



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 06 September 2024

Autumn Term

It has been a really busy first full week at school. Children are settling in so well to their new classes and our new Reception children are already very much part of the school. It's been lovely to meet so many of you in the mornings on the gate and at collection time at the end of the day. Despite my new reduced working week, I am always happy to meet to discuss any concerns or ideas that you have. Come and chat to me or speak to the school office if you need to make an appointment.

Celebration of Mass

We welcomed Fr Cyriacus to school yesterday morning to celebrate Mass for us and ask for God's blessings for the school year ahead. Thank you to Mrs Anderson for preparing the Mass and to all the children who contributed so beautifully.



INSET last week.

You may (or may not be !) curious to know what we did on our INSET days last week..

On Tuesday ALL staff and some of our governors received updated Safeguarding training. Regular input on the significant role school staff have in ensuring children are kept safe is crucial. Staff were reminded of the many threats to child safety, how to recognise the signs of abuse and/or neglect and ensuring that our process for reporting concerns are understood by all staff.

On Wednesday, we were joined with the teachers from the other schools in the Bromley Trust (St James', St Mary's, Holy Innocents, St Vincent's and St Peter and St Paul) and listened to two invited speakers.

Aisha Thomas is the founder of Representation Matters, an organisation working to tackle inequality and discrimination in education. Here is the link to her organisation.

<https://www.repmatters.co.uk/>

Sister Judith Russi works for EducareM, a charity supporting Catholic education and leadership.

<https://educarem.org.uk/>

Both speakers were inspirational and provided us with so much to reflect on and consider in our provision for our young people. We learned a great deal.

Breaktime Snacks

The school understands that healthy snacks can be an important part of the diet of young people and can contribute positively towards a balanced diet. **All children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack or their own piece of fruit to eat at morning break time (Fruit Winders and similar items are not allowed).**

EYFS and KS1 Children are provided with free fruit to have at morning play. Unfortunately this week, we have seen some inappropriate snacks at morning play. Including biscuits, chocolate bars, bags of crisps and a sausage roll. **These are not permitted.**

Please ensure you continue to provide an appropriate healthy snack for your child, should they want one. Your support is appreciated.

Dates for your diary.

'Meet the Teacher' morning

We have introduced this to provide you with an opportunity to meet your child's teacher(s) – if you haven't already – and find out about expectations for their learning for this term and how you can support them.

On **Tuesday 17th September from 9.00 – 9.30am**, you will be more than welcome to come to your child's class and meet and chat with their teacher.

The plan is to roll this out every year and to introduce it at the end of the summer term, in preparation for the new school year ahead. If you have any questions, do ask your child's teacher.

'Open Classroom'

During the week beginning Monday 15th October, children will be bringing you to their classes after school to show you their class, displays and the work in their books.

Class teachers will not be available, it's all very informal and a lovely chance for the children to talk about their learning. Parents and carers have fed back very positively about how open classroom assists the conversation with teachers at the subsequent parent/teacher meetings.

The classroom will be available from 3.30pm until 4.15pm on the following days :-

Monday 14th October Reception and Year 3

Tuesday 15th October Years 1 and 4

Wednesday 16th October Years 2, 5 and 6

Again, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher.

Parent and carer meetings with the teacher will take place on Tuesday 5th and Wednesday 6th November this year. Timings and appointment time will be shared shortly.

Drop Off / Collection

Parents dropping off in the morning and collecting after school children should stand behind the snake (except for Reception who collect from their passageway). This is to ensure that all parents can clearly see their children and collect and drop them in safely

Annual Forms and Paperwork

Apologies for the number of forms and paperwork that has been sent out this week. Your prompt return of completed forms would be much appreciated. This information is used to keep our databases and safeguarding information up to date, so it is really important – we do try to keep it to a minimum!

Payments

All payments should be made online using our cashless payment system.



Messages to the class teacher

If you need to get a message to the class teacher, please send an email to:

admin@st-philomenas.bromley.sch.uk and the email/information will be passed on. Alternatively, you can call the school office on 01689 826550.

Please DO NOT reply on the email address that the newsletter is sent out on as this goes to an unmonitored email – the admin email address above should always be used. Where possible, please try to get messages regarding pick up and collection to the office before 3.00pm so we can get the message to the classroom in time.

Mornings

The Playground is supervised from 8.45am – children should not be left unaccompanied before this time.

PTA Meeting

PTA meeting will be on Wednesday 11th September 9am in the school hall. It would be good to see some of our new parents there with some ideas to help raise money for our school.

Breakfast and After School Sports Clubs

All sports clubs start next week. If your child has been offered a place in the club they would have received their Slips yesterday.

Centre Stage

Centre Stage Theatre Academy will be doing after school clubs KS1 on Tuesday and KS2 on Friday. If you are interested in this club please contact them direct. Details have been emailed to parents.

www.centrestagetheatreacademy.com

08000582521

School Fund Contribution



We ask that each family contributes to a fund which helps to subsidise outings, cover the cost of cooking ingredients and pay for various other items needed to provide enrichment activities for your child. Enrichment of the curriculum is a strength here and your family contribution to the school fund will be put to very good use. The recommended amount is **£5 per family per term**, and this can be paid online (under products, online shop). Your contributions are very much appreciated.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Veronica Maher
Head Teacher



TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024:

INSET DAYS:

Tuesday 27th August 2024

Wednesday 28th August 2024

First day back: Thursday 29th August 2024

Half-term 21.10.24 – 1.11.24

Last day of term Friday 20th December 2024

Spring Term 2025:

First day of term Monday 6th January 2025

Half-term 17.02.25 – 21.02.25

Last day of term Friday 4th April 2025

Summer Term 2025:

First day of term Tuesday 22nd April 2025

Bank Holiday

Monday 5th May 2025

Half-term

26.05.25 – 30.05.2025

Last day of term

Friday 18th July 2025

INSET DAYS

Monday 21st, Tuesday 22nd

and Wednesday 23rd July 2025