



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## Newsletter – 29 November 2024

### Autumn Term

#### Dentist visit

This week, we were delighted to welcome Dentaaid the Dental Charity who taught the children how to care for their teeth, the importance of visiting the dentist every six months, and why brushing twice daily is essential. All classes had a visit and were given advice about good brushing and healthy eating and given free samples of toothbrushes and toothpaste. The children left with valuable tips to keep their smiles healthy and bright! Please find below an information sheet for parents provided by the charity



#### Looking after your Children's Teeth

- Tooth decay is preventable with a healthy diet and daily toothbrushing with fluoride paste
- Children need their teeth for growth, speech, wellbeing, and self-confidence
- 0-3 years Start brushing your child's teeth as soon as first tooth erupts. Use a smear of paste at least 1000 ppm fluoride. Brush twice daily
- 3-6 years Supervise your child's brushing. Use a pea-size amount of paste at least 1000 ppm fluoride. Brush twice daily. Encourage to spit don't rinse away paste
- Choose a healthy diet of fruit and vegetables
- Minimise consumption and frequency of sugar-containing foods and drinks
- Encourage water and milk as healthy alternatives
- Children should visit the dentist regularly for check-ups

Anne M Powders



#### 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 18<sup>th</sup> December.



#### ADVANCE NOTICE REGARDING GREEN ROOM CLUB CLOSURE

Our Green Room Club (GRC) After School  
Childcare Facility

WILL NOT BE OPEN

Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> 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*

### 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.



### Green Team

We are thrilled to announce that our Green Team has been selected from over 300 applications to secure a place in the Veolia Orchard Project! This fantastic initiative will bring plants to our school in spring 2025, contributing to local biodiversity and giving our children the opportunity to engage with nature. The Veolia Orchard Project aims to create sustainable green spaces while inspiring young environmental ambassadors. The Green Team will take part in a special planting event, learning from experts about how these trees benefit our community and the environment. A huge congratulations to everyone involved: this is a wonderful step toward a greener future!



### Congratulations

Congratulations to Cheruni who passed with Distinction her ABRSM initial grade piano exam.



### 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





# WhatsApp

## A Guide for Parents & Carers

Age Rating  
**13+**

WhatsApp is a free messenger app. It uses the internet to send messages, images, documents, audio or video. The app offers end-to-end encryption, which means that all messages can only be read by the sender and the recipient.

### Privacy

Show your child how to **adjust their privacy settings**, such as hiding their profile photo, last seen status and about info. Set them to either of the following:

**My Contacts:** available to contacts from their address book only  
**Nobody:** not available to anyone

Talk to them about not sharing their personal details online.

### Messaging

Encourage your child to think about these things before they message:

- Is it kind?
- Is it true?
- Would your parents/guardians approve?
- Would you say it to their face?
- Have you asked permission to post photos?
- Have you used your online manners?
- You don't have to join in!

### Contacts

Make your child understand that they should **only connect with friends, family, or trusted individuals**.

Teach them not to accept messages from **unknown contacts**.

Go over with your child how to **add, block and report** contacts.

### Group Chats

If a child is added into a **Group Chat**, it may include people they don't know. This can put them at risk of being contacted by a stranger.

Go to **Settings -> Privacy -> Groups**. Select specific contacts that can add your child into groups.

Encourage your child to only join a group with people they **know and trust**.

### Location

WhatsApp allows users to share their **location** with others.

If this feature is enabled, it could potentially let others **track** your child's location or discover their home address.

Speak to your child about keeping this feature **disabled**.

### Check

Check in with your child regularly to **review their phone settings**.

Have an open dialogue about their WhatsApp usage and **how often** they are using the messaging app.

Encourage them to share what they're experiencing and periodically check that they are **staying safe and happy** online.



Encourage your child to come to you if **ANYTHING** online makes them feel uncomfortable, upset or worried.

Silly School Education



# MILKSHAKE MONDAY!

Year 3 are enjoying their financial education this week!

Inspired by their business knowledge and recent dentist visit, they will be selling healthy snacks: fresh strawberry and banana milkshakes and fruit muffins.

These will be available on the playground during morning playtime on 2nd December.

Please ensure your child has the **correct change** if they would like to enjoy a delicious treat!



Banana or  
strawberry  
milkshake

£1



Fruit muffins

£1





# 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



### **Competition time!**

**Win your child's class a special treat.**

**Each class will come up with their own stall and manage it.**

**The class that raises the most money will win a special treat for the whole class.**

**In addition to this staff will manage their own stalls, which will include a Prosecco bar, tombola, golden boxes, and crackers.**

**Once you have decided what stall you would like to run, please let Mrs Miller know via the school office.**



**Attendance and Lateness for the week  
beginning 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 :**

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	96	3
Year 1	94	0
Year 2	96	4
Year 3	99	1
Year 4	98	1
Year 5	97	2
Year 6	100	0

Well done Year 6 – you are the winners this week  
in school on time every day !

**League Table**

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

**Weeks in competition: 12 (full weeks only)**

**OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE  
WEEK 97%**

Have a wonderful weekend

Miss Veronica Maher  
Head Teacher



**ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025**

**Autumn Term 2024:**

Last day of term Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

**Spring Term 2025:**

First day of term Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2025

Half-term 17.02.25 – 21.02.25

Last day of term Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2025

**Summer Term 2025:**

First day of term Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025

**Bank Holiday Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

Half-term 26.05.25 – 30.05.2025

Last day of term Friday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2025

**INSET DAYS**

**Monday 21<sup>st</sup>, Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup>  
and Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025**