

Governor Newsletter



BUILDING TOGETHER  FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Our school website is: www.st-chads-newcastle.staffs.sch.uk

July 2019

St Chad's C.E. Primary School

Hi everyone. I love coming in to school for things which are outside of the organised meetings. I recently came in for interviews of candidates for a teaching job and part of the process was to watch them teach a class of children.



This happened to be an English lesson and I was bowled away by the behaviour of the children but also the depth of knowledge (I am sure I didn't know what a preposition was when I was in Primary School!) All the candidates commented on how well behaved the children were and how their knowledge is excellent and my lasting memory from the day was when a child answered a question the candidate commented "Can I take this class away with me". The children should be very proud of themselves and they also gave us some great feedback on what they thought of the lessons. We have the Diocese coming in soon to carry out a SIAMS inspection (by the time you read this they will probably have been in). SIAMS is basically the Church equivalent of OFSTED to ensure that as a church school, our Christian Character is at the heart of all we do. We have a Christian Character committee to ensure that we enrich our school through the religious values and Christian Character of our school. Whilst it can be a stressful time for everybody it is always useful to get some outside input into how the school is performing and how being a church school makes such a difference to the education of our children. Wishing everybody a great summer and good luck to those pupils who are leaving to pastures new and I hope you fondly remember your time at St Chad's.
Colin Higginson (Chair of Governors)

PRAYER

May God's blessing go with us today,
At the end of this school year we pray.
That you keep us safe and give us rest
So we start again renewed and refreshed.
Full of health, full of fun
Ready to come and learn again.
May God's blessing go with us today,
As we begin our school holiday.
Give your peace and your vision,
To all the children.
Help the teachers to enjoy the break,
and prepare and plan for the new intake.
May God's blessings await us next year,
To embrace each new challenge without fear.
Fill this school with your love,
and guide our hearts from above.
Full of faith, full of hope,



Hi everyone!

I've not been as busy as previously in school this term but am still greatly involved in SIAMS and Governors' meetings as they come along.



*I have led some of the collective worship slots on a Wednesday morning and have been involved in a couple of the Friday morning celebrations. What a great occasion it was in the mock wedding of the now Mrs Brennan just before Easter...Miss Clarke performed marvellously as the Vicar conducting the 'wedding'! Rev Simon and I had better watch out!!
It has been great to stay after the Wednesday morning worship to spend time with pupils in their class environment. Some of the conversations I have had with them have been quite inspiring. Outside of school there has been training for new school governors put on by Entrust, of which I have attended and found them to be extremely useful. I am very much looking forward to being involved in the 'Leavers' assembly' due to take place at Holy Trinity Church. I pray for God's blessing on all those pupils leaving St Chad's school as they journey onto high school, may their transition be smooth and trouble-free. So, God bless them and keep them; uphold and sustain them; guide and encourage them in this new chapter of life experiences, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
Rev Sharon. (Foundation Governor)*

Values
Independence
Empathy
Belonging
British
Liberty
Democracy
Respect
Commitment
School
Kindness
Tolerance
Law

Dear parents,

Is it really the Summer Term?

The year is flying past and it certainly doesn't feel like summer judging by the rainy weather outside! Welcome to the final newsletter of the academic year.

Myself and the Governors would like to take this opportunity to thank all members of our school community; Parents / Carers, Staff and Pupils for the part you have played in ensuring our school continues to strengthen and is a safe, Christian environment where all pupils are valued, nurtured and developed.

Last week it was lovely to spend the afternoon in the Nursery class. In line with their topic this term, I was invited in to talk about my role as a Scout Leader and how I help local children and the community. The children were very keen and asked lots of questions, I am sure that when they reach 6 years of age I will be inundated with new recruits! As Governors we enjoy our school visits, we always see a great learning environment with enthusiastic learners.

We can be very proud of the excellent progress that all pupils are making throughout their Christian journey at St Chad's. As we approach the summer break I would like to wish you all a safe, restful and enjoyable holiday.

Zoe Comley
(Parent Governor)



Hi everyone,

At the beginning of the Summer term, I was lucky enough to be able to join our children and parents to celebrate the 'Passing Out' of our Year 5 Police Cadets. It was lovely to witness our responsible citizens pledging their commitment to their community, explaining their favourite elements of the programme - including fingerprinting and using walkie talkies - and receiving their uniforms and certificates from PCSO Troy. Well done to everyone involved!

As Pupil Voice Link Governor, I have also spent time with both the School Council and the Play Leaders this term. The School Council are currently busy thinking up some great ideas to contribute towards the Summer Fayre and our team of Play Leaders conducted an audit of the school's equipment for children to use at lunch and break times, and then offered up their suggestions of what else was needed, or might be nice playtime additions for our children in the new academic year! As a school governor, I really do enjoy the meetings required regarding the running of our school but definitely my favourite part of the role is spending time with the children throughout the year as they grow and develop in the additional roles of responsibility that they take on as part of being a student at St Chad's.

After a very soggy start to June, I am hoping for a repeat of last year's heat wave soon and wish you and your families a lovely Summer break!

Many Thanks! Louise Hunt (Parent Governor)



First, I would like to say a big Thank You to everyone who sent me best wishes and prayers after my recent spell of illness. I was really encouraged, and the cards from the School - fantastic! Thank you.

The way that the School community reacted to my illness actually shows something of the Christian character that already exists at St. Chad's. I was made to feel that I belonged to the School by the kindness shown through the cards and good wishes, and kindness and belonging are two of our Values. The staff and the Governors, including the Rev. Sharon and I, seek not just academic excellence for the children, but also a deepening awareness of the reality of God. He is always present and He helps us to be committed, to be honest, to show empathy, respect and kindness, and He gives us a real sense of belonging - to Him and to each other- which gives us the strength to be independent, without being selfish. It isn't always easy to measure how 'successful' or otherwise we are in this, but we are helped in this task by a Church body known as SIAMS - Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. Certain guidelines and suggestions are given to help us teach the children about the Christian faith, so that they can live out what they have learned in their daily lives. There is plenty of evidence around the school that the children understand all this, by the posters that are on the walls, the areas of reflection in each class room, the prayers that are used in assemblies and discussions at quite a deep level about the Christian faith. Why not ask your children at home about what they have learnt about Christianity?

With the end of the School Year fast approaching, we are planning the end of year special service for all those in Year 6. Each student will receive a Bible which we hope and pray will help them always, but especially as they get ready to move on in their School life. They will also be receiving a little book which has various ideas about how to make the best use of these coming days. I hope that you will be able to read these books with your children, and continue to encourage them as they grow spiritually as well as physically, emotionally and academically. God bless,
Simon Boxall (Foundation Governor)

A LARGE PRINT VERSION OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS AVAILABLE AT THE SCHOOL OFFICE