

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe that we are already at the end of our first half-term here at St Chad's! It has been so wonderful welcoming our new Nursery and Reception children into our school family. As parents ourselves, we understand what a huge milestone starting school is and we are so proud of how well our new children have settled.

Although we are not seeing a high number of Covid cases in school, Covid cases in the city are high (over 1,000 each week). Many of these cases are school aged children and Derby is now seeing rising cases in adults and older people. As we approach the colder months, flu is likely to begin, as well as other infections. With all of this in mind, it is important we all continue to work together to ensure that we keep St Chad's as safe as possible. Once again, please can I remind you that if your child has Covid symptoms (a new cough, a high temperature or loss of taste/smell) please keep them at home and promptly arrange a [PCR test](#). We have lots of useful information on our school [website](#) and we continue to share useful resources via Class Dojo—please do have a look or speak to us if you need any help with anything.

Please have a relaxing and safe half-term with your child(ren) and loved ones. We look forward to welcoming you all back on

Monday, 1st November. Love Ms. Leach x



CLASS DOJO

As Class Dojo is our main channel of communication in school, it is really important that all parents/carers have access to the app. We post daily in school so encourage parents/carers to check in' as regularly as possible. If you are struggling to view posts and submit your child's home learning then please let us know and we will help you.



PE KITS

Once again, please can we remind you that all children need to wear the correct PE uniform on their allocated PE day. Our PE kit consists of plain black jogging bottoms/leggings, plain white t-shirt and plain black hoodie (with a zip). Trainers must be plain black or white. If your child has pierced ears, please ensure that earrings are removed and kept at home on your child's allocated PE day.



TERM DATES

Friday 22nd October

Monday 1st November

Thursday 23rd December

SCHOOL BREAKS-UP

SCHOOL RE-OPENS

SCHOOL BREAKS-UP

PARENT'S EVENING

We are looking forward to sharing with you how your child has settled into their new class, their strengths in their learning and their areas for support at our parent's evenings after half term. To support with our Covid risk assessment, we have decided not to host the meetings in school and will be once again be conducting them over the telephone after school. Please ensure that you have completed and returned your appointment booking form.

Don't forget
Parents'
Evening!

Bears:	Monday 1st November and Tuesday 2nd November
Crocodiles:	Tuesday 2nd November and Friday 5th November
Flamingos:	Wednesday 3rd November and Thursday 4th November
Elephants:	Wednesday 3rd November and Thursday 4th November

In Collective Worship after half-term, we will be exploring the value:



compassion

LOVE AMBASSADORS

This half-term, we have appointed our new LOVE Ambassadors. Congratulations go to:

Riony	Alex	Amy	Muizz
	Haniya	Abubakr	

Becoming a LOVE Ambassador is a huge achievement. These children work closely with Ms. Leach to make St Chad's the best school possible. They are very much 'the voice' for all of the children in school, helping to share everybody's thoughts, feelings and ideas. They have a bright yellow badge to wear in school so that they can be easily identified by all children. Our LOVE Ambassadors are already doing a wonderful job helping during our Collective Worship and supporting around school. Ms. Leach has lots of exciting plans in the pipeline for the Love Ambassadors this academic year. Watch this space!



STAFFING UPDATES

We would like to say a fond farewell to Mrs Habib who will be leaving us at the end of this half term. We thank Mrs Habib for all that she has done at St Chad's and wish her all the best in her future. Miss Gilsenan, our Foundation Stage Leader, will be continuing to teach our Nursery Bears in our mixed-year foundation stage unit, with the support of Mrs Iqbal.

Ms. Leach, Mrs Sohanpal and Mrs Kausar will be delivering PPA across school (half a day release time for teachers per week) up until Christmas. This will include your child's 'long' PE lesson.



PARENT WORKSHOPS

We have really enjoyed re-starting some of our parent workshops this half term in school. Mrs Sohanpal, our school's Family Support Worker, will be regularly hosting parent workshops and events in school every Wednesday. Please do keep an eye on Class Dojo for details of the sessions that she will be hosting.



KINGS AND QUEENS

We are thrilled to once again be reuniting all of the children in our school hall (seated in their class bubbles) for our end of half-term Kings and Queens ceremony this Friday. This is a highlight on our half-termly school calendar and we are so excited to be able to host the event 'live' (with our thrones and crowns!) for the first time in over 18 months! We hope to be able to invite parents to join in the celebrations soon. We will announce our Kings and Queens, linked to the value 'friendship', this Friday via Class Dojo.



HARVEST APPEAL

We would like to say a HUGE thank you for supporting our Harvest Appeal, in association with the Padley Centre. Your kind donations really will make a difference to the lives of many vulnerable homeless people in Derby. We would also like to say special thank you to Reverend Andy and his new curate, Becky, for helping to lead a special collective worship to the children in school as part of our annual Harvest celebration.



BOARD GAMES

After the half-term, we are going to be doing lots of exciting things with board games as part of our wider curriculum design, including launching some lunchtime games clubs. If you have any board games at home that you no longer play with and are in a position to donate them to school, we would be very grateful. We kindly ask that any donated board games are in a good condition so that the children can play with them. We are looking forward to hosting our non-uniform day this Friday (22nd October) to help raise funds so that we can buy lots of new games. We will share our exciting plans after half-term...



CONGRATULATIONS MISS GILSENAN!

You may have noticed on the school gate that we will be having a new member join our school family in the not too distant future....Congratulations to Miss Gilsenan and her partner, Ledjo, who are expecting a new baby next year. We will be looking to appoint Miss Gilsenan's maternity replacement after the half term.



COLLECTIVE WORSHIP—FRIENDSHIP

As a Church of England school, collective worship is hugely important to us. Collective worship is an invitational moment of our school day in which our school community can come together as one. We have had a wonderful half-term exploring the value 'friendship' during our collective worships. We have been using a beautiful book called '[While We Can't Hug](#)' to learn about how we can still be a good friend to one another despite some of the safety measures that we have in school/outside of school because of Covid. We have enjoyed learning how to give compliments to one another and our school continues to be filled with so much love on a daily basis. I have had lots of visitors comment on how friendly and caring our children are to one another and towards the adults in school. I adore this display in school which has captured some of this superb learning.



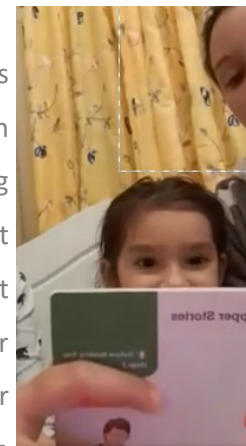
ROSIE POSIE

Our Nursery and Reception Bears spent a lovely morning looking after Rosie Posie, Ms. Leach's 'sausage' dog, to support their Talk for Writing learning. The children did a superb job helping to care for her, including taking her for lots of walks on the school field. Rosie was very tired when she finally got home!



READING

As Class Dojo and our home learning provision continues to grow from strength to strength, we made the decision at the end of last year to no longer issue home reading records. We are now asking that children's reading at home is shared via Class Dojo. Each week, please submit one video and two photographs of your child reading their school book at home. The children have loved sharing their reading videos with one another back in school. We have seen some wonderful recordings of parents (and older siblings!) doing a fantastic job supporting their child's home reading and would love to be able to do more with these going forward to help all families. Thank you!



MRS SUDDERY'S SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP

If you would like any support with school uniform items (including coats and shoes) then please let Mrs Suddery know. Over the past few months, we have had lots of school uniform items donated to us. All of the items are in excellent condition and are there to be used and to help our families. When your child has outgrown any uniform items, if they are still in excellent condition then please do consider donating them to our 'school uniform' shop.

