

1st May 2026



Newsletter

Congratulations to our winners this week!

Achievement and Ethos Awards

Charlie, Cohen, Oscar, Joss, Ayla, Sami, Hussain, Don, Max,
Marcus, Orla, Fraser, Isobel and Freddie

Dear Parents/Carers,

What another great week in school. It has been lovely to see how creatively our children are using the scrap shed, and so nice that they can use the field to create their dens, houses, school rooms, space ships and more!

This week year 1 have started swimming too! They have been amazing and I have been especially impressed to see them independently hanging up their swimming equipment to dry. Our after school swimming lessons have also begun, and reception – in particular – were amazing although myself and Miss Munnely did get drenched 😊.

For anyone picking up from OOHA or our enrichment clubs on a Thursday, I just wanted to pass on my thanks. It is a really busy evening of enrichment clubs so I do know that collecting is a little slower than usual.

I thought with the warm weather it would be a good time to remind you to send your child/children with water bottles, hats and to come in sun cream. Also, children are coming in cardigans and jumpers and getting too warm. We are encouraging children not to just leave them on the field or playground, but they are often forgetting. Last night we collected a number in (a huge armful), but only two had names. Those with names on were returned to classes.

Finally, we had visitors from our Trust in school this week. We were so proud of the children who showcased their amazing oracy skills and they were excited to share their work and could articulate their learning wonderfully. Our visitors were so impressed with their manners, calmness, behavior and the care they show for each other which we see on a daily basis.

Enjoy the longer weekend, and we look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday.

Many thanks

Guia Marsland

St Chad's CofE Primary School **Newsletter**

Year 1 enjoyed a researched based Geography lesson, where we looked for objects around the school. As part of our unit of work, 'Our Local Area', we closely examined the school grounds, working as part of a team. The children followed clues and a firm favourite was, 'Can you find something shiny?' - the Disco Balls in Nursery!



'Last week, there was an eruption in Year 3! We have been learning about Volcanoes and what a great way to get to see an active in person without booking a flight! A MASSIVE shoutout to Saskia and the Hunter-Kelms for their hard work and dedication of time to getting this looking as AMAZING as it does. We might even try a round 2 with some vinegar ... watch this space!'





We have been having so much fun at OOHA club over the last few weeks, here are some of the things we have been doing!

Don't forget to enrol for wraparound care for next academic year by Friday 8th May!

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/AtEtWpw8uT>



Easter Holiday Club trip to Harewood House for the Golden Egg Heist!

- Pyjama Party
- World Book Day
- Pool Party
- Bird Feeder Making

And much much more planned!





Sensory Tools vs Sensory Toys

You may notice children using items such as wobble cushions, chair bands or ear defenders in school. These are sensory tools, not toys. They are carefully chosen to support focus, regulation and listening.

Sensory tools help children manage their bodies so they can engage with learning. Toys, however, often distract the user and others and can become a source of conflict. For this reason, we do not allow fidget toys from home.

Children are explicitly taught how and when to use sensory tools appropriately. All classes are also taught a range of finger fidget exercises they can do when they are listening to the teacher but need to have a little fidget without causing a distraction. This shared understanding helps classrooms remain calm, purposeful and inclusive for everyone.

Try this at home:

If your child needs to fidget, try purposeful movement such as squeezing a stress ball, stretching fingers or rocking gently while listening to a story.



-  www.leedslocaloffer.org.uk
-  @Leeds Local Offer
-  LLO@leeds.gov.uk
-  <https://tinyurl.com/LLOWhatsApp>

SEND PARENT CARER INFORMATION DROP IN

Date	Time	Venue
Wed 13 May	10.30 till 12.30	The Old Fire Station, Gipton Approach, LS9 6NL

Services in attendance:

- Leeds Local Offer
- SENDIASS
- Carers Leeds
- Child Health and Disability Team (CHAD)
- Leeds Parent Carer Forum
- Little Hiccups
- Speech and Language Therapy Service
- SEND Coordinators, Family Hubs

Let us know if you will be attending the drop in

<https://surveys.leeds.gov.uk/s/InfoDropIn/>



If you would like more information about the drop in sessions email LLO@leeds.gov.uk



What you might want to speak to each service about



- How to find out about SEND services in Leeds
- The Leeds Local Offer website and events
- Signposting to SEND services



- SEND support in mainstream schools
- Preparing for SEND meetings
- Education, Health and Care (EHC) needs assessments and plans
- Mediation and SEND tribunal appeals
- Specialist schools, settings and provisions
- Preparing for adulthood
- Preparing for educational transitions
- SEND funding
- School transport



- How to have your voice heard in Leeds.
- How we represent the voices of parents and carers.
- Events and sessions for families.



- Benefits advice and support (DLA and PIP)
- Emotional support around parent caring role



- Parent-Led Support: A welcoming community for families of children with disabilities to connect and share experiences.
- Inclusive Activities: Sensory-friendly sessions, inclusive play, and family events that build confidence and social inclusion.
- Advocacy & Resources: Help with equipment, peer support, and working with healthcare providers to improve local services and accessibility.



- What support do CHAD offer?
- How can children access specialist care packages?
- What is the threshold for CHAD social worker involvement?
- General questions or queries about social care?
- How to make a referral?



Our family hubs provide a welcoming space where families with children and young people (0 to 19 years, or up to 25 years for young people with special educational needs and disabilities) can access support, advice, and services in one convenient location.



- Support with communication
- Support with eating, drinking and swallowing

The Old Fire Station

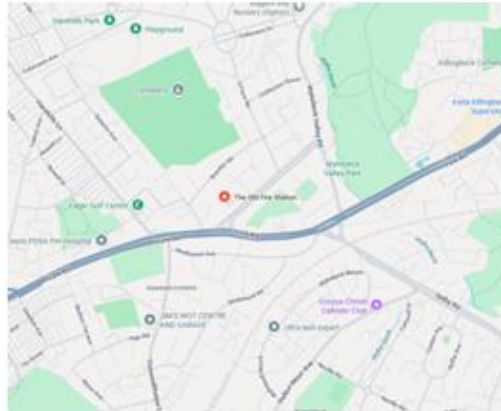
Gipton Approach, Leeds, LS9 6NL



Travelling by bus

There are number of excellent bus services in Leeds. The Old Fire Station is located on Gipton Approach, just off York Road (A64). The following First Leeds bus services stop on York Road: 5, 11, 19, 56, 49 and 64.

Visit the West Yorkshire Metro website and First Leeds for timetables and general information.



Travelling by car

Sat Nav – please use postcode LS9 6NL

From Leeds City Centre, on the A64, go straight on through the major traffic lights at the junction with Harehills Lane (under a footbridge), keeping to the inside lane. You will pass a large care home on your left. Take the next left onto Gipton Approach and the Old Fire Station is almost immediately on the left hand side.

Coming towards Leeds on the A64, after passing Asda on your right, stay in the right hand lane as you go straight on through the major traffic lights at the junction with Selby Road A63.

The Old Fire Station has plenty of on-site free parking. Once parked please proceed to the main entrance to the reception.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Test

On Monday 11th May at 2:30-3:15pm there will be a meeting in the school hall for Year 1 parents and carers. This is information about the Phonics Screening Test that will take place from week commencing 8th June.

All are welcome to come along, find out more about the screening process and what you can do to support your child at home.

Thank you,

Mrs Nicholls



Piano Lessons

at St. Chad's Academy



Piano Lessons at St. Chad's Academy

Link Learning are offering piano lessons at St. Chad's Academy. Lessons are taken weekly during the school day during term time. We'll be in touch with you once we receive your registration to answer any questions you may have.

All our tutors are enthusiastic musicians able to teach up to a high level and have recent DBS certificates.

For any queries please get in touch via telephone at 07305507504 or email at admin@linklearning.education.

What we offer

- Creative tuition tailored to the interests and learning style of the individual
- Digital resource pack
- Termly progress reports

Tuition price

- Individual - £9 per lesson (15 minute duration)
- Individual - £18 per lesson (30 minute duration)
- Paired - £12 per lesson (30 minute duration)

Please register at www.linklearning.education/register

LinkLearning is a team of teachers, musicians and artists who believe that every child should have the opportunity to develop and express their creativity.

We work with schools, children's hospitals and community centres to deliver high-quality creative activities that encourage exploration, discovery and experimentation.

In our music lessons we focus on the individual learning styles and interests of our pupils.

To learn more visit linklearning.education

Message from Councillor Izaak Wilson

You may be aware that he visited school last week to look at the damage done to the gate following the incident on Wednesday 18th March. Izaak is liaising with the highways and the police. When Izaak was at school, a number of parents raised the issue of e-bikes with him. He is running a public meeting on **Friday 24th April** and has asked that we share a link to his survey:

<https://forms.gle/3GJbyXXRGG38JGdd8>

He is also happy for you to contact him directly on:

izaak.wilson@leeds.gov.uk

Finally, **Tuesday 31st March** is the West Park Residents Association AGM which will be held in the school hall. Izaak will also be in attendance and happy to answer any questions during the Q&A.

Reminders about Hoop Earrings Please

We have noticed an increase in children wearing hoop earrings. As per our uniform policy for safety reasons, we ask that only small stud earrings are worn.

Thank you for your co-operation with this.

General School Uniform

- Grey skirt/pinafore dress/smart school trousers/shorts
- Gold or bottle green polo shirt (with or without logo) or white blouse/shirt worn with a tie
- Bottle green jumper or cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Green or yellow check or stripe dress
- Black sensible school shoes (flat heels)
- Hair accessories should be simple and in school colours if possible
- For safety reasons we ask that children do not wear jewellery in school. Where children have pierced ears, they should wear a small pair of flat ear stud earrings (no hoops please). Earrings should be removed for PE.

Belonging to a *talk-rich* Trust

Abbey Trust
Primary 100 Words



What does Oracy do?

Oracy will:

- Value your voice
- Improve your vocabulary
- Develop your language and expression

This week's words are:

- RELUCTANT
- RESEARCH
- RESOURCES



Supporting Maths Reasoning at Home

To help children build strong problem-solving and reasoning skills, we've gathered a selection of free, high-quality online maths resources that you can use at home. These sites offer games, challenges, and reasoning activities suitable for all primary ages. This is not instead of homework but in case parents would like extra maths activities. We hope you find them helpful for practising key skills in a fun and engaging way!

[Home](#) | [NRICH](#)

[Fun maths games and activities - Oxford Owl for Home](#)

[Maths Games for KS2: designed by a teacher for teachers - Mathsframe](#)

INTRODUCING YOUR NEW MENU!

We are delighted to share that after the Easter break we will be launching our new primary school menu. This refreshed menu has been designed around three key priorities: **safety, nutrition and enjoyment**. We want every child to have access to meals that are delicious, balanced and inclusive, while also preparing our offer for future school food standards.

KEEPING PUPILS SAFE: Safety remains our top priority. Working with the Natasha Allergy Research Foundation, we have reviewed our core menu to reduce allergens where possible and support more children to enjoy the same mealtime experience together. Our **Allergy Aware** menu helps every pupil enjoy a healthy, balanced meal with confidence.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms
2	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms
3	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms
4	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms
5	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast chicken with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms	Roast beef with onion gravy, roast potatoes, peas, carrots & mushrooms

SUPPORTING HEALTHIER CHOICES: We have also made a number of positive menu updates, including a greater focus on pulses and legumes, more balanced choices, and a fruit dessert with no added sugar. You will see ingredients such as lentils and chickpeas referenced more clearly in familiar favourites like **beef and lentil bolognese** and **chicken and chickpea creamy coconut curry**. This helps children become more familiar with a wider range of nutritious foods. A **chilled watermelon wedge** will also feature as a lighter dessert option for the warmer months.



NUTRITIONIST'S CHOICE: **UP 20%**
We are proud to continue expanding our **Nutritionist's Choice** range, which focuses on reducing ultra-processed ingredients and increasing the fruit and vegetables within our dishes. Since our last menu, the number of **Nutritionist's Choice** dishes has increased by **20%**!

A few new dishes to look out for:

- Pea Powered Vegetable Stir Fry
- Tomato, Spinach & Salmon Pasta
- Carrot Cake with Orange Glaze

We have also improved our everyday staples, with all rice now served as a 50/50 blend of wholegrain and white varieties.

As always, we continue to listen to pupil feedback and shape a menu children enjoy every day. We are excited for everyone to try the new menu and hope it becomes a highlight of the school day. Thank you for your continued support.

Alex Hall

Food Director
Impact Food Group



SCHOOL MEALS

Orders must be placed on www.parentpay.com by 3.30pm on a Friday for the following week. If meals are not ordered a packed lunch must be provided. Thank you for all your support with this – it really makes a difference.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost property will continue to be stored in the boxes outside of school.

We have some stocks of spare uniform so please do let school know if you need any uniform and will from time to time put this on display and please take what you need.

We will be sorting the boxes soon as our lost uniform seems to have grown considerably of late!

PE KIT REMINDERS

Unfortunately, children are still not adhering to the PE kit uniform. We continue to see an array of coloured tops, shorts and many branded t-shirts and sweatshirts. The uniform is as follows:

- Black PE shorts/jogging bottoms
- Plain round necked t-shirt in team colours
- Plain sweatshirt in team colour, bottle green or black (no branded items).



We are still seeing colourful and branded sweatshirts. Please support with this.

St Chad's CofE Primary School Newsletter



St. Chad's Parent Calendar 2025 - 2026_version 21



NOTE: Changes since previously issued shown in red.

SUMMER TERM	
April 2026	
Monday 20 th April	8.45am School Opens
Wednesday 22 nd April	Praying Parents Meeting 9-10am
Thursday 23 rd April	Year 2 Trip to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
Monday 27th April	Year 4 Trip to Elland Road (pm)
Monday 27 th April	Year 6 Parents Meeting (SATS)
Wednesday 29th April	Year 4 Walking to riverbank at Kirkstall Abbey (linked to Wind in the Willows book being studied)
May 2026	
Monday 4 th May	Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 5th May	FOSC Meeting (time TBC or see FOSC reps)
Friday 9th May	Year 4 Trip to Armley Mills (link to topic about The Victorians) Provisional
Monday 11 th May	KS2 SATS Tests
Monday 11th May	2.30pm Meeting about Phonics Screening for Year 1 parents
Tuesday 12 th May	KS2 SATS Tests
Wednesday 13 th May	KS2 SATS Test
Thursday 14 th May	KS2 SATS Tests
Thursday 14th May	Year 4 Visit to Headingley Library (Provisional)
Friday 15 th May	FOSC Spring Fling
Friday 15 th May	Year 6 Pyjama Day (or similar!)
Monday 18th May	Year 6 Triathlon Event @ John Smeaton
Thursday 21 st May	Praying Parents Meeting 9-10am
Thursday 21st May	Reception visiting Alexandra Court Care home for joint reading event led by Debutots
Thursday 21st May	School Census Day ~ see special menu
Thursday 21st May	3.30 -6.30pm Parents Evening - Nursery 1 only
Friday 22 nd May	3.15pm School Closes for Half Term Holidays
June 2026	
Monday 1 st June	8.45am School Opens

St Chad's CofE Primary School Newsletter

JUNE 2026 (continued)

Monday 1 st June	Multiplication Times Tables Check opens
Monday 1st June	School Council visit to CUA
Tuesday 2 nd June	Year 5 Trip to Leeds Grand Mosque
Friday 5th June	Whole School Fundraising for Candlelighters Candlelighters Supporting Children with Cancer & Families
Monday 8 th June	Year 1 Phonics Screening Check opens
w/c 8 th June	Year 1 - Year 6 Assessment Week 1
Wednesday 10th June	Reception Trip to Hesketh Farm (provisional)
w/c 15 th June	Year 1 - Year 6 Assessment Week 2
Tuesday 16 th June	Praying Parents Meeting 9-10am
Wednesday 17 th June	Year 6 Trip to Saltburn
Thursday 18 th June	Whole School Culture Day
Saturday 20 th June	FOSC Summer Fair (note correction)
Monday 22 nd June	Year 4 Nell Bank Residential
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 4 Nell Bank Residential
Tuesday 23 rd June	Year 6 supporting @National PE Conference (Leeds Becketts)
Wednesday 24 th June	Year 4 Nell Bank Residential
Thursday 25 th June	Nursery Sports Day (afternoon)
Friday 26th June	Year 1 Trip to Armley Mills (provisional)
Friday 26th June	Ralph Thoresby Transition Day (year 6 pupils if attending in September)
July 2026	
Wednesday 1 st July	Lawnswood Transition Day (year 6 pupils if attending in September)
Wednesday 1 st July	pm Whole School transition afternoon
Thursday 2 nd July	am Whole School transition morning
Thursday 2 nd July	Abbey Grange Transition Day (year 6 pupils if attending in September)
Thursday 2 nd July	Nursery Sports Day (afternoon ~ reserve date)
Friday 3 rd July	Reception to Year 6 Sports Day (afternoon)
Wednesday 8 th July	5pm Year 6 Production

St Chad's CofE Primary School **Newsletter**

July 2026 (continued)

Thursday 9 th July	10 - 2pm Year 6 Meanwood Park
Monday 13 th July	School Reports issued
Friday 10 th July	Reception to Year 6 Sports Day (afternoon ~ reserve date)
Tuesday 14 th July	Nursery End of Year Celebration (am) - <i>Note time change now in the morning.</i>
Tuesday 14 th July	FOSC Reception to Year 6 School Disco (TBC)
Wednesday 15 th July	Reception End of Year Celebration (pm)
Wednesday 15 th July	Praying Parents Meeting 9-10am
Thursday 16 th July	1.45pm Leavers Service @St. Chad's Church
Thursday 16 th July	FOSC Reception to Year 6 School Disco (TBC)
Friday 17 th July	2.15pm Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 17 th July	School closes
Monday 20 th & Tues 21 st July	Training Days (school closed to pupils)