

## Message from Mrs Jenkins:

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

This term's value: Compassion

Next term's value: Thankfulness

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a busy but successful term full of wonderful learning opportunities. We are looking forward to discussing the progress and achievements your children have made in their learning at parents' evening this week.

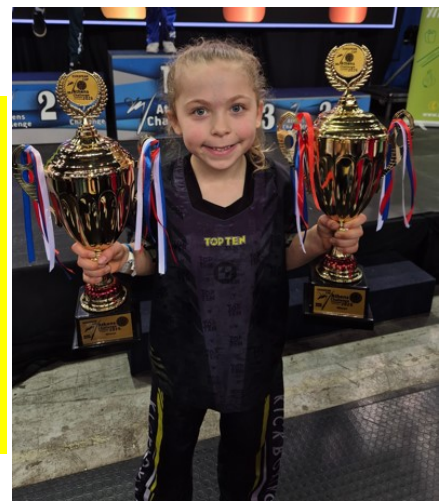
This term, we have welcomed Becky Fynn Garbrah as a Teaching Assistant and Charlotte Alner as a Casual Lunchbreak Supervisor; we are delighted to have them both join the St Chad's team.

Please see a separate letter sent out this week (Arbor/Dojo) regarding the electrical rewire taking place at St Chad's over the summer.

We break up this Friday for half-term. Have a happy and safe half-term when we get there and see you on Monday 23rd February. **Kind regards, Mrs Jenkins**

Congratulations to North in Year 4 who is now ranked number 1 in the world in her 2 kickboxing categories. Wow! She has recently competed in Athens in the European Cup representing England where she came away with 4 Golds (1 in the -33kg points fighting, 1 in the -36kg points fighting, 1 in the kick light and 1 in the light contact).

North also competed in a national competition this term where she achieved 2 golds, 1 silver and 1 bronze. How amazing! Well done North! We are so proud of you.



## **Parking outside of the school**

We have had a number of complaints from both our neighbours and other parents/carers at the school regarding blocking driveways, parking on neighbours' driveways, parking on yellow markings/zigzag lines, parking on the corner of a junction and perceived driving at speed in an area where our children are making their way to school. We have also had a situation where parking of cars locally has meant that an ambulance has struggled to get through.

As a school, we work very hard to prioritise the safeguarding and safety of our children and we would really appreciate it if everyone could support us by thinking carefully about where you park when dropping off/picking up. This will also help us to continue a positive relationship with our neighbours.

Please consider leaving slightly earlier in the morning/afternoon and parking further away from the school so that we limit the number of cars outside the school gate. We have taken advice from the Police regarding this. If at any point any member of the school community or our neighbours feel that they/their children are at risk, please report it to the Police at the time so that they can follow up. We are aware that number plates of dangerous or illegally parked cars have been shared with the Police and likewise any abusive behaviour.

We have requested Police and Council attendance to help us keep our school community safe. We are aware that we have received our first monitoring visits from both and follow up visits will take place over the coming weeks.

Thank you for helping us to keep our children, their families and our community safe.

## **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 2026 was held at St Chad's on 10th February with the theme: 'Exploring the safe and responsible use of AI'.

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

### **Top Tips for parents and carers - UK Safer Internet Centre**

AI technology is increasingly part of all our lives, so this Safer Internet Day we are starting a conversation about how to use it safely and responsibly. Use these top tips to help keep you and your loved ones safe online.

#### **Enjoy going online together and talk regularly about your family's online lives**

Spending time online together with family is an important learning experience for the youngest internet users. Not only will you both enjoy the quality time together, but you can supervise their usage and guide them to make the safest choices. Help give your child the words to explain what they're experiencing online by starting conversations about the internet and technology as early as possible. Talking regularly about what they love doing online, as well as any worries they may have, will help establish this habit and mean they're more likely to come to you for help as they get older. The most important thing for your child to know is that you are always there to support them, online and offline. Encourage them to talk to you if anything they experience makes them feel worried or upset, and show them they can trust you to stay calm, listen and help make things better.

#### **Make use of settings and controls**

Parental controls and other safety settings can help protect your child from online harms, including upsetting or inappropriate content. Think about how your child uses technology, for example if you have a smart TV or a voice assistant at home, and explore specific settings to support your household.

#### **Understand where AI technology is being used and the impact it can have**

You don't need to be a computing expert to start conversations at home about AI. Explaining that a voice assistant is a computer, not a person, or helping your child to understand that not everything they see online is real, is a good start. Encourage them to ask questions about the technology in their lives, and even if you don't know the answers, you can find them out together. From summaries on search engines, to voice assistants and photo editing tools, AI powered features are being added to many of the apps and devices we use day-to-day. Look out for information and warnings notifying you where AI technology is in use or where content has been created using AI. Help your child to recognise these too. Remember, AI can make some tasks simpler but may also collect data about you and your family, or share unreliable information, so consider how to use it safely and responsibly.

#### **Recognise what safe and responsible use of technology looks like**

To use technology, including AI, safely and responsibly, it's important to reflect on the potential impact it can have on yourself and others. How does your use of technology make you feel? How can you use technology with kindness and respect for others? Does your use of technology benefit you or help you build skills? How might it affect you now, and in the future?

### **Safeguarding/Key Contacts for parents/carers:**

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 Mrs Ives, Miss Legg and Mrs Pitt 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.

**Other contact details:** Police – 101 for non-urgent issues & 999 if urgent and an immediate response is needed

**Domestic Abuse Concerns** - Next Link South Glos domestic abuse telephone help lines are open 8:30am – 5:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am – 1:00pm on Saturday 0800 4700 280

**Mental health support - CAMHS** (if young person is currently under CAMHS) – 01454 862431 or if you are concerned that you are not able to keep your child safe or they are not able to keep themselves safe then take them to the Accident & Emergency dept at Bristol Children's hospital or call for an ambulance.

### **Food banks - links for families living in South Glos**

<https://oneyou.southglos.gov.uk/eat-well/food-poverty-support/>

### **Food banks - links for families living in Bristol**

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/>      <https://eastbristol.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/how-to-get-help/>

**Parents worried about exploitation** - <https://paceuk.info/> or for confidential help and advice, call Pace on 0113 240 5226

### **Uniform reminder**

**A reminder that the list below is a basic uniform list that the children are required to wear to school. We do not require a logo on items but if you wish to purchase these, you can do so from Linela or Monkhouse (see our website for further details).**

- White or light blue shirts/polo shirts.
- Navy sweatshirts or cardigan.
- Grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore.
- Summer option – plain black/grey shorts, blue/white check or stripe summer dresses .
- Plain, black sensible shoes. We do not allow high heels or raised shoes for safety reasons.

Suitable clothing for P.E is essential and we are asking for the following to be worn: Completely plain white t-shirt or completely plain t-shirt in your child's house colour (the school logo is allowed), appropriate sports' trainers that can be used within PE lessons (ideally black), plain, black or navy sweatshirt/zip-up top, black or navy shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings.

**Items, such as football shirts, are not part of our PE uniform and we kindly request that children wear the appropriate items to school for PE days. Please make sure that PE hoodies/jumpers are plain black or navy.**

## St Chad's Patchway CE VC Primary School — Key Diary Dates 2025-26

<b>February</b>	
Tuesday 10th February	Parents' Evening 4-7
Wednesday 11th February	Parents' Evening 4-6
Friday 13th February	End of term 3
Monday 23rd February	School reopens for term 4
<b>March</b>	
Friday 6th March	World book day – look out for the letter, and come as your favourite book character!
<b>April</b>	
Thursday 2nd April	End of term 4. School closes.
Monday 20th April	School begins for term 5
<b>May</b>	
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday
<b>W/comm Monday 11th May</b>	<b>Year 6 SATs tests</b>
Monday 18th May	Sports Day 1.30pm
Tuesday 19th May	Reserve Sports Day in case of wet weather 1.30pm
Wednesday 20th to Friday 22nd May	Year 6 camp
Friday 22nd May	End of term 5. School closes for half-term
<b>June</b>	
Monday 1st June	School reopens for term 6
W/c Monday 1st June	Multiplication tables check (Y4)
W/c Monday 8th June	Phonics testing (Y1)
Monday 15th June (TBC)	5pm New to Reception Parents' Evening
<b>July</b>	
Monday 6th July (TBC)	1.15pm UKS2 production at St Chad's Primary School
Monday 6th July	Reports to be collected (R-Y5)
Monday 6th July (TBC)	5.15pm UKS2 Production at St Chad's Church. Pupils to arrive no earlier than 4.45pm. Details to follow nearer the time.
Friday 10th July	Year 6 Reports to be collected
Monday 13th July	9.15am EYFS concert to parents/carers at school
Tuesday 14th July (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY)	1.30pm Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 15th July (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DAY)	School closes for the summer
Thursday 16th July and Friday	School closure days for rewire
Monday 20th July	INSET (4 of 5) - School closed to pupils
Tuesday 21st 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.

## **This term's highlights at St Chad's**

- RE week
- Safer Internet Day—visit from the Police for KS2 and their parents
- 'Break the rules' day
- Year 1 Yoga festival with The Bridge Family of Schools
- New Age Kurling competition
- Parent Council
- Parents' Evening
- Year 4 assembly to parents on Maha Shivratri—well done everyone!
- Bookfair
- Year 6 Lifeskills trip
- Rockstar Day
- Noah's Ark Zoo Farm assembly
- Police and Fire Service visit to school for Reception
- Road Safety workshops for Year 2 and Year 4
- Year 5/6 trip to Bristol Docks
- Year 3 pilot project with an Educational Psychologist called Working on what works—WOWW.



### **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/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.



## Attendance

- Consistently very good attendance helps children to access the full curriculum and receive the support and challenge needed to move their learning on. In line with our attendance policy, we do not authorise holidays in term time, so please try to book holiday during the 13 weeks of school holidays. % attendance will be monitored on a termly 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.

Where attendance is becoming a concern, parents may be invited to an Attendance plan meeting (with targets set for improvement) and fines may be incurred in the case of persistent absentees or prolonged unauthorised holidays. Our S. Glos Education Welfare Officer supports us with attendance matters.

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.

**Many thanks for your continued support in this.**

**Congratulations to Years 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 for achieving the national of 96%. Well done! You are all above our school target of 96.5% too! Brilliant!**

**Our attendance percentages continue to be the highest they have been for a while, which is absolutely amazing. We are so close to the 96% target. Thank you everyone for your support with this.**

We are seeing an increase in the number of children arriving late for school. This means that they miss the beginning of their reading lesson or phonics session every time this happens. Our gates open at 8.50am for children to go into class. Lessons begin promptly at 9am. Lateness does count when reviewing attendance so we ask that you do everything you can to get your children to school on time. If you require any support in this area, please have a conversation with the class teacher.

### Attendance—Current standings at the end of term 3. National Average 96%

Reception	<b>91.84%</b>
Year 1	<b>97.53%</b>
Year 2	<b>97.1%</b>
Year 3	<b>94.48%</b>
Year 4	<b>97.31%</b>
Year 5	<b>96.82%</b>
Year 6	<b>96.64%</b>
<b>School Total</b>	<b><u>95.97%</u></b>

**Year 4 service to the school and parents/carers.**





## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Make Your Time Matter. Help Keep Children Safe.

You've got the experience. We've got a meaningful way to use it.

At our interactive Safety Centre, you'll guide children through fun, hands-on learning that teaches them how to stay safe — at home, on the roads, and in daily life.

- Connect with your community.
- Learn new skills.
- Help save lives.

[lifeskills-bristol.org.uk](http://lifeskills-bristol.org.uk)  
[volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@lifeskills-bristol.org.uk)  
0117 922 4511





## Dates for the academic year 26/27 (next academic year)

### Closure days for the Whole School Rewire:

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

### INSETs 2026/27:

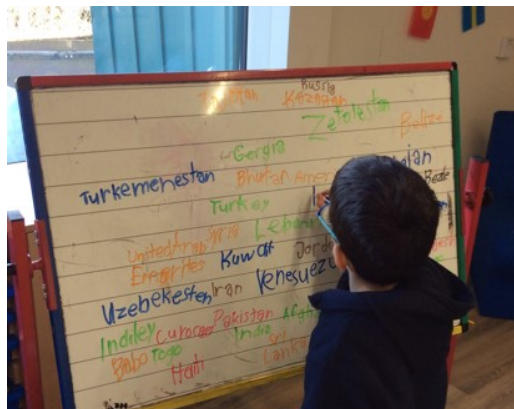
Thursday 3rd September 2026

Friday 23rd October 2026

Friday 18th December 2026

Tuesday 20th July 2027

Wednesday 21st July 2027



Term	Begins for pupils	Ends for pupils	INSET	Holidays / not in school for pupils
1	Friday 4th September 2026	Thursday 22nd October 2026	Thursday 3rd September 2026 Friday 23rd October 2026	Friday 23rd October to Sunday 1st November.
2	Monday 2nd November 2026	Thursday 17th December 2026	Friday 18th December 2026	Friday 18th December to Sunday 3rd January.
3	Monday 4th January 2027	Friday 12th February 2027		Saturday 13th February to Sunday 21st February.
4	Monday 22nd February 2027	Thursday 25th March 2027		Friday 26th March to Sunday 11th April.
5	Monday 12th April 2027	Friday 28th May 2027		Saturday 29th May to Sunday 6th June.
6	Monday 7th June 2027	Monday 19th July 2027	Tuesday 20th July 2027 Wednesday 21st July 2027	Summer holiday begins on Monday 19th July 2027 at 3.30pm.



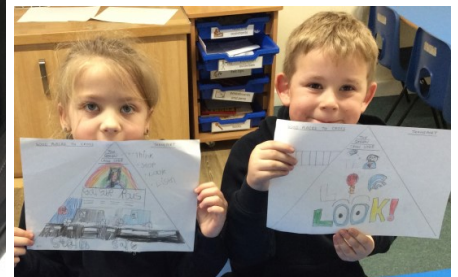


Year 5/6 trip  
to Bristol  
Docks

Reception  
visit from the  
Fire Service  
and Police



Year 2  
Road  
Safety



A huge well done to our KS2 New Age Kurling team who won 4 out of 5 of their matches in the recent New Age Kurling competition at BSCS.

They were fabulous representatives of the school. Well done to Emmanuel, Harvey, Jacob, Nova, North and Jayla.

Thank you to Mrs Jones for attending as Team Coach and to the parents for supporting this event.



## Services/Events at St Chad's Church



St Chad's Church  
172 Rodway Road  
Patchway  
BRISTOL

Please visit the St Chad's Church website for details about Worship and events taking place: <https://www.stchad.org.uk/>



### St Chad's Chaplaincy in School

We have really benefitted from having Jess (Flourish Youth Worker from St Chad's Church and a TA here) working with us once a week as our School Chaplain. She is a valuable support for many of the children. 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 Flourish 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.

Jess also leads the Flourish After-School club on a Wednesday 3.30pm-4.15pm where children and their family are welcome to attend. **Update from Jess about Flourish:**

We spent last term looking at some parables and have now gone back to the beginning with Genesis. We have great fun each week with our Lego competition as well as colouring and word searches along with free refreshments. The formation of the St Chad's Choir, where families from Flourish joined the school choir to perform at St Chad's Church Carol service, was a highlight before Christmas and we hope to prepare something for the Easter Sunday service. Everyone is welcome to join us at 3.30pm on Wednesday afternoons in the hall.

