



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 8th December 2023

Autumn Term



Thank you to Mrs Miller, Mrs Williams, Mrs Anderson, Mrs Beeson and Mrs Karman for organising our Christmas Fair and all our class helpers and parents - a wonderful day was had by all. £1600 was raised.

Winners of the cracker competition are below. Medals and certificates will be distributed this week.

Infants

1st Sandra

2nd Theo A

Joint 3rd Ava

Juniors

1st Tejas Y3

2nd Chloe Y4

Joint 3rd Maëva and Zoe Y3



Messages for children at the end of the day

Please ensure that if you have messages for your children for the end of the day (for example messages regarding who is collecting) please ensure that you have informed the office **before** 3.00pm. As you can imagine, the busiest times in the office are at dropping off time in the morning and at collection time in the afternoon and we cannot guarantee that messages will get to the children if they are received after 3.00pm.

KS1 Nativity

KS1 took the stage in a wonderful rendition of "Bethlehem the Musical". The audience was treated to a heart warming spectacle as the infants shared the timeless story of Bethlehem. It was a charming and endearing celebration, leaving everyone with smiles and memories to treasure.



ArtsMark

Over the last two years, we have worked hard to achieve a prestigious ArtsMark award and are delighted to have been granted a Gold certification. Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools, accredited by Arts Council England. It supports schools to develop and celebrate arts and cultural education across the whole curriculum, bringing learning to life for children and young people. Schools are assessed against the seven quality principles, which are: striving for excellence and innovation; being authentic; being exciting, inspiring and engaging; ensuring a positive and inclusive experience; actively involving children and young people; enabling personal progression; and developing belonging and ownership.

Dr Darren Henley OBE, Chief Executive of the Arts Council, said: "I would like to congratulate St Philomena's on their Artsmark Award. Becoming an Artsmark school demonstrates that through offering a broad, ambitious and creative curriculum, young people have the opportunity to develop character and resilience, increasing their knowledge, curiosity and skills that will remain with them through to adult life." The Artsmark council have requested we take on a leadership role in supporting other schools with designing a quality curriculum, which we are delighted to accept.

Mrs Anderson
Art and DT Leader



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

PTA Wind in the Willows

Thank you to the PTA for the Christmas Panto this week – a great performance.



CAFOD Club

CAFOD Club raised £113.71 which has been sent to CAFOD this week through their sale of Rosary Beads

What is CAFOD?

We are the official aid agency for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. With your help, we reach out to people living in hard-to-reach places, in war zones and those who are discriminated against.

We believe that if one of us is hurt, hungry or abandoned, we all are hurt, hungry and abandoned. No one should be beyond the love and support they need to live a dignified life.

PTA Meeting

The PTA Meeting on Wednesday 15 December has been cancelled.

Football

Our boys' football team played their first match of the season this week against St Peter and St Paul's, and came away with a 3-2 victory. Well done boys!



Choir singing at the Bromley

Deanery Mass – 13.12.23 (Choir members only) – CANCELLED !!!!!!!

We have today received notification from the Diocese that the Deanery Mass on 13.12.23 has been CANCELLED.

The Mass will be re-scheduled for another time and we will let choir members have the details as soon as we know.

The Christmas Carol Concert - Our Lady of the Crays Church - Monday, 18th December 2023 at 6.00 p.m. – STILL GOING AHEAD !!!!!

If you have sent a “yes” reply by separate link previously:

<https://forms.gle/mTC6BgWqCxWiS3t88>

Please bring the children IN NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM to the Church Hall between 5.30 and 5.45pm (5.45pm at the very latest)

– please take your child’s coat with you to your pew with you when you drop off as they cannot take them with them into the church.

Children must be collected from the Church at 6.45pm (promptly).

Christmas Events

Christmas Jumper Day

The children are invited to wear their Christmas jumpers to school on Tuesday 19th December 2023. We ask that children make a small donation on the day (paid online) and all money donated will be given to Save the Children Charity – who protect children, give them a healthy start and the chance to learn. Thank you for your support.

Christmas Parties

Class parties will also be held on Tuesday 19th December in the afternoon. Please could you provide your child with an individual, named, small paper plate of party food covered in cling-film to be eaten at the party – NO NUTS!

Christmas Hamper – Monday 18th Dec winners will be drawn

Christmas Cards – Last day for posting in school post box Friday 15 December.

Christmas Lunch – Tuesday 19th December (Let the office know if your child is packed lunch and would like school dinner on this day.

PTA Events

Christmas School Disco – Thursday 14 December *(last chance to buy tickets is Monday 11th December 2023)*

Next PTA Meeting – Wednesday 15 December at 9am – CANCELLED

Important Dates

Carol Concert – Our Lady of the Cray
Monday 18 December 6pm (children to arrive at the Church Hall between 5.30-5.45pm)

Christmas Jumper Day – Tuesday 19th December

Nativity Dates

Reception Thursday 14 December

Attendance Race 2023- 2024

Attendance and Lateness for the week
beginning 27th November 2023 :

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	97	4
Year 1	99	1
Year 2	98	0
Year 3	96	1
Year 4	97	0
Year 5	95	1
Year 6	93	0

Year 1 have won this week, which puts them in the lead. Well done !

League Table

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

Weeks in competition: 10 (full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 96.5%

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



TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEARS 2023 – 2024

Autumn Term 2023:

Last day of term Wednesday 20th December

Spring Term 2024:

INSET DAY **Wednesday 3rd January 2024**

First day of term Thursday 4th January 2024

Half-term 12.02.24 – 16.02.24

Last day of term Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term 2024:

First day of term Monday 15th April 2024

Bank Holiday **Monday 6th May 2024**

Half-term 27.05.24 – 31.05.2024

Last day of term Friday 19th July 2024

INSET DAYS **Monday 22nd, Tuesday 23rd and Wednesday 24th July 2024**

TERM DATES

ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2023:

INSET DAYS:

Tuesday 27th August 2024

Wednesday 28th August 2024

First day back: Thursday 29th August 2024

Half-term 21.10.21 – 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

