



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 11 November 2022 Autumn Term

Remembrance Assembly

On Wednesday, we gathered in the Hall for a special assembly marking Remembrance Day.

Each class laid a wreath of poppies made by the children and we gave a lot of thought to the importance of remembering the service and sacrifice of all those who have lost their lives in conflict since World War I. We also prayed for the people of Ukraine who are still suffering the horrific consequences of warfare.

It was a very poignant assembly and the children were so respectful throughout. Thank you to those parents who joined us.



WhatsApp Guidance

As part of our work in partnership with parents and carers to safeguard our children, we often share relevant information that we know you will find useful. Attached to this week's newsletter is a crib sheet outlining the risks of children using WhatsApp and steps you can take to help monitor and protect them.

Autumn Nature Competition



Autumn Art Competition

Create a piece of art using natural resources. See attached competition details. Due date 16 November. The art work will be displayed in the Autumn Art Exhibition.

ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING GREEN ROOM CLUB CLOSURE

Our Green Room Club (GRC) After School Childcare Facility

WILL NOT BE OPEN

Tuesday 24th January 2023 (3.20-5.45pm) due to staff training.

Please make alternate provision should you require after school care on that day. Breakfast Club will be open as usual.

Catholic Social Teaching Assemblies

It is vital that we help our children understand Catholic Social Teaching principles in order to enable them to live their faith in their daily lives. We were pleased to welcome Mrs Maureen Birkett from CAFOD to lead assemblies on these principles for Reception, KS1 and KS2 classes. Reception class learnt about:

Human Dignity

- We are beautifully made in the image and likeness of God.
- Every person has an innate human dignity that no one can take away.

KS1 & KS2 learnt about:

Common Good & Solidarity

- We are called to work for the good of each and of all.
- Our actions have an impact on everyone.
- When we make decisions, we should consider the good of all.
- Recognising others as our brothers and sisters and actively working for their good.

Science Challenge

Thank you to everyone who entered the Science Challenge:

‘Which do you think is heavier, an inflated balloon or a deflated balloon? How could you find out?’

The correct answer was the inflated balloon, because air has mass which made the inflated balloon heavier. There were many different investigations carried out at home to prove this and the winners with the correct answer and an explanation of how they found out were:

Amelia - Year 1	Emily – Year 1
Sandra – Year 1	William – Year 1
Darcy – Year 4	Elisha – Year 4
Justeena – Year 4	Niya N – Year 4
Nicole – Year 5	Silvia – Year 5

Well done winners!

Look out for the next challenge and you too could be a winner.

Mrs Bunton - Science Leader at St Philomena's

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

All children, parents, carers and friends are invited to purchase raffle tickets for our Christmas Hampers that will be on display in the school entrance area.

Tickets are £1 per strip. Please make payment online and raffle tickets will be sent home in your child's book bag.

Winners will be drawn on Monday
19th December 2022

All funds raised will go into School Fund - which is spent on enhancing school life for the pupils in many different ways.

Thank you for your support



CHRISTMAS CARDS AND CHRISTMAS STAMPS

We ask that ALL CHRISTMAS CARDS come through the School Post Box (not handed to individual Children and Staff). Children can bring the cards in with them (with the receiver's name and year clearly marked on the envelope) and post them into the Special Post Box near the School Office.

The final date for posting will be
FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER 2022. We cannot accept any cards after this date.

Cards will be sorted by members of the school council and delivered to classrooms before the end of term.

For our Christmas Charity Fundraising we will once again be selling

St Philomena's postage stamps. We charge 5p per stamp so for example, if your child chooses to send 20 cards to their friends, the outlay for stamps will be £1.00.

Any additional donations will be passed directly onto the charity.

All money raised will go toward Crisis at Christmas.

Stamps should be paid for online and will be sent home in Children's book bags.



PLEASE NOTE: CHILDREN DO NOT HAVE TO PURCHASE STAMPS TO USE THE SCHOOL POSTAL SYSTEM

Tickets and stamps are available for purchase from Monday 14th November

Donations for PTA Christmas Fair Event

We are looking for donations for our Christmas Fair, wrapping paper, new/nearly new toys, any unwanted gifts and raffle prizes.

Inter-Class Attendance Race 2022 - 2023

Attendance and Lateness for the week beginning 31st October 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	98	5
Year 1	95	2
Year 2	85	0
Year 3	94	4
Year 4	97	3
Year 5	100	1
Year 6	89	3

Year 5 are the winners with 100% attendance this week – well done – stickers were given out in assembly !

League Table

Year	No. of Wins
Reception	
Year 1	1
Year 2	
Year 3	
Year 4	2
Year 5	2
Year 6	

Weeks in competition: 5(full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 93.9%



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 14.11.22

Christmas stamps sold

Christmas Hamper Raffle Tickets sold

Thursday 1.12.22

The "Sword in the Stone" panto performance

Saturday 10.12.21

PTA Christmas Multi-Cultural Event (12-2.00pm)

Monday 12.12.22

Bring in additional decorations for party hats – and a glue stick

Last day for Yr 1 & 2 parents to order tickets for Nativity dress rehearsal

Tuesday 13.12.22

EYFS Christmas Assembly (Reception Children) at 2.00pm

Wednesday 14.12.22

KS1 Nativity for Year 1 & 2 Parents at 2.00pm (Dress Rehearsal)

Last day for Yr 1 & 2 parents to order tickets for Nativity

Friday 16.12.22

Last Day for posting Christmas Cards

Last Day to buy Hamper Raffle tickets

KS1 Nativity for Year 1 & 2 Parents at 2.00pm (No Pre-Schoolers please)

Monday 19.12.22

Christmas Hamper Raffle winners drawn

Christmas Cards distributed

Christmas Carol Service at Our Lady of the Cray (6.00pm)

Tuesday 20.12.22

Christmas Lunch

Christmas jumper Day

Class parties – children will need individual plates of Party food

DINNER MONEY

Dinner money is £2.30 per day - please see below the monthly costs. ***In accordance with our school policy, dinner money should be paid monthly in advance.***

DINNER MONEY 2022 – 2023

AUTUMN 2022

September	£48.40
October	£24.20
November	£48.40
December	£33.00

SPRING 2023

January	£48.40
February	£35.20
March	£50.60

SUMMER 2023

April	£22.00
May	£41.80
June	£44.00
July	£33.00

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Veronica Maher



TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEARS 2022 - 2023

Autumn Term 2022:

INSET DAYS **Tuesday 30 August and Wednesday 31st August 2022**

First day back: Thursday 1st September

Half-term 17.10.22 – 28.10.22

Last day of term Wednesday 21st December 2022

Spring Term 2023:

INSET DAY **Tuesday 3rd January 2023**

First day of term Wednesday 4th January 2023

Half-term 13.02.23 – 17.02.23

Last day of term Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023:

First day of term Monday 17th April 2023

Bank Holiday **01.05.23**

Half-term 29.05.23 – 02.06.2023

INSET DAY **Monday 5th June 2023**

Last day of term Thursday 20th July 2023

INSET DAY **Friday 21st July 2023**