



SCHOOL MATTERS

Week Ending Friday 16th January 2026 Vol 9



LOVE LEARNING. LOVE GOD. LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

Fortnightly newsletter of Poulton-le-Fylde, St Chad's CE Primary School

Tel: 01253 883639

www.poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Christian Value

Spring 1

Perseverance



Galatians 6:9: “And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.”

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Anti-Bullying Policy

We are reviewing our Anti-Bullying Policy and would like to invite parents to contribute. We will be holding a drop-in session from 3:30pm on Friday 30th January- if you would like to attend, please come to the school office. Alternatively, please email either myself or Mr Blackburn if you would like to offer feedback on the current policy.

Emergency Procedures- National Power Outage



In addition to our regular emergency planning at St Chad's, we have also looked at what would happen in school if there was a national power outage, as we have seen in Spain and Portugal. We would like to ask parent's assistance in forward planning. In this type of emergency, where communication lines would be down and you would not be able to contact school or each other, we would ask that families collect children immediately and wait at home until further notice. Please arrange as a family who would be the designated person to collect your child in an emergency- to avoid multiple family members coming to school.

We have sourced emergency provisions of food, water and lighting for a short period but we would have no emergency heating. Collection points in the event of a national power outage would be from the usual classroom door- we ask that Y5/6 parents come straight to the door. Collecting children as soon as possible would mean we could also get our staff to safety, some of whom have a fair way to travel home. Thank you for helping us with our emergency preparedness.

Parent's Evening

For our next parent's evenings we kindly ask that any separated parents make one appointment, this time it would be for the parent who did not attend in October. We will also be giving you copies of your child's attendance record- if you have any queries about this please contact Ms Cameron, our Attendance Champion.



*From,
Mrs Bitsakaki*

School Meals Survey November 2025

46 respondents on 4.12.25



1. My child has school meals always 46%, sometimes 46% or never 8%
2. My child mostly enjoys school meals Yes 69% No 20% don't know 11%
3. School meals are reasonably priced Yes 90% No 10%
4. There is a healthy, varied selection of food on the menu yes 81% No 19%
5. My child would prefer a packed lunch no matter what the meal choices are yes 26% no 61%
don't know 13%
6. Important factors for me in choosing school dinners are:
 - quality 74%
 - variety 58%
 - cost per meal 30%
 - hot/cold option 30%
 - convenience 23%
 - if friends do 12%
 - vegan/vegi/halal 0%
 - allergens 0%
7. Meal suggestions:
 - ☐ Chicken wraps
 - ☐ Spaghetti Bolognese- Meat and potato pie-
 - ☐ Cottage pie, chicken fajitas, chilli, spaghetti bolognese.
 - ☐ Spaghetti bolognese, pasta bake, cottage pie-
 - ☐ Chicken nuggets
 - ☐ Sausage & Mash Spaghetti Carbonara Toasties
 - ☐ Take away burgers & hot dogs - they're on the menu too often. I agree with one treat day every so often. Replace with cottage pie / spag bol & other healthy options.
 - ☐ Sunday dinner with Yorkshire pudding
 - ☐ My child loves the novelty of anything on a skewer! Chicken and pepper skewers with pita for a healthy kebab. Also suggest tacos or burritos
 - ☐ Ensure each meal choice has a portion of fruit or vegetables
 - ☐ Spaghetti bolognaise garlic bread Chicken meatballs rice Chicken and rice Lasagne garlic bread Grilled chicken and rice / chips I think the jacket potatoe should be taken off and swapped with a toastie with crisps and salad Pizza with chicken / veg option on top
 - ☐ Lasagna, fajitas, cottage/shepherds pie, chicken/steak pie, spaghetti bolognaise
 - ☐ More healthier options with more vegetables
8. My child mostly enjoys lunchtimes yes 73% No 13% Don't know 14%
9. Do you have any comments about the snack bar?
 - ☐ Like it especially on a Friday however may be do it on another day as well
 - ☐ Maybe a couple more warm options over winter.
 - ☐ My child says it's yummy
 - ☐ More variety
 - ☐ My children don't really use the snack bar. They occasionally have toast on a Friday. One of my children said toast ran out one week so he couldn't get any.
 - ☐ Yes the snack bar should be more staffed so children are not queuing in a long queue and unable to have any well needed play time with their friends Options of

fruit / pancakes and toast. Also able to buy multiple items and not just limited to one item on a Friday.

- ☐ Child is happy about it
- ☐ Loves the snack bar and the variety of options.
- ☐ Great idea. Child loves Fridays.

10. Class EYFS9%Y1 20%Y215%Y39%Y420%Y511%Y615%

11. Any comments-

- ☐ The children sometimes says they are very rushed in the hall especially if on a packed lunch and don't have time to eat it all Sometimes the children are told to stop talking it's a time when they should talk and socialise like adults do at meals Children on packed lunches should be able to sit with school dinner children and not be separated. More choice if salad
- ☐ They don't seem to have long enough to eat their lunches since the school day was shorted and then lunchtime was shortened. Maybe a salad bar where they can help themselves.
- ☐ I feel like fruit and vegetables should not be restricted to one portion. Maybe a free salad bar or something like most schools. One slice of watermelon seems very stingy, especially when we should be encouraging children to have 7 portions of these a day.
- ☐ My child is happy having a mix of school meals and pack lunches, having 2 school meals at £2.90.
- ☐ I have three children.- He doesn't like school dinners and wants to go on pack lunches - she never had time to finish her lunch and is always hungry when she gets home - likes pack lunches
- ☐ My daughter used to really enjoy the school lunches but recently this has not been the case and has been asking for packed lunches instead. As both my husband and I both work 40-50+ hours a week our kids having school lunch meant one less job for us. My daughter is not a picky eater at all but has been complaining a lot about not liking the lunches and after hearing the meals she describes, I don't blame her. Most recently complaining of sausages with chunks of hard carrot in them?? The school lunches used to be something she looked forward to but now they seem to have down in quality and variety since losing Mrs Hornsby. Now feels like we're paying more for our child to feel like she has to opt for jacket potato most days or chance getting something 'gross'. Now when we ask her about it she says she hates them. Really sad because the school lunches was one of the reasons we chose the school when we first enrolled our eldest.
- ☐ He has school meals while they are free, then once in year 3 he can select whether he wants school dinners or packed lunches
- ☐ He has packed lunches but always says they don't get much time to eat their packed lunches. Which isn't fair, kids should not be rushed to eat or not able to finish their lunch.
- ☐ My child has reported to me on many occasions that he only has 15 minutes to eat his lunch which often comes home untouched because "we didn't have enough time to eat today" I asked if this was the case for those on school dinners and have been told that this only for the ones on packed lunches
- ☐ Line up is not good, no time for them to eat.
- ☐ Lunch is quite rushed now.
- ☐ Very heavy on jacket potatoes and sandwiches/wraps- would prefer to see a 2 hot options and then have either a sandwich and jacket rather than say a curry, jacket or sandwich as the days options and have something like curry, pasta and jacket or sandwich.

- ☐ Lunchtime is too short. Changed child to school meals as packed lunch rarely eaten, child says he is too rushed. Now apparently children being rushed to finish school meals.
- ☐ Our child loves the new menu this year
- ☐ I'm not sure why the children feel rushed, I know a few parents have commented on this. Could there be more time allowed for them to eat? This is their time to relax and enjoy their lunch with friends.
- ☐ Ensure fruit / vegetable is on every option . A biscuit or cake is not needed as a dessert, could be a yoghurt or fruit salad
- ☐ With a 45min lunch my child has repeatedly come home from school without eating her lunch and of course hungry. She complains of being rushed to the point where tables are being cleared whilst she's still eating. Whilst I believe there is a rota/rotation for classes as to who gets lunch first, this is something has been happening for the last couple of years making me think whichever class is last is probably losing out. I don't feel any child should lose out to a proper break and refuel. I would like to see a longer calmer lunchtime which I understand may make the school day slightly longer like it used to be.
- ☐ Absolutely none of the food should be Halal. This is a CofE school. Any instances of Halal food should be removed. I'm unsure if there is halal food at present but if there is parents should be aware and it should be removed anyway. We should never be forcing everyone else to eat halal food just to accommodate a tiny fraction of people.
- ☐ My child has complained for months how the class doesn't get enough time to eat. Most of the week he comes home with 80% left of his lunch.
- ☐ I would like to see a varied menu for all children. The price of £2.90 is a lot when most children only have time to eat the main meal and not the pudding. My child is opting more so for a packed lunch due to very little options. Jacket potatoe should come off and changed with something more child friendly like a toasty or panini. I don't see why the sandwich option is £2.90 as this is very expensive for what it is when this can be made in a packed lunch. I hope all suggestions are taken into consideration to ensure all children have options to a more hot meal school dinner. :)
- ☐ I don't really like sandwiches being offered as part of the school dinner option. Are choices monitored to make sure a child isn't having jacket potato/pasta option every day?
- ☐ My child is very fussy! He only likes the meals on a Friday. Would be helpful to have basic meals like sausage and mash with veg and no gravy/sauce
- ☐ Great varied menu and never have any complaints from my child.
- ☐ My child is having less school meals this term as a lot of meals aren't to his liking.
- ☐ Whereas last term there were more options for plainer food - pizza pocket, chicken burger. That said, I think it is a good mixed menu - it is purely personal taste.

Thank you all for your comments. In response:

- ☐ From January we have had extra staff on a Friday duty to run a Y3/4 snack bar and a Y5/6 snack bar to reduce queuing. This is working well so far. School Council have suggested the option of muffins which we have now begun to offer on the snack bar.
- ☐ Sometimes KS2 children are arriving late to lunch from their lesson so this has shortened their lunchtime. Staff have been reminded to be punctual in getting classes to the hall so children get their full lunchtime and you should already see an improvement. The dinner hall

is always busier in winter as some children eat more slowly as they don't like the weather and we don't have our packed lunches outside- this will ease with the better weather.

- ☐ Children are asked to talk quietly with friends, but we don't like them to eat in silence.
- ☐ We offer vegetables/salad with each meal.
- ☐ We don't currently provide any Halal food but we are happy to do so, should a family request it.
- ☐ In the survey about school meals last year, parents asked for sandwiches to be an option so we added it to the menu. Children still have two other choices if they don't want a sandwich.
- ☐ Unfortunately time does not allow for staff to monitor children's individual meal choices.
- ☐ We do offer meals without the sauce/gravy. Please speak to Mrs Downe if this is something you are concerned about.
- ☐ As with LCC, we have one standard price for lunches and the meal choice is left to children.
- ☐ We can't use skewers for H+S reasons.
- ☐ We will let the children have as much fruit, veg and salad as they like and since the feedback we have bought bigger bowls to make it easier to eat more of this.
- ☐

Mealchoices we already offer:

- ☐ Chicken wraps Cottage pie- we added this after last year's survey but this isn't a popular choice with children Hot dog
- ☐ Burrito
- ☐ Sausage and mash
- ☐ Sunday dinner with Yorkshire pudding (weekly)
- ☐
- ☐
- ☐

Mealchoices we can begin to offer in the light of this feedback:

- ☐ Spaghetti Bolognese (we normally offer pasta Bolognese as it's easier to eat but happy to offer spaghetti)
- ☐ Panini (toasties are not practical for the kitchen so we can offer paninis instead)
- ☐ Selection of pies such as meat and potato, cheese- we have offered these before and they were not popular with children but will try again.
- ☐ Meatballs
- ☐ Carbonara
- ☐ Lasagne- you may have seen our Facebook post this week with this on the menu and the children enjoying it greatly!

Thank you again for your feedback!



CALENDAR DATES

- Jan 30th 3:30pm Drop-in Session - Anti-bullying Policy Review
- Feb 4th Class photos
- Feb 9th Parents Evening
- Feb 12th Parents Evening
- Feb 13th School closes for half-term
- Feb 23rd School reopens
- March 6th World Book Day - Dress up as 101 Dalmatians
- March 26th Wear purple - Epilepsy Day
- March 27th School closes for Easter - 2pm

Designated Safeguarding Lead:
Mrs Bitsakaki

Deputy Safeguarding Leads:
Mr Blackburn
Mrs Harwood
Mrs Stanley

Governor Safeguarding Lead:
Rev Martin Keighley

Christian Value for Spring 1
Perseverance

ATTENDANCE

National Expectation for Attendance

94%

School Attendance Target

96%

Whole School Attendance is currently

94.75%

CLASS ATTENDANCE CURRENTLY

EYFS	96.09%
Year 1	95.43%
Year 2	94.17%

Year 3	92.48%
Year 4	94.75%
Year 5	94.51%
Year 6	96.33%

STARS AND LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 19TH DECEMBER

STARS OF THE WEEK

EYFS
YEAR 1
CREATIVE CORNER
YEAR 2
YEAR 3
YEAR 4
YEAR 5
YEAR 6

-
Bear
Pippa
Eadie
Max
Lola
Summer
Milo

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

-
Evie
Delilah
April
Olivia
Zachary
Angel
Jacob B

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Mrs Crossley

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE WEEK

Mrs Duhig

TIDY CLASSROOM

KS1
Year 1

KS2
Year 4

HOUSE POINT WINNERS

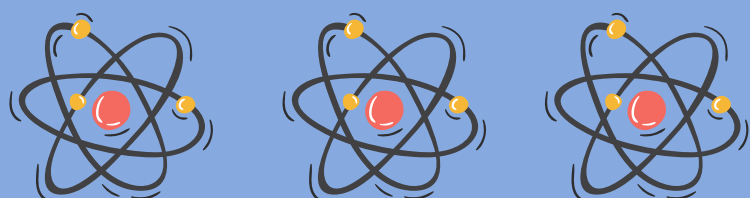
Red Pandas



STARS OF THE WEEK



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



STARS AND LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 9TH JANUARY

STARS OF THE WEEK

EYFS
YEAR 1
CREATIVE CORNER
YEAR 2
YEAR 3
YEAR 4
YEAR 5
YEAR 6

AJ
Evie
Millie
Thomas
Amelia
Jenson
Harrison
Seth

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Pippa
Bear
Leo
Benjamin
Josh
Sophie
Hallie
Finn D

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Mr Graham

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE WEEK

Mrs Swales

TIDY CLASSROOM

Creative
Corner

KS2
Year 6

HOUSE POINT WINNERS

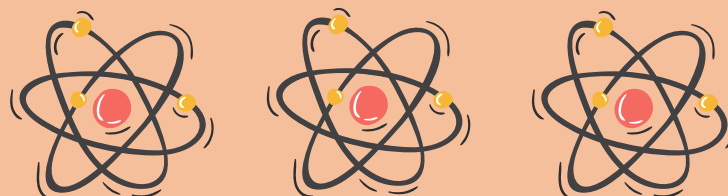
Blue Elephants



STARS OF THE WEEK



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



Headteacher's Award w/e 19th December

Floki Award



Joe
Y5



Hallie & Ariella
Y5



Year 5



Headteacher's Award w/e 9th January

Floki Award



Milo
Y2

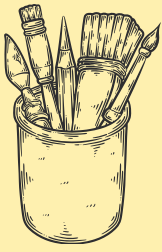


Eadie
Y2



Amelia
Y3





LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

KEY STAGE 1



EYFS



Today the children have been super excited about Wear It Wild Day, they have loved talking about all the different wild animals.

YEAR 1



In science, we have been investigating whether materials are absorbent or non-absorbent.

CREATIVE CORNER



We have been busy exploring ocean pollution and how it affects the marine life. We have made wonderful posters about how we can reduce the amount of plastic in the ocean.

YEAR 2

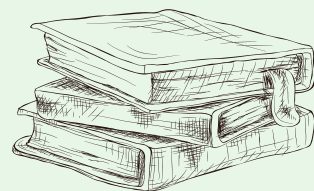


Year 2 had a visit from Peter, a wildlife photographer. We looked at different images and videos of animals and tried on different artefacts.



LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

KEY STAGE 2



YEAR 3



Year 3 have been listening to composition to inspire artwork and writing. Here we're creating drawings inspired by the music of Chopin.

YEAR 4



This week in Year 4 we have been breaking down key plot points as we explore stories with moral dilemmas. The kids all enjoyed recreating scenes from 'A Matter of Loaf and Death.'

YEAR 5



Year 5 enjoyed their session with Peter the Wildlife photographer where they learnt about 'The Ugly Five: hyena, warthog, vultures, marabou storks & wildebeest.'

YEAR 6



This week in PE we have been going back to basics in football, focusing on our passing and dribbling skills!



OOSC Activities





Ethos Group & Eco Council



Ethos Group and Eco Council are very excited to begin working with our link school, Devonshire Road Primary school in Bolton. Here the children are researching the school, picking out differences and similarities and discussing things we might want to ask the children there.



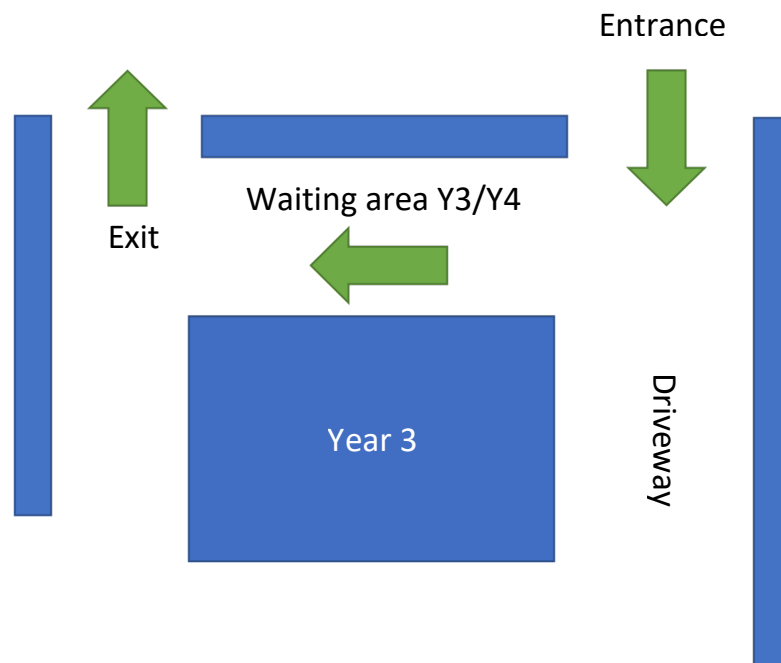
Go with the flow

By Ellie and Finley

For our safety and our parent's safety, please help us...

How can parents help?

- Improving congestion during home time.
Stay clear of the Year 3 door.
For Y3/Y4 pick up, go in the main gate/driveway and wait in front of the Y3 windows until your child is ready for pick up.
- After Y3/Y4 pick up, exit out of the small gate closest to the dentist, this creates a smooth one way system.
- Please stay away from the road side.



Poulton ST Chads C of E Primary School

Big thanks to Ellie and Finley our Junior Road Safety Ambassadors; Hamish at LCC; Mr Harrod and our Y3/4 parents for helping us with this safety issue.

Who to Contact?

All calls are recorded for training and monitoring purposes

Website	Bursar 01253 883639	Attendance Champion	SENCO	Family Support Worker	Teachers	Senior Leadership Team
www.poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	bursar@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	l.cameron@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	senco@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	fsw@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Name@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	SLT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Staff emails *Term dates *School policies *Car parking permit *Christian Values *Class information *Extra-Curricular activities *Friends of St Chad's *Governing Board *School uniform *Lunch Menu *General information 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Urgent matters *General questions *Medication *Change of personal details/ circumstances *Scopay *Lateness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Holiday Requests *Unauthorised absences *Medical appointments *Breakfast club *After school club **Sickness absence is to be reported on the Parent App** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Concerns of additional needs *EHCP questions *Support with child's diagnosed condition **Tuesdays on site** 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Early Help *Safeguarding *Family support *Mental health concerns *Bereavement *Advice about other agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Day to day school *Friendship issues *Low level well-being concerns *Progress & development *Homework / reading *Clubs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Any unresolved concerns following discussions with class teacher/staff. EYFS/ KS1: Mrs Harwood N.Harwood@ KS2: Mr Blackburn MrBlackburn@ Headteacher: Mrs Bitsakaki head@
INSTANT ANSWER!	Urgent- same day response. Everything else- within 48 hours.	Response within 48 hours	Will respond on Tuesdays. Meetings may take 2 weeks to arrange.	Response within 48 hours	Email response or meeting arranged within 48 hours	Response within 48 hours. Meetings may take 2 weeks to arrange.

Safeguarding Team - Mrs Bitsakaki, Mr Blackburn and Mrs Harwood

Teacher Email Addresses

Key Stage 1

EYFS

MrsArcher@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Year 1

n.harwood@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Creative Corner

m.whorlton-jones@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Year 2

c.siddall@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Key Stage 2

Year 3

MrGraham@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Year 4

f.sorsbie@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Year 5

MrBlackburn@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk

Year 6

l.dodd@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk