



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter –25November 2022 Autumn Term

Special Assemblies

Anti-Bullying Week

On Friday last week, children from every class shared some of their work on the anti-bullying theme of 'Reach Out'. I was impressed by their thoughtfulness and understanding that respect for each other is so very important.

RE Week

For our special RE week, every class has focused on a different area of Catholic Social Teaching (CST). This morning they were delighted to share their ideas and examples on how we use the features of CST in our everyday lives. Many children wrote and read beautiful prayers also !

Catholic Life of the School

Please take some time to complete our questionnaire on this fundamental aspect of our school life.

Many thanks,

<https://forms.gle/XdbaJekF2TZHpeuCA>

Christmas Fair Volunteers Needed

Volunteer opportunities for "Christmas Fair" are now open. Please click on the following web link (or copy it into your web browser if clicking doesn't work) to go to the signup sheet:

volunteersignup.org/AEQLD

To sign up, just follow the instructions on the page. It only takes a few seconds to do.

Thank you for volunteering!

Kate Miller

kmiller38.305@lgflmail.org

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.

Autumn Art Exhibition

Our School Council did an incredible job of organising and setting up their first event, a lovely Art Exhibition on the theme of Autumn. Contributions were boosted by Art Club's competition and the variety of artwork on display was tremendous. Well done to School Council for their team work and initiative and to all those who submitted paintings and pictures - £57.00 was raised.



Football Match

Our school football team played St David's this week and a great result of 2-0. Well done!



ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING GREEN ROOM CLUB CLOSURE

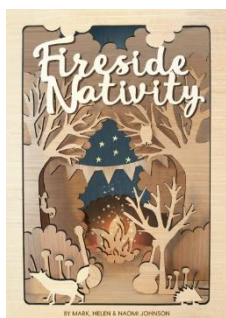
Our Green Room Club (GRC) After School Childcare Facility

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. Recognising others as our brothers and sisters and actively working for their good.

KS1 NATIVITY PLAY 2022 (Pupils from Years 1 and 2)



PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU SHOULD BRING PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND BABIES TO THE DRESS REHEARSAL ON WEDNESDAY 14.12.22 ONLY

Tickets are available for the following performances:

Wednesday 14th December 2022 at 2.00 pm
(Dress Rehearsal)

(Please Note: Prams will not be admitted into the hall as they may block emergency exits, etc. they will need to be left in the allocated area)

Science Challenge

Thank you to everyone who entered the Science Challenge:

Why do some birds migrate and others choose to stay?

How do they find their way?

Bird migration is one of the wonders of the natural world. Around half of the UK's bird species migrate each year, some taking short journeys, and others travelling thousands of miles.

Very few birds stay in the same place their whole lives. Most move to find a good food source, either so that they can raise a family or just survive. Some of these migrations are short, but many birds make truly epic journeys, crossing continents and oceans.

In the UK, we see a big surge in bird migration during the spring, when species

like swifts and cuckoos arrive, and then again in the autumn, when our geese and swans return.

Birds use a wide range of techniques to navigate up and down their flyways. They can use visual landmarks like rivers or the stars; the Earth's magnetic field; smell; or even just follow other birds. But, however they do it, migration is a truly incredible feat.

These people gave a correct full answer to both questions and have been awarded a certificate of distinction a prize and 10 house points:

Samuel A – Year 1

Sandra S – Year 1

Maëva – Year 2

Darcy – Year 4

Elena – Year 4

Jazlyn – Year 4

Bradley – Year 6

Catherine – Year 6

Maksym – Year 6

These people have been awarded a highly commended certificate and 5 house points for a correct full answer to at least one of the questions or a brief correct answer to both:

Christian F – Year 1

David P – Year 1

Emily D – Year 1

Jason L – Year 1

Tejas – Year 2

Elisha – Year 4

Joy – Year 4

Justeena – Year 4

Nicole I – Year 5

Aniela – Year 6

Well done winners! Look out for the next challenge and you too could be a winner. Good research everyone, Mrs Bunton

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

Christmas Lights

Last weekend one of our pupils Silvia (Y5) was invited to turn on the Christmas tree lights at Bexley Heath with the Mayor of Bexley Nick O'Hare. Well done Silvia!



Congratulations

Congratulations to Sebastian for winning 'Most Improved Player' Trophy at After School football club. As you can see from his smile he is very happy!



Inter-Class Attendance Race 2022 - 2023

Attendance and Lateness for the week beginning 11th November 2022:

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	77	7
Year 1	98	1
Year 2	97	2
Year 3	94	5
Year 4	95	2
Year 5	99	2
Year 6	96	8

Year 5 are the winners again this week – well done !

League Table

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

Weeks in competition: 7(full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 93.5%



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
08.05.23

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**