St Chad's Newsletter

6th September 2024

"At St. Chad's, we grow in the light of Christ, to share his love and reflect the gospel values."

- It has been a great start to the term. Children have come back looking smart and ready to learn and most importantly with big smiles on their faces.
- Our theme for this term is 'Stewardship. Where we think about God's amazing gift of the Earth. He created it with all his love and in his image, doing the best for us. We need to protect it.
- We welcomed Fr Brian into school this week to meet some of the children. He will be in school next week on Thursday 12th at 9am to say Mass for the whole school. Everyone is welcome to join us.

Twenty Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Open Evening

Next Tuesday 10th September, we would like to invite parents of children in Y1, Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 to come into school to see your child's classroom and most importantly meet their class teacher. This is a great opportunity to discuss any concerns that you may have or if you would like any advice around your child's learning.
Teachers and their classrooms will be available from 3:30pm-4:00pm

School Uniform

Lovely to see the children in their new school uniforms. A reminder that children are in black shoes (not boots or trainers) and have the correct PE kit too. As per the school policy, children do not need to be in winter uniform until after the October half-term. When children are in a school shirt, a tie must be worn with it. If they are in a polo shirt, then they do not need a school tie.

Children are permitted to drink water throughout the day. We do not allow children to dink juice whilst they are in class. It should be water only.

For further details regarding our uniform policy please see the school website.

https://www.st-chads.bham.sch.uk/Parents/Uniform/

Living Streets

WOW - walk to school challenge

Let's Swop those School runs for School Walks

The whole school will be taking part in a new and exciting initiative called **WOW - walk to school challenge** to encourage more children to walk to school. Every day children will record how they came to school on their individual tracker and if they travel actively (walk, cycle, scoot or park and stride) at least once a week for a month, they will get rewarded with a badge.

What if we can't walk to school?

If driving 'Park and Stride' at least 10mins away from the school and walk the remaining journey.

If using buses, hop off at least 10mins away and walk the rest to help your child earn their WOW badges.

What is a WOW badge?

There are 11 WOW badges to be won from now until July 2025. WOW badges are made from recycled plastic material, including old fridge trays, plastic plates and even yoghurt pot off-cuts that were otherwise destined for landfill. They are produced locally in England, reducing our carbon footprint. The badges also arrive to schools in environmentally-friendly, biodegradable packaging.

Key Dates

10.09.24 Meet the Class Teacher 3:30pm-4:00pm

16.09.24 Y6 begin swimming everyday for two weeks.

24.10.24 Parents' Evening. This will be a mix of face to face and phone calls. Further details nearer the time.

13.11.24 Anti-Bullying Day. Children to wear odd socks. This years theme is 'Choose Respect'.

18.11.24 Year 6 Residential to Whitemoor Lakes

13.12.23 Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 School Nativity 2pm in school.

18.12.24 KS2 Nativity at St Chad's Cathedral at 6pm

19.12.24 Christmas jumper, Christmas dinner and Christmas Party Day

20.12.24 School closes for Christmas

School Masses

12.09.24 Year 6 Mass at 9am

Please Label Everything.

It would be very helpful if you could label all school uniform and PE Kits. When you have 30 children in a class, all with the same uniform and PE kit, which look the same. It can be very hard to identify what item belongs to whom.

Follow us - @ChadPrimary

www.www.st-chads.bham.sch.uk

https://www.st-chads.bham.sch.uk/index.asp

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Curious & Active

This term we are Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

What does this mean?

We will help our pupils to grow by leading pupils to be curious about the universe and all human activity, and to take increasing responsibility for their own learning, and by providing opportunities for them to be active in the life of the school, the Church and the wider

St Teresa of Calcutta

On Thursday, we celebrated the Feast Day of St Teresa of Calcutta. This poem/prayer was found on a wall inside Mother Teresa' s home in Calcutta.

People are often unreasonable, irrational, and self-centered. ***Forgive them anyway.***

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives. ***Be kind anyway.***

If you are successful, you will win some unfaithful friends and some genuine enemies. ***Succeed anyway.***

If you are honest and sincere people may deceive you. ***Be honest and sincere anyway.***

What you spend years creating, others could destroy overnight. ***Create anyway.***

If you find serenity and happiness, some may be jealous. ***Be happy anyway.***

The good you do today will often be forgotten. ***Do good anyway.***

Give the best you have, and it will never be enough. ***Give your best anyway.***

In the final analysis, it is between you and God. ***It was never between you and them anyway.***

Birmingham City Council

School Attendance Update

September 2024

Important - please read!

Friday 6th September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

This is an important update about school attendance for the 2024/25 academic year.

St Chad's Catholic Primary School continues to work in partnership with parents and the Local Authority to improve school attendance.

A big thank you to the majority of parents who make sure their children attend school regularly, particularly during the current cost of living crisis impacting families.

Your efforts, working in partnership with the school, will ensure that your child will have the best chance to achieve their academic potential and have real opportunity in further education and the world of work. It will also enable your child to:

- access the lessons needed to achieve their expected grades
- maintain friendships and develop new ones
- have access to social and sporting events offered by the school
- explore potential careers
- develop work habits such as good punctuality which are essential to thrive in the world of employment

How does your child compare?

Attendance during one school year	equals this number of days absent	which is approximately this many weeks absent	which means this number of lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons

RESET RESHAPE RESTART

You may be aware of the changes to the law related to school attendance, in particular the new national penalty notice framework which came into force on the 19th August 2024. Penalty notice amounts have increased and there is now an escalation process for repeated offences.

The Government has brought in the changes due to concerns about the decline in attendance linking to a deteriorating attainment and progress levels for children over the last few years. There is more information for parents here:
National changes to education penalty notices - September 2024 | School attendance, advice for parents | Birmingham City Council

If you are worried about your child/children's attendance the first port of call is to discuss your concerns with the school directly. The school has specialist staff who may be able to help, and all schools work closely with health and council teams who may also be able to help if needed. If you have concerns about mental health; domestic abuse; parenting; bereavement; finance; problems with drugs and alcohol; you can find help and support from the 'From Birmingham with Love' webpage:
From Birmingham with Love

It may be tempting to book a family holiday in term time to save on costs during the cost of living crisis. ***However, family holidays in term time are not allowed in law and are very unlikely to be authorised.*** *Taking children on leave without applying for authorisation may mean the school has to report your child as 'missing' to the local authority and holidays cannot be authorised retrospectively in law. Adding even more absence to the time children have already missed only means that the children miss even more lessons that will not be repeated.*

Family emergencies also need careful consideration. It is not always appropriate or in the best interests of the child to miss school for emergencies which are being dealt with by adult family members. Notifying the school of leave due to a family emergency does not mean it will be authorised.

Please note that where parents fail to ensure their child attends school regularly, legal action, including penalty notices, may be considered. New regulations also mean that children on extended period of leave may lose their school place where there is no evidence of a timely return to school or the date provided is too far away.

We hope this information is helpful to you and we wish you and your child/children all the best for the new academic year.

Kind regards,

Education Legal Intervention Team
Birmingham City Council

Mrs M Parker
Head teacher