



SCHOOL MATTERS

Week Ending Friday 6th March 2026

Vol 12



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 2

Forgiveness



Luke 6:37: "Forgive and you will be forgiven."

All-Age Worship

so proud
of
You

Last Sunday, representatives from our School Choir and Ethos Group attended the all-age worship at St Chad's. The children were fantastic! They sang and read beautifully and represented St Chad's brilliantly. We were very proud of them. Sincere thanks to the families who came and supported them at church and to Mrs Miller and Mrs Swales who do such a good job with our choir. It was lovely to have school, families and parishioners worshipping together.

Parent behaviour on Whatsapp Chats

At the request of other parents who are unhappy with the lack of etiquette in some class Whatsapp groups, school would like to remind parents that they should not be using this platform for posting negatively about school matters. Please be respectful about school, our staff and avoid naming individuals (children or staff) in chat groups. We know the majority of our parents do show correct social etiquette and it is much appreciated.

We are always willing to listen and help so please talk to us if you have a problem. There have been concerns about staff turnover raised at times by parents. One of the reasons previous staff have cited for leaving is the unacceptable behaviour of some parents and the impact this can have on their wellbeing. So please try to remember how hard we all work and how much we care for your children. Thank you in advance for your continuing support with this.

Loss and Bereavement – Emmanuel Church Support

For anyone who has experienced loss or bereavement at any time and would benefit from some support another course has begun at Emmanuel Church, Fleetwood. You can book via this link:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Here is the link to a short introductory film about the course:

[CLICK HERE](#)

As always, there is no cost to participants for attending. Please also contact school if there is anything we can help you or your family with.



*From,
Mrs Bitsakaki*

Parent Survey Results February 2026

38 responses when closed 25.2.26

- 1 My child is happy at school
Strongly agree/ agree 92% don't know 0% disagree/strongly disagree 8%
- 2 My child is safe at school
Strongly agree/ agree 95% don't know 5% disagree/strongly disagree 0%
- 3 My child makes good progress
Strongly agree/ agree 87% don't know 8% disagree/strongly disagree 5%
- 4 I am aware of what my child is learning
Strongly agree/ agree 74% don't know 10% disagree/strongly disagree 16%
We share information and photos of what children are learning on seesaw, school and class newsletters, Facebook and the website.
- 5 There is a good range of subjects available to my child
Strongly agree/ agree 92 % don't know 5 % disagree/strongly disagree 3%
- 6 The home learning at St Chad's is
Too much 3% About right 71% Too little 21% Don't know 5%
- 7 My child has enjoyed opportunities to go on educational visits and attend extra-curricular activities (sports activities, music events, lunchtime clubs, after school clubs, booster groups etc.)
Strongly agree/ agree 79 % don't know 8% disagree/strongly disagree 13%
- 8 St Chad's children are generally polite and behave well.
Strongly agree/ agree 90% don't know 5% disagree/strongly disagree 5
- 9 The communication at St Chad's is
Too much 0% About right 61% Too little 33% Don't know 6 %
- 10 Does your child have SEND
Yes 11% No 89%
- 11 Which class is your child in
EYFS - 3
Y1 - 6
Y2 - 6
Y3 - 6
Y4 -7
Y5- 5
Y6- 6
Don't know- 1
- 12 Any other comments (some have not been included if they refer to children's names or specific incidents) **Thank you to those parents who left contact details, I have enjoyed speaking with you and getting your views on school.**
 - There are still parents / grandparents who are unaware of the pick up location in year 3/4 and I've over heard some rude comments from mainly grandparents who say why should we move to the left side . This needs to be clearer for some who aren't aware still of the new pick up location. Could there be a sign up to make them aware place of location they need to be stood to stop this please? Maybe a post with the sign up and everyone should collect from this area. I just think it needs re addressing to stop any more upset from others who are unaware or just being rude . **Great idea! Yes we will arrange a sign, thankyou for helping us with this.**

- Extremely concerned about the number of staff leaving the school. I feel it would be safer for year 3 and 4 to come out of the hall into the playground. It is very difficult at times to get out of the school grounds once the children have been collected, especially with a pram. **Thank you for this feedback. We did address this in the previous site survey- most parents prefer an individual collection point. Hopefully the Y3/4 collection will improve with new signage and time to embed the new routine.**
- Safeguarding and the discipline of certain children is not appropriate of their actions. Sports is hugely lacking in the school. Not entering local competitions with other schools for netball, football, athletics and swimming is extremely disappointing. It's something Poulton St Chads has always excelled at. PE lessons are regularly forfeited despite being an important part of the curriculum along with wellbeing. Certain staff (not all) appear unhappy and can be rude with children and parents. **Thank you for your feedback. This is not an accurate picture of what is happening at St Chad's. We have offered new opportunities and entered new events this year. Our curriculum PE and enrichment offer continues to be appreciated by many children and families. If you would like to discuss our enrichment offer please get in touch or check out our Facebook page or website**
- Due to work commitments, it is very difficult for me to come and watch my child in anything e.g nativity. Could there be an evening performance for those parents who struggle to attend during the day? **Due to our commitment to staff wellbeing we no longer have evening or weekend events. Thank you for the discussion we had around this and for your engagement with school.**
- This is the first parents evening where I've not had to ask about my child's happiness in school. There's been a positive shift and change in school it's lovely to see. Happy parents and happy child. **Marvellous to hear! Thank you for this feedback.**
- I don't think that spelling tests should have stopped. I feel that this benefits children and helps with their learning. Weekly spelling tests and also writing out sentences on each one worked very well for my children in the past. It also gets them ready for test environments and gives them a sense of achievement when they work hard and do well. **Thank you for your feedback and supporting your child's learning. Research and staff experience shows that spelling tests like we used to do are outdated and do not help children as spellings are not retained by the long term memory and can have a negative impact on self-esteem for some children. We are pleased with the results we are getting with our new way of spelling and we take other opportunities for rewarding effort and achievement**
- My child speaks so positively and with so much energy about school. **We are delighted to hear this, thank you for your feedback.**
- I love the school but do sometimes feel communication is lacking. I know how busy teachers and staff are but I would like to see what my child is doing. I know my child struggles sometimes but would be nice to know if they're on track too. **Thank you for your feedback. If you attended parents evening and it is still not clear if your child is on track or if you were unable to attend, please contact the class teacher. They will be happy to discuss this with you and will appreciate your support of your child's learning.**

If your child is in Y3 or Y4, do you think the recent changes at home time are helping improve congestion and safety?

Yes 50% No 50%



Safeguarding Team

Designated Safeguarding Lead:



Mrs Bitsakaki
Headteacher

Governor Safeguarding Lead:

Rev Martin Keighley

Deputy Safeguarding Lead:



Mr Blackburn
Deputy Headteacher



Mrs Harwood
Associate Assistant
Headteacher



Mrs Stanley
Family Support Worker

Christian Value
Spring 2

Forgiveness

ATTENDANCE

National Expectation for Attendance

94%

School Attendance Target

96%

Whole School Attendance is currently

95.19%

Miss Cameron would like to remind you all about the importance of punctuality! Gates open at 8:45am!

CLASS ATTENDANCE CURRENTLY

EYFS	96.32%	Year 3	93.19%
Year 1	96.21%	Year 4	95.35%
Year 2	94.42%	Year 5	95.17%
		Year 6	96.09%

CALENDAR DATES

MARCH



- 13th** Non-uniform Day
Easter Egg Donation
- 20th** FUNDA Inflatable Day
- 23rd** Easter Service - Church 9am
- 24th** Anti-Racism Day
Wear something red
- 26th** Wear Purple
Epilepsy Day
- 27th** School closes for Easter - 2pm

APRIL



- 13th** School reopens
- 23rd** Y3 Trip to Ribchester
- 24th** Career's Day
- 30th** Inclusion Festival



MAY



- 4th** May Day - School Closed
- 7th** Proposed St Chad's in Bloom
Weather permitting
- 11th - 14th** Year 6 SATs
- 13th - 19th** Scholastic - Travelling Book Fair
- 18th** KS 1 Sports Day - 1:30pm
19th 9:30am (Reserve Sports Day)
- 21st** KS 2 Sports Day - 1:30pm
4th June 1:30pm (Reserve Sports Day)
- 21st** School closes for half-term

JUNE



- 3rd** School reopens
- 16th** Year 6 - Transition Visit
- 22nd** Y1 Worship

ST CHAD'S CHURCH SERVICES



10am - All Age Worship on the first Sunday of the month. (Informal family worship. Duration 45 mins)

4.00 pm 'St Chad's @ 4' held on the 3rd Sunday of the month. (Drinks and cake served at 4.00 pm, followed at 4.30 pm by an informal family friendly service finishing c 5.15 pm.)

STARS AND LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 13TH FEBRUARY

STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Hogan
Ada
Billy
Kobi
Harry H
Ryan
Jack P
Ethan

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Jacob
Polly
Angelina
George
George
Jessica
Ariella
Jacob C

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Mr Graham

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE WEEK

Mrs Stanley

TIDY CLASSROOM

KS1
Year 2

KS2
Year 4

HOUSE POINT WINNERS

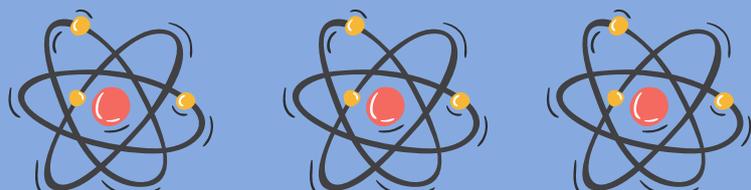
Yellow Lions



STARS OF THE WEEK



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



STARS AND LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

WEEK ENDING 27TH FEBRUARY

STARS OF THE WEEK

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

Arthur
Elsie
Dylan
Eadie
Fergus
Hallie
George
Harry

LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Kendall
Inaya
Bella
Lizzie
Heath
Luke
Kaiden
Raffie

TEACHER OF THE WEEK

Miss Whorlton-Jones

SUPPORT STAFF OF THE WEEK

Mrs Stanley

TIDY CLASSROOM

KS1
EYFS

KS2
Year 3

HOUSE POINT WINNERS

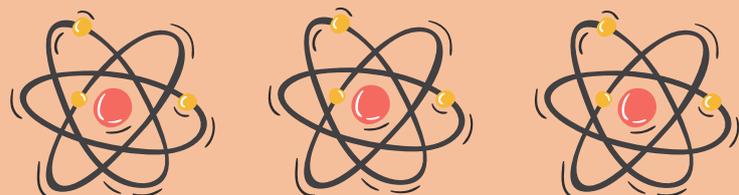
Blue Elephants



STARS OF THE WEEK



LEARNERS OF THE WEEK



Headteacher's Award w/e 13th February

Floki Award



**Kendall
EYFS**



**AJ
EYFS**



**Theo
Y5**

Headteacher's Award w/e 27th February

Floki Award



**Archie
Y4**



**Xander
Y4**



**Rory
Y1**



LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

KEY STAGE 1



EYFS



This week we have been learning all about the Easter story and why Christians believe Easter is all about love.

YEAR 1



In DT, we explored how to make sails for windmills.

CREATIVE CORNER



This week we have been learning about the RNLI and their significance in our community. We have used watercolour paints to create a stormy sea scene as we have learnt the RNLI crew will rescue in all weathers!

YEAR 2



In DT Y2 have been designing healthy smoothies. Yesterday we made our own. They had a great time tasting and creating them.

LOOK AT OUR LEARNING

KEY STAGE 2

YEAR 3



Year 3 have been completing trust trails in PE. In our lesson the children were challenged to stand back-to-back and lead their blindfolded partners through a tricky obstacle course!

YEAR 4



As we continue exploring still life in our Art topic, the children have produced some fantastic observational drawings of their water bottles focusing on shape and tone.

YEAR 5



Year 5 enjoyed their online workshop "Global Food Stories" with Michael Rosen as part of our World Book Day/Week celebrations.

YEAR 6



This week as part of English, we have become detectives and enjoyed a game of Cluedo to practice our investigating skills!



OOSC Activities



Author Luke Temple



We were absolutely delighted to welcome author Luke Temple to our school on Monday. He had a fantastic time introducing his wonderful characters to the children. He then returned the following day for a special book signing session.

Thank you to Mrs Clark at Carleton Green for the recommendation!





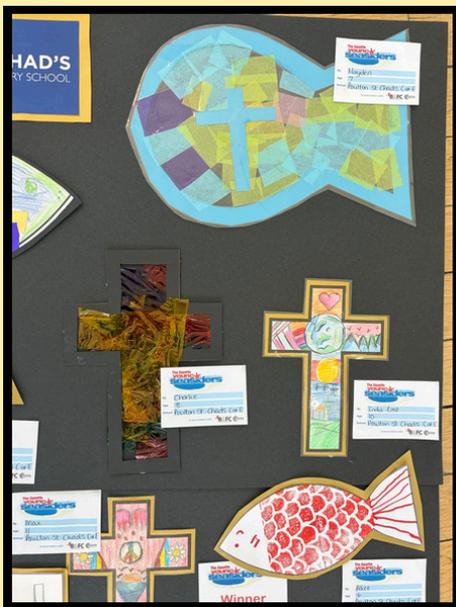
Seasiders Exhibition

We are delighted to share that a number of children's Faith Fortnight artwork has been selected for display in the Young Seasiders Schools Arts & Crafts Exhibition 2026, proudly sponsored by Blackpool and The Fylde College.

This is a fantastic achievement, and we are incredibly proud of the creativity, effort and enthusiasm they have shown in producing their work.

The exhibition will take place at The Gallery, Blackpool and The Fylde College – University Campus, Park Road, Blackpool, Lancashire, FY1 4ES, and will run from Tuesday 10th March until Friday 3rd April 2026.

We hope families will be able to visit and enjoy seeing the exhibition.



Who to Contact?

All calls are recorded for training and monitoring purposes

Website www.poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Bursar 01253 883639 bursar@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Attendance Champion l.cameron@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	SENCO senco@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Family Support Worker fsw@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Teachers Name@poultonstchadsce.lancs.sch.uk	Senior Leadership Team 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 <i>**Sickness absence is to be reported on the Parent App**</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Concerns of additional needs *EHCP questions *Support with child's diagnosed condition <i>**Tuesdays on site**</i> 	<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 , Mrs Harwood & Mrs Stanley

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

Funded by:



DASSL
Domestic Abuse Support
Services Lancashire

"I am not allowed out on my own or to make any decisions."

Domestic abuse isn't always physical.

If you are worried about your partner's behaviour, get in touch. We are here to listen and help.



0300 3033 581

24hrs, 365 days a year



DASSL.org.uk

Diocesan Offices
Clayton House
Walker Office Park
Blackburn
BB1 2QE



Tel (01254) 503404

6th February 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to share some information about the current Ofsted inspection framework, as many parents have found recent inspection outcomes across the country confusing or surprising. My hope is that this explanation will help you understand what sits behind the judgements schools receive, both now and whenever your child's school is inspected in future. Whilst all schools welcome scrutiny and accountability the updated Inspection Framework is still in its infancy and the transition from one accountability model to another can take adjustment for all concerned.

A Shift in Expectations

Ofsted has made a number of changes to how schools are inspected. One of the biggest shifts is that the grade "Expected" is now much harder to achieve than the previous grade of "Good." If a school receives "Expected", this is something to celebrate—it means the school is meeting a very high bar.

This rise in challenge is partly due to a move away from a "best fit" approach (where inspectors looked at the overall picture) to a "secure fit" model, which means that schools are expected to meet all parts of the criteria in full. As a result, direct comparison between a previous "Good" and a current "Expected" is not always appropriate; they are based on different criteria, different expectations, and a higher standard of evidence.

"Needs Attention" – An Important Clarification

You may also see elements of a report described as "Needs Attention."

Ofsted is clear in its public guidance that:

- "Needs Attention" is not a fail,
- and it is entirely normal for schools to have areas that require further development.

This wording simply reflects where practice is still embedding or where additional focus is needed. Many schools—no matter how strong—will have such areas, particularly during a period in which the inspection framework has changed so significantly.

(Parents can view Ofsted's own explanation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g>)

New Criteria and Embedded Practice

Another significant change is that schools are being judged on new areas of practice that were not part of the inspection expectations last year. These new elements are expected to be fully embedded, even though they are still very new. Naturally, this will take time for all schools to implement well.

A Stronger Emphasis on Data

Although Ofsted previously spoke positively about taking school context into account, this is no longer as clear.

Outcomes now place a much stronger emphasis on achievement data, including:

- Overall attainment, not just progress
- Attendance, which has become a major focus

As a result, schools doing excellent day-to-day work with children may nevertheless receive outcomes that feel harsh if their data does not align closely with national expectations—sometimes despite all their best efforts and the particular needs of their pupils.

Greater Scrutiny of Headteachers and Leaders

This inspection framework was introduced with the intention of supporting the wellbeing of school leaders and reducing pressure. Sadly, many leaders are experiencing the opposite.

Inspections now involve greater scrutiny, with more inspectors on site and higher expectations across all areas. As a result, the demands placed on headteachers and senior staff have increased significantly.

As someone who visits schools across the diocese regularly, I see first-hand the dedication and compassion with which our headteachers and staff serve your children. They work tirelessly—often in challenging circumstances—and continue to lead with integrity and care.

I want to thank you for the support, understanding, and kindness you already show to our school leaders, particularly during inspection weeks. Your encouragement makes a real difference, and it is deeply appreciated by those who work so hard for the good of your children and the life of the school.

What Matters Most

I would wish to end by reiterating that our schools, and all those professionals within them, understand the need for external scrutiny and the role Ofsted plays in ensuring that the children within their care are given the very best opportunities.

Even with these national changes, our commitment remains the same:

- We want every child, regardless of background, to reach their full potential.
- High expectations matter because our children deserve the very best.
- Everything our schools do is rooted in helping pupils flourish academically, personally, and spiritually.

Key Points to Remember

- **“Expected” is harder to achieve than “Good”**—and is something to be proud of.
- **“Needs Attention” is not a fail**, and it is normal for schools to have areas identified for further work.
- **New criteria are being inspected immediately**, even though they take time to embed.
- **Achievement and attendance data now have a major influence** on the outcome of an inspection.
- **Leaders face greater scrutiny**, so please support them during inspection weeks.
- Above all, schools remain focused on **our children**, helping them grow into capable, compassionate and confident young people.

Thank you, as always, for your partnership, your encouragement, and the trust you place in our schools every day.

With every blessing,



Mr Iain Parks
Director of Education
Blackburn Board of Education

Serve Christ; Share the Gospel; Support, Equip and Educate
A company limited by Guarantee in England No. 557954 Registered Charity No. 1020101
Vat Reg no. 846 4862 89 Registered by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) no 315256
A member of DBE Services serving all schools in the Dioceses of Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Liverpool,
Manchester and York
www.bdeducation.org.uk e-mail: directorofeducation@blackburn.anglican.org