 2 & Family Mass
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9:15am	Class 5 Mass in church
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	6:00pm	Easter Bingo
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	TBC	Cross Country Competition at Astley Park
Sunday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	9:15am	Sacramental Session 3
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	-	Year 1 Road Safety Course
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	6:30pm	Service of Reconciliation (Year 4)
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	9:30am	Easter Assembly in school hall (parents invited)
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	2:15pm	School Closes for Easter

### WEDNESDAY WORD

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

### WORLD BOOK DAY LUNCH

We will be offering a "World Book Day" themed lunch on **Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March**. The menu will be:

Treasure Island Crispy Chicken or Quorn Tortilla Wraps, sweet chilli sauce & cheese  
Served with Cannon Ball Potato Puffs & Golden Corn and Ruby Pepper Medley

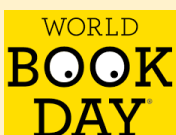
or

Hogwarts House Pasta Spirals in Tomato Sauce with Gryffindor Garlic Bread

or

Peter Rabbit's Jacket Potato with a choice of filling

Followed by Charlie's Chocolate Factory Ice Cream Roll or Matilda's Magical Jelly



This menu will be available to the whole school. If your child does not normally have a school lunch on this day but wishes 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 this day does not need to reply. 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).

## REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

### MISS GILLIBRAND MARATHON AND PTA FUNDRAISING PLANS

You may know that Miss Gillibrand is our PE Subject Leader at St Chad's. In a moment of madness, last May she signed up to run the Manchester marathon on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026. Miss Gillibrand will be the first to tell you that this came out of the blue, as she does not have a history of running. In her words, she 'hates running'. Talk about going in at the deep end!

To focus her mind and ensure that she doesn't pull-out, she has decided to advertise to our families that she will be raising funds for the school PTA. If you are able to offer your support, you can find her fundraising page at <https://gofund.me/a4ae356a4>

To help boost PTA funds further, she plans to arrange a 'guess the time' game and a children's sponsored run. More details on these to follow.

In the meantime, she will also be hosting a silent auction after half term as part of the PTA fundraising, with a fantastic range of prizes soon to be released. Families will be able to bid on as many items as they wish (or none), with the highest bidder winning the prize. To make this event a success, Miss Gillibrand is kindly asking for donations of prizes from businesses and/or individuals where possible. Please inform her of any offers at [l.gillibrand@st-chads.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:l.gillibrand@st-chads.lancs.sch.uk) by half term, to allow her time to prepare the auction. All money raised will go directly to the PTA, helping to enrich the education and experiences of our children. Prizes big or small are hugely appreciated, vouchers, tours, restaurant meals, massages, beauty treatments, tasting sessions, or any other special experiences. The last time the PTA ran a Silent Auction, we were absolutely blown away by the generosity of our community and raised over £1000 for the benefit of our children. With your support, let's see if we can make this year's event even more amazing!

### FOREST SCHOOL SESSIONS

Forest School sessions will resume as planned every Wednesday after February half term (**beginning Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February**). See chart over the page for an update of the schedule for the remaining classes. As usual, the sessions will take place on the school field, which will make the most of the natural environment that we are blessed to call our home. Naturally, at times the children will be getting muddy and wet, so we need to plan the kit that they need to stay safe, warm and dry.

The ideal scenario is for every child to have a pair of wellies, waterproof over-trouser and a waterproof coat, although we can't expect that every family will have these. We plan to build up a bank of kit in school for children who don't have their own, but this may take some time.

It would be really helpful to get an update from Year 4 and Class 2 of how many families will be able to provide some or all of their own kit, which will inform how much we will need to provide as a school. We have created an online form to generate this information, as well as some important information relating to safety, allergies and medication. **I would be most grateful if you could take a couple of minutes to complete the relevant form(s) below. Please select the correct year group for your child(ren). Please complete a separate form for each child. Many thanks!**

[CLASS 2 FORM](#)

[YEAR 4 FORM](#)



If you are able to provide your own kit, an excellent example of dungaree over-trousers can be found at [https://wetwednesdays.co.uk/outdoors-dungaree#actual\\_colour=51](https://wetwednesdays.co.uk/outdoors-dungaree#actual_colour=51)

Cheaper options are also available, such as <https://www.mountainwarehouse.com/pakka-ii-kids-waterproof-overtrousers-p43836.aspx/black/>

**We don't wish for any family to feel they have to buy new kit though;** we are happy to do what we can to help provide for the children. If you are able and willing to provide kit, please don't go to any great expense.

We are really excited to continue offering this opportunity for our children, who we know will reap so many benefits, not to mention the fun and enjoyment! Thank you for your support.

## FOREST SCHOOL – SPRING & SUMMER 2026

TERM	DATES	NOTES	CLASSES TAKING PART	
			MORNING	AFTERNOON
Spring 2	25 <sup>th</sup> Feb		Year 4	Class 2
	4 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 4	Class 2
	11 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 4	Class 2
	18 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 4	Class 2
	25 <sup>th</sup> March		Year 4	Class 2
Summer 1	15 <sup>th</sup> April		Year 4	Class 2
	22 <sup>nd</sup> April		Year 4	Class 2
	29 <sup>th</sup> April		Year 4	Class 2
	6 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 3	Class 1
	13 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs Week		
	20 <sup>th</sup> May		Year 3	Class 1
Summer 2	3 <sup>rd</sup> June		Year 3	Class 1
	10 <sup>th</sup> June	Quad Kids & Hothersall		
	17 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 3	Class 1
	24 <sup>th</sup> June		Year 3	Class 1
	1 <sup>st</sup> July	Rec Induction & Sample Day		
	8 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 3	Class 1
	15 <sup>th</sup> July		Year 3	Class 1

### YEAR 6 SATS & RSHE MEETING



We are hosting an information meeting for parents of children in Year 6 to inform them about the SATS tests and our RSHE programme. This will be held in Class 5 at **6pm on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March**. We wanted to give you as much notice as possible to help you to make arrangements.

## 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.

