

Our vision: 'Learning to love, loving to learn'

This term's value: Compassion / Next term's value: Thankfulness

Message from Mrs Jenkins:

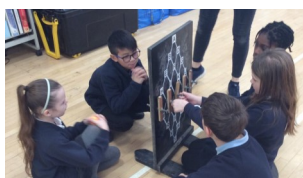
Dear Parents/Carers, It has been a busy but successful term full of wonderful learning opportunities and welcoming many visitors from the community to enhance the children's learning; thank you to everyone who has come in to support.

Thank you to those of you who have attended parents' evening this week; I know the teachers have appreciated being able to work with you to share your child's learning progress and achievements. Thank you also for the time you have taken to complete the parent/carer questionnaires for us; your comments really mean a lot and are a real celebration of how we all work together for the benefit of the children at St Chad's. After half-term, we will share the outcomes and our plan to implement next steps following your feedback. Thank you again for your time.



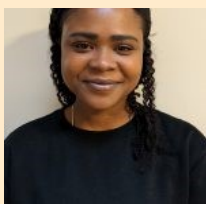
We break up this Friday for half-term. Have a happy and safe half-term when we get there and see you on Monday 19th February.

Kind regards, Mrs Jenkins



Farewell to Beveen

We say farewell to Beveen this term as she is leaving us as Lunchbreak Supervisor. Thankfully, she has agreed to help with future cover needed, which is great. Thank you to Beveen for everything she has done. We wish her all the very best and look forward to seeing her when she covers.



Attendance

Attendance continues to be a focus at St Chad's as we are below the national average. We ask that parents/carers contact us if you require support with attendance so that we can support you. Teachers will raise any concerns at parents' evening and share your child's attendance certificate. We fully understand that some absence, due to illness, cannot be helped and want to reassure you that this is taken into account. Please remember that holidays are unauthorised and may result in a penalty notice being issued if absence is more than 10 sessions. Thank you for your support with this.

A big well done to our Year 4 and 5 classes who are achieving the national average and our target; this is fantastic. Year 3 and 6 are also very close to this. Well done.

Consistently very good attendance helps children to access the full curriculum and receive the support and challenge needed to move their learning on.

Please also support your child to arrive in school on time as this also affects learning and attendance percentages.

In line with our safeguarding responsibilities, the school office will always ring parents of children who are absent from school and where we have not been notified or updated on a daily basis.

- 96%+ is expected and very good
- 95-95.9% is close to expectation
- 90-94.9% is cause for concern
- 89.9% or less is classed as a persistent absentee.

Many thanks for your continued support in this.

Attendance—Current standings at the end of term 3.

Reception	93.74%
Year 1	88%
Year 2	93.3%
Year 3	95.15%
Year 4	96.15%
Year 5	96%
Year 6	95.2%
School Total	94.7%

St Chad's Patchway CE VC Primary School — Key Diary Dates 2023-24

February	
Tuesday 6th February	Internet Safety Day and KS2 workshops with the Police (Parents/carers invited)
Tuesday 6th February	Parents' Evening 4-6 (Reception class also on Tuesday morning)
Wednesday 7th February	Parents' Evening 4-7
Friday 9th February	End of term 3 and Break the Rules day!
Monday 19th February	School reopens for term 4
March	
Friday 8th March	World book day – look out for the letter, and come as your favourite book character!
Thursday 28th March	End of term 4. School closes
April	
Monday 15th April	School begins for term 5
May	
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday
W/comm Monday 13th May	Year 6 SATs tests
Monday 20th May	Sports Day 1.30pm
Thursday 23rd May	Reserve Sports Day in case of wet weather 1.30pm
Friday 24th May	End of term 5. School closes for half-term
June	
Monday 3rd June	School reopens for term 6
W/c Monday 3rd June	Multiplication tables check (Y4)
W/c Monday 10th June	Phonics testing (Y1)
Wednesday 12th to Friday 14th June	Year 6 camp
Tuesday 25th June (TBC)	5pm New to Reception Parents' Evening
July	
Friday 5th July	UKS2 report collection
Monday 8th July (TBC)	1.15pm UKS2 production at St Chad's Primary School
Monday 8th July	Reports to be collected (R-Y4)
Tuesday 9th July (TBC)	5.30pm UKS2 Production at St Chad's Church. Pupils to arrive no earlier than 5pm. Details to follow nearer the time.
Monday 15th July	9.15am EYFS concert to parents/carers at school
Thursday 18th July	1.30pm Leavers' Assembly
Friday 19th July	School closes for the summer
Monday 22nd July	INSET (4 of 5) - School closed to pupils
Tuesday 23rd July	INSET (5 of 5) - School closed to pupils

These are only key dates, as they are known at present. You will see some are provisional, as you can imagine tying people down to dates this far ahead is tricky. Additional items will be added as the year progresses, please look out for these Newsletters (usually in the last week of term) with the most up to date overview.

A big thank you again to Charlie (a parent of a child in Year 2) for sending details of her blog and sharing her February half-term activity list for families.

FEBRUARY HALF-TERM ACTIVITIES FOR THE FAMILY—

[▯ BRISTOL MAMA'S ULTIMATE FEBRUARY HALF-TERM GUIDE 2024 ▯ - Bristol Mama](#)

Highlights this term

- Rocksteady music workshops and assembly
- Visit from the Fire Service for Key Stage One
- Visit from the Police for Reception
- Great Fire of London Day for Key Stage One
- Industrial Revolution Day for Years 5 and 6
- Talk with a Firefighter for Reception
- Year 1/2 trip to The Synagogue
- The Reading café after school on a Tuesday
- RE Week and spiritual arts competition
- RE carousel sharing learning and art work
- Year 4 swimming
- Year 3 drumming
- Cricket engagement day
- Year 6 bikeability
- Table tennis club
- Book Fair
- Reading Buddies
- St Chad's Chaplaincy in school
- Reading rewards—punch cards
- Prayer Space at lunchtime
- Acro-floor workshops
- Safer Internet Day and workshops delivered regarding Online Safety by The Police for Key Stage Two and parents/carers
- Parents' Evening
- Break the Rules Day—Friday 9th February



Are you missing benefits that are available to you?

You can get £100 and free school dinners for your children!

If you are eligible and sign up, you will be able to access both. "My child already gets free dinners in KS1," you might say, but they won't in KS2 unless you sign up for this. Once 'signed up' you will have access to a one off fund of £100 to use during the time that your child is at St Chad's. This £100 can be used for a range of things school based, including

- Trips during school time or after school where a donation is asked for by the school,
- School camp,
- Payment of after / before school clubs,
- Any activity in school where a donation is asked for, such as a visitor to the classroom,
- School uniform to be purchased from Monkhouse or Linela where we have negotiated a payment procedure and where you are able to purchase logoed items.

If you want more information, please go to <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals>. It is an anonymous application; it does not come to the school but to the local authority and, once accepted, the benefits are yours. The purpose of the fund is to support academic development, hence the list, and school -of course- will not hold cash on site, so rather a running tally of spends will be kept. We hope that this will both help the school further provide great education and also support eligible families with the ongoing demands of having a child in school.

Safeguarding

We take our commitment to safeguarding very seriously and follow guidance in 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. Our Designated Safeguarding Lead is Mrs Jenkins and in her absence Mr Ridd, Mrs Ives and Miss Legg are Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads.

Our greatest priority as a school is to always ensure the safety, well-being and happiness of all our children. The safeguarding of all our children remains our number one priority. During the holiday, South Gloucestershire Council's own Safeguarding ART (Access and Response Team) is also available to report concerns about a child: 01454 866000 Monday to Thursday 9.00 am – 5.00 pm, 4.30 on Friday and 01454 615165 out of hours and at weekends.





St Chad's Chaplaincy in School

We have really benefitted from having Jess (Youth Worker from St Chad's) working with us once a week. The children have loved getting to know her and she is a valuable support for many of them. Her time to talk sessions (chaplaincy) allow pupils a chance to talk to a trusted adult and to share any worries, concerns or good news. As a result, they have been able to discuss how situations can be improved or just get things off their chest. We have seen how much the children value this time! Her prayer club has been extremely popular at lunchtimes where all pupils are invited in to reflect on planned themes through practical, crafty and reflective activities and prayer.

Safer Internet Day

Safer Internet Day is celebrated globally in February each year to promote the safe and positive use of digital technology for children and young people, and to inspire a national conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically, and creatively. Safer Internet Day 2024 was held at St Chad's on 6th February with the theme: 'Change online'. This takes into consideration: Young people's perspectives on new and emerging technology; using the internet to make change for the better and the changes young people want to see online.

The things that can influence and change the way young people think, feel and act online or offline.

Below are some tips for parents/carers from the UK Safer Internet Centre:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

Inspire change by modelling how to be safe online

Just like in their offline lives, children need role models online too. Set clear and fair expectations about how the whole family should use the internet and technology, and demonstrate these yourself. A Family Agreement is a great way to start conversations and put your ideas down on paper, to refer back to later and adapt as your child and your family's internet use changes.

Make a difference by having regular discussions about the online world

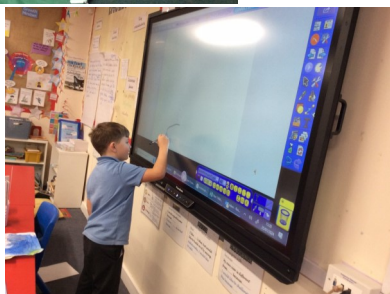
Having regular and open conversations with your child about their use of technology and the internet is the best way to stay up to date, not only with changes in the online world, but also with what they are doing and seeing online. Starting these conversations can sometimes feel daunting, but they can help you feel more informed and show your child that you are taking an interest in their online life. Not sure where to begin? Use the tips and conversations starters in our "Let's Talk About Life Online" resource.

Manage influence by researching the content and games your child enjoys the most

Giving young people the opportunity to talk about their life online, and enjoying online content together, can be a great way to gain an insight into the content they are viewing. Our 'Parents and Carers Resource Sheet' is a great tool that you can use to research any websites, apps and games and find out more about specific content.

Navigate change by knowing where to go for further support

If your child needs help, it's important you know where to go for further support. Using the report and block buttons, websites such as 'Report Harmful Content', and other safety tools is a great starting point. It can also be useful to discuss any concerns or worries with your child's school as they may be able to offer further advice and guidance. It can also help to talk to other parents and carers who may have experienced something similar.





Picture to the left: More produce grown by the gardening club last summer which has been dug up recently. It was given to the kitchen staff who used it for the children's school lunches. Well done! Gardening club is due to start again soon—look out for club letters.

