



**Dunholme St Chad's Church of England
Primary School
November 2023**



It has been another busy month at St Chad's. Our main focus over the past few weeks has been reinstating opportunities for engaging pupil voice. This is one of our school improvement priorities for this year. We think it is important to create a culture where it becomes normal for pupils to cooperatively shape decisions about their learning and the school environment.

We have held elections to appoint School Councillors. Those standing had to prepare speeches to persuade their peers that they would be good representatives and that they had exciting ideas to improve the school. We announced the successful candidates at last week's 'Shout Out Celebration Assembly'. Pupils also had the opportunity to apply to become a Collective Worship Councillor. The standard of applications was extremely high and the successful applicants have already been involved in the Harvest Festival. It was a squeeze fitting all of the children into the church. Year 6 pupils confidently read their passages about the importance of Harvest and the children sang enthusiastically.

Pupils have taken on other roles of responsibility and are wearing their badges of honour with pride whether they are house captains, sports leaders, librarians or lunchtime monitors. We hope to introduce some eco warriors in the future.

This week all pupils participated in PE Enrichment sessions. It was wonderful to see the children developing their archery skills. Fortunately, most arrows hit the target! Talking about sport, our pupils had a further sporting enrichment opportunity in the same week when Liz McTernan, GB wheelchair athlete, delivered an inspirational whole-school assembly before children had the chance to participate in sponsored fitness circuit challenges. We were amazed at how well the children completed their fitness challenges especially after all their dancing at the late night Halloween discos, run by FODS. The discos were well attended. The children arrived wearing their party gear, carrying their creatively crafted pumpkins. Some of the pumpkins looked bigger than the new Reception children! The lit pumpkins were displayed around the hall and added to the ambiance. FODS Raised £360 On the night!



At the time of writing, we have just learned that we are the champions of the East Lindsey Street Tag program. Thank you to everyone who participated by downloading the app and tagging the set locations. Their dedication and perseverance has helped them to be physically active, to rediscover the local area AND resulted in the school being awarded £100.

We held two successful Open mornings for parents of children due to start school in September 2024. It was wonderful to hear the positive feedback from those who attended.



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Don't worry if you missed these as there will be another opportunity to visit on Monday 20 November (9:30 – 10:30am). Please contact the school office to book your place. Primary applications need to be made online, by 15 January, via the following link:

<https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/school-admissions/apply-school/2>

Upcoming Events

- 13-17 Nov – Anti Bullying Week, including 'Odd-Sock Day'
- 16 Nov – Year 3 Hindu Experience Day
- 17 Nov – Year 5 Bomber Command Centre Visit
- 13 Dec – In-school pantomime (Sleeping Beauty)

We are keen to run events that the wider Dunholme community can attend. With this in mind, you are warmly invited to our 'Christmas Light Switch On' on Thursday 7th December from 3:30 – 4:30pm. The pupils will be performing some Christmas carols and popular songs. Audience participation might be needed in some! FODS will be providing refreshments and there will be a few stalls so make sure you add the date to your diary.

For our latest news, you might like to check out our website, which has a fresh new look
<https://www.dunholme.lincs.sch.uk/>

Mrs K Appleby
Headteacher