



St. Chad's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter



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

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

Thursday 23rd April 2026

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

HEADLINES FOR NEXT WEEK:

Thursday 23rd April: Class 1 Mass with Year 6 buddies

Saturday 25th April: Shinpo grading

Wednesday 29th April: Forest School kit (Last session for Year 4 & Class 2)

Wednesday 29th April: New Reception Induction Evening for Parents

Thursday 30th April: Class 4 Mass in church – all welcome

PTA UPDATES

MOVIE NIGHT: Wednesday 20th May 3:15-5:00pm

There will be an option of 3 different screens showing children's movies for children to choose from. Popcorn will be provided, but children may also bring a drink and a treat snack. No fizzy drinks please. Tickets will be available to book on ParentPay next week.

SUMMER EVENT: Saturday 6th June 11:00am – 2:00pm

You may have noticed a PTA summer event appear in the 'Dates for the Diary' section of the newsletter before Easter. The date is confirmed as **Saturday 6th June 11:00am – 2:00pm**. The event will include a treasure hunt (with optional add-on obstacle course on the top field) and some traditional summer games, along with food and refreshments. More details and ticket information will be shared soon. All are welcome to join this family-fun community event!

NEXT MEETING...

...is planned for **Tuesday 12th May at 7:00pm in school**. This will be limited to 1 hour and will be focused around final planning for the summer event. All parents are very welcome to join the meeting, should you be interested in contributing.



SHE DID IT!

A huge 'well done' to Miss Gillibrand for completing the Manchester marathon last Sunday. It was incredibly gruelling and tested her physically and mentally, but she did it! We are proud of her achievement and thankful for her efforts to support our school. If you would still like to contribute, donations can be made via the following link:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/supporting-our-school-one-mile-at-a-time>



MRS TAYLOR – SPECIALIST TEACHER QUALIFICATION

Specialist Dyslexia Support: We are pleased to share that Mrs Taylor has recently completed additional specialist training in dyslexia and is now qualified as a Specialist Teacher. The school benefits in many ways, particularly support and advice for parents and staff.

She will continue in her part-time role at St Chad's as Class 2 teacher and SENCo, while also developing her own independent practice, offering 1:1 specialist literacy tuition and full diagnostic assessments for dyslexia. Mrs Taylor is also an approved assessor with the British Dyslexia Association.

The school is pleased to support Mrs Taylor in this work and, where appropriate, can help to facilitate access to her services. Please note that in most cases, any work undertaken in this capacity is part of Mrs Taylor's independent practice and would be arranged on a private, fee-paying basis.

If you would like to find out more, Mrs Taylor can be contacted via the school office or directly at insightdyslexia@outlook.com

FOREST SCHOOL – CLASS 1 AND YEAR 3

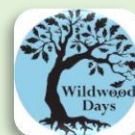
Wednesday 29th April is the final Forest School session for Class 2 and Year 3. They have had such a wonderful experience since February and developed so many skills. Their behaviour and efforts have also been a credit to them.

Forest School sessions for **Class 1 (Mrs Clark’s Reception/Year 1 class) and Year 3 begin on Wednesday 6th May**. 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 3 and Class 1 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 1 FORM

YEAR 3 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

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.

TERM	DATES	CLASSES TAKING PART	
		MORNING	AFTERNOON
Summer 1	29 th April	Year 4	Class 2
	6 th May	Year 3	Class 1
	13 th May	No Forest School – SATs Week	
	20 th May	Year 3	Class 1
Summer 2	3 rd June	Year 3	Class 1
	10 th June	No Forest School	
	17 th June	Year 3	Class 1
	24 th June	Year 3	Class 1
	1 st July	No Forest School	
	8 th July	Year 3	Class 1
	15 th July	Year 3	Class 1

UPDATE: PLEASE HELP RAISE OUR TARGET FOR THE SCHOOL BUILDING FUND (LEVY)



Thank you to those who have renewed / joined the 200 Club or paid the £10 school levy. **We are so close to reaching our target but still have a shortfall of £164 to enable us to pay the Archdiocese School Building Fund (Levy), which equates to another 11 x 200 club subscriptions.** If any more families can manage the £15 annual subscription to the 200 Club or pay the £10 levy, it would really help our school as any shortfall must be found from our very limited non-government funds as we are not permitted to use our core budget for this. You never know, you might win more than the subscription cost back in prize money.

Subscriptions are paid via ParentPay for parents and staff. Parishioners can pay by BACS, cash or cheque (details available at the back of church or by request from school).

CLASS 1 TEACHER RECRUITMENT

Recruitment for the post of Class 1 teacher from September 2026 is underway and the advert is now live on the LCC Vacancies website: <https://schooljobs.lancashire.gov.uk/vacancyDetails.asp?id=200397>
If you know any outstanding Early Years teachers who may be interested, please feel free to pass on the link.

SCHOOL SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS

After a hiatus of a couple of years, we are officially back on social media. Please follow these accounts to receive our feed:

Facebook: St Chads Catholic Primary School

Instagram: StChadsChorley

'ALL ABOUT FAMILY LANCASHIRE' PUBLICATION

Please find the link to the Spring Issue of 'All About Family Lancashire'.

www.allabout-family.co.uk/lancashire

Parents will find useful advice on;

- OFSTED News
- Fitness Advice from Department of Culture, Media & Sport
- NSPCC advice on AI
- New Children's Book Reviews
- St John Ambulance advice on illnesses
- Dietary Advice for Children
- Screentime to Greentime
- Advice on getting your child to read more
- SEND advice
- Adult Education Advice
- Plus more....

ATTACHMENTS:

LCC OFSTED INFO LETTER:

Lancashire County Council have produced a letter to parents explaining the most recent updates to the OFSTED inspection system – see attachment.

HOLY CROSS SVP EVENT FOR GRANDPARENTS:

See attached invite from Holy Cross for Grandparents of children at their feeder schools.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN:

For your information, also attached is an overview of our curriculum School Improvement Plan (SIP), which has been updated with most recent developments.

WITHNELL FOLD CRICKET CLUB FLYER:

Withnell Fold Cricket Club invite children to join their training sessions from U7s and their U11 team – see details attached.

SPANISH CLUB FROM ATTACHMENT:

Spaces are now available in the fun Spanish Club – see attached flyer.

SUMMER 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
Wednesday 29 th April	6:00pm	New starters Induction Evening
Thursday 30 th April	9:15am	Class 4 Mass in church (all welcome)
	4:00pm	Spelling Bee at Holy Cross
Wednesday 6 th May	-	Forest School for Year 3 & Class 1 begins
Thursday 7 th May	9:15am	Class 3 Mass in church (all welcome)
11 th – 14 th May	-	Year 6 SATS Tests Week
		No Forest School or Martial Arts Club
18 th – 22 nd May	-	Enterprise & World of Work Week
Wednesday 20 th May	3:15-5:00pm	PTA Movie Night
Thursday 21 st May	11:00am	Service for Our Lady (Month of Mary)
Friday 22 nd May	3:15pm	School closes for half term
Monday 1 st June	-	School reopens
Tuesday 2 nd June	1:30pm	Sports Day (all welcome)
Thursday 4 th June	9:15am	Class 5 Mass in church (all welcome)
Friday 5 th June	-	Anderton Centre Trip Years 3-5
Saturday 6 th June	10:00am – 1:00pm	PTA Summer Event
Sunday 7 th June	9:15am	Sacramental Preparation Session 4 in church
8 th – 10 th June	-	Year 6 Residential Trip to Hothersall Lodge
Sunday 14 th June	9:15am	Sacramental Preparation Session 5 in church
15 th – 17 th June	-	Reception Road Safety
Tuesday 16 th June	7:00pm	PTA Meeting in school
Thursday 18 th June	9:15am	Class 4 Mass in church (all welcome)
Friday 19 th June	9:30am	Music Concert (for anyone who learns an instrument)
Sunday 21 st June	9:15am	Sacramental Preparation Session 6 in church
Thursday 25 th June	9:15am	Class 3 Mass in church (all welcome)
	-	Year 6 Retreat Day at St Joseph's
	4:00pm	Thomas Martland Maths Competition
Saturday 27 th June	11:00am	First Holy Communion
Wednesday 1 st July	7:00-9:00pm	Swimming Gala
Thursday 2 nd July	-	Sample Day
	9:15am	Class 3 & 4 Mass in church (all welcome)
Monday 6 th July	-	Year 4 Cathedral Trip
Thursday 9 th July	9:15am	Class 1 & 2 Mass in church (all welcome)
Monday 13 th July	9:30am	Thanksgiving Mass (whole School) in church
Friday 17 th July	2:15pm	School Closes for Summer



REMINDERS FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

NEW! HEAPEY MOOR RAINBOWS AT ST. CHAD'S



Rainbows (4 – 7 years) will be opening in St. Chad's School Hall on Tuesday evenings (term time only) from 21st April 2026 - 5.45pm till 6.45 pm.

See attached flyer with information also about Brownies (7 - 10 years), Guides (10 – 14 years) and Rangers (14 – 18 years) and how to find meetings in the area.

In case you didn't already know, Guides already meet in school on Thursday evenings.

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.

SHINPO MARTIAL ARTS



This club is open to all children from Year 1 to Year 6, regardless of whether your child normally attends breakfast club or not and they can welcome new members at any time. To join or continue with classes, you just need to book your child onto breakfast club through ParentPay in half-termly blocks, where the cost is £7.50 per session which not only allows your child to take part in the martial arts club but it also means they get breakfast too!



We now invite you to book sessions for the next block until half-term. **Please note that there will be no martial arts session on Wednesday 13th May as this falls during SATS week.** The remaining dates to book for this half-term are:



- Wednesday 22nd April
- Wednesday 29th April
- Wednesday 6th May
- Wednesday 20th May

Good luck... to those children who will be taking part in their very first belt grading this month.



SCHOOL PACKED LUNCH

As the weather gets warmer, you might be rethinking the lunchtime option for your child. A school packed lunch could be the answer! We are now offering a cold option of a 5-item packed lunch on Tuesday's and Thursday's, apart from the days where the picnic wrap lunch is on offer. This means that a cold lunch option is available every day by way of either a sandwich option, a picnic style wraps and rolls option or a school packed lunch. School packed lunches are made fresh in the morning using nutritionally balanced menus to ensure your child receives the right nutrients to see them through the afternoon and promote a healthy life-style. Not only that, because we keep our lunches in a controlled environment, you can be assured that their lunch will remain fresh and tasty even in the warmest weather. Please see flyer attached to the newsletter and updated menu.

