



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 22 November 2024

Autumn Term

Year 6 Class Trip to The Imperial War Museum

On Friday, 15th November, we had an awesome trip to the Imperial War Museum to learn more about World War I. We started our adventure in the WW1 gallery, exploring the trenches, machine guns, uniforms, and much more.

Things got even more exciting when we were split into groups of three for a fun and creative challenge. We had to make a short documentary about an item from the gallery, explaining why it's important and why people should care about it today. It was great being directors and presenters, and we had so much fun as we worked together. Overall, it was a fantastic day and it helped us appreciate the sacrifices made during the war.

By Aoife, Elena & Darcy



Class Assembly

Our Year 6 class assembly was a thoughtful exploration of the events leading up to the First World War. The children engaged deeply with the historical context, exploring the complex alliances and rising tensions that eventually led to this devastating conflict.

They reflected on bravery and sacrifice, paying tribute to the countless individuals who gave up their lives for their countries. The assembly was not only a reminder about the harsh realities of war; it also carried a message of hope for a more peaceful future.

This reflective assembly encouraged pupils to think about the importance of remembrance. It was clear that our Year 6 pupils had developed a deeper understanding of what remembrance means in today's world.



Glue Sticks

Can we please ask that your child has a glue stick for school so that they can stick their work into their books. Glue sticks £1.50 on the school gateway.



Year 6 Trip to The Household Cavalry Museum

Our Year 6 trip to The Household Cavalry Museum was a fantastic experience, filled with learning and memorable moments. The day began with the impressive Horse Guards Parade, where we witnessed the majestic Mounted Guard Change. The children were captivated as they learned about the Household Cavalry's significant role in British history, particularly when comparing the experiences of a First World War soldier to those of today's cavalry members.

Throughout the day, the children engaged in a variety of activities, including observing the ceremonial changing of the guards and even trying on genuine Household Cavalry uniforms, which truly brought history to life. We concluded our day with a reflective walk to the Cenotaph, paying our respects to those who served. To top it all off, we arrived at St James's Park, where we celebrated Elisha's and Joshua's birthdays. Overall, it was an amazing and informative trip, enriching our understanding of British heritage.



Join the TTRS Superstar Board!

If you know all your times tables and can answer quickly, earning the title of *Rock Legend* or *Rock Hero* on TTRS, you'll earn a coveted place on our **Superstar Board**!

As a reward, you'll have the chance to join us for exciting trips, activities, and special celebrations. We're thrilled to see so many children from both infants and juniors already on the board, proving that everyone can master their times tables with practice and determination. Will you be next?



Parliament Week

This week, we celebrated Parliament Week, with classes learning about the role of Parliament and taking part in debates. Pupils explored different viewpoints, practised respectful dialogue, and reflected on how their voices can make a difference. Linking to Catholic Social Teaching, we encouraged children to consider the principles of justice, solidarity, and the common good in their discussions. It was inspiring to see them engage thoughtfully and develop skills for active citizenship.



Primary Mathematics Challenge

Our talented young mathematicians took part in the prestigious Primary Mathematics Challenge this week, a national competition designed to stretch and inspire primary school pupils with a passion for maths. We are thrilled to announce that seven of our pupils achieved *Gold* awards, six received *Silver*, and two earned *Bronze*—an incredible achievement that highlights their hard work, dedication, and outstanding problem-solving skills. This was an exceptionally challenging competition, so we are incredibly proud of all who participated. Well done to our brilliant mathematicians!



Pupil First Aid Training

This week, our children took part in *Life Saver Skills* sessions, learning what to do in an emergency. These practical and life-saving lessons have given our pupils valuable knowledge and confidence to help others in need. It was a fantastic learning experience, and we are incredibly grateful to Mrs. Luximon-Pollard for providing these amazing lessons for our school.



Christmas Hamper Raffle

Tickets are now on sale via our online payment system for our Christmas Hamper Raffle. All monies raised goes towards our School Fund. Winners will be drawn and prizes given out Wednesday 18th December.



Attendance and Lateness for the week beginning 11th November 2024

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	95	1
Year 1	95	1
Year 2	92	0
Year 3	98	0
Year 4	97	0
Year 5	97	0
Year 6	97	0

Well done Year 3 – you are the winners this week !

League Table

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

Weeks in competition: 11 (full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 96.4%



Class Assembly

Reception/EYFS Nativity Assembly

Tuesday 3 December at 2.30pm

KS1 Nativity Performance for Year 1 and 2

Dress Rehearsal (pre-schoolers welcome)

Monday 9 December 2024 at 10.00am

KS1 Nativity Performance for Year 1 and 2

Wednesday 11 December at 10.00am

Year 5 Thursday 28 November at 10.00am

ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING GREEN ROOM

CLUB CLOSURE

Our Green Room Club (GRC) After School
Childcare Facility

WILL NOT BE OPEN

Thursday 23rd January 2025 (3.20-5.45pm)

due to staff training.

Please make alternate provision should you
require after school care on that day.

We apologise for any inconvenience caused.

Breakfast Club will be open as usual.

*Any fees paid in advance for Green Room Club on
this day will be held on account for future use*

The Pta and Art Prefects present...

Christmas Cracker Competition!

We would like to invite you to create a Christmas cracker that will be sold at the Christmas Fair.

The crackers do not have to be traditional or festive. Last year the children created very imaginative crackers, from nativity scenes, reindeer and elves, to giant Santas and snowmen!



What to put inside the crackers

We suggest spending £1 on the content of each cracker. Plenty of £1 items can be found in The Works, Home Bargains, Poundshops or online!

Naturally, we are unable to check the content of each cracker before they are sold so please...

DO INCLUDE:

Sweets / money / pens / pencils / stickers / blind bags/ fidget toys/ anything you would want your own child to receive.

DO NOT INCLUDE:

Old Halloween sweets / second-hand toys / anything containing nuts.

The crackers will be judged by the art prefects in two categories: infants and juniors.

Gold, silver and bronze certificates will be awarded to the winners!

Please give your cracker to your teacher on

Friday 6th December

Please DO NOT bring your cracker before this date due to lack of storage. Make sure your name and class is on the cracker

Good Luck!

PTA EVENTS

Own Clothes Day – PTA Event

Friday 29th November – own clothes day for donations of alcohol/soft drinks for Christmas fair tombola.



Have a wonderful weekend

Miss Veronica Maher
Head Teacher





ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024:

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**