



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 10 December 2021

Autumn Term

I was so happy to return to work this week and see all our children and families. Thank you for all your kind words and good wishes, my foot is recovering well !

Attendance at Mass

It is great that we have been able to reintroduce the cycle of classes attending Thursday morning Mass with the congregation at Our Lady of the Crays. I had the pleasure of accompanying Year 1 this week and was so impressed with their behaviour and participation in the Mass.

School Trips

Reception class had a wonderful time on Tuesday when they visited Brook Theatre in Chatham to see Little Foxes Christmas Garden Christmas Show.

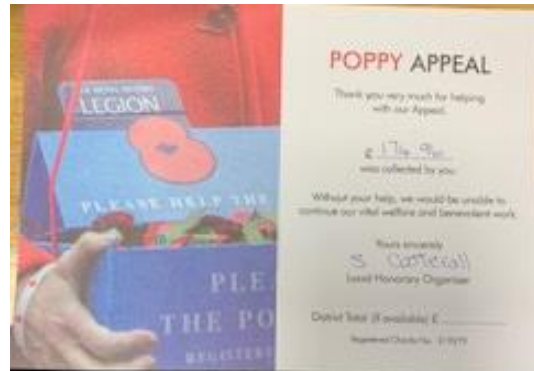


Also Year 1 really enjoyed their workshop and nature walk around Hall Place on Wednesday.



Thank you to Mrs Anderson for taking both classes, and to all the support staff and parents for helping to supervise the children.

Thank you to everyone that donated to our Poppy Appeal £174.96 was collected.



Football Success

St. Philomena's vs Farrington football match! Thank you to Mrs Didd and Greg Wickenden from Skills Academy for their help in coaching the team.

Footballers Report

On Wednesday 8th December 2021, the day of a big match. St. Philomena's school football team faced Farrington School and won 8-1!

Their strategy was good, but ours was better. They were strong, but we were stronger. They were fast, but we were faster. The smiles on our faces while we were playing and when we won made my day!

We won with the collective effort of the following: Adrian – Year 5, Azariah – Year 6, Caolan – Year 6, Dean – Year 6, Dominik – Year 6, Jason – Year 6, Joshua – Year 6, Michael – Year 6 and Nana – Year 6. Our amazing goal scorers were Adrian, Caolan, Dean, Dominik and Joshua.

Farrington scored the first goal, but instead of us giving up, we got even more motivated and came with a comeback of 8 goals! That's what I call teamwork. – **Jason, Year 6.**

Newly introduced 'Plan B' restrictions and rising COVID cases locally

You will be aware that the government introduced new restrictions to come into place from today, Friday 11th December 2021.

Since the arrival of the OMICRON variant, all staff in school are wearing face masks inside the building and we have reverted to carrying out LFD tests daily.

We are awaiting advice from the clinical team in Bromley so, **at the moment**, are still planning to allow live audiences to our infant Nativity performances but will insist on the following :-

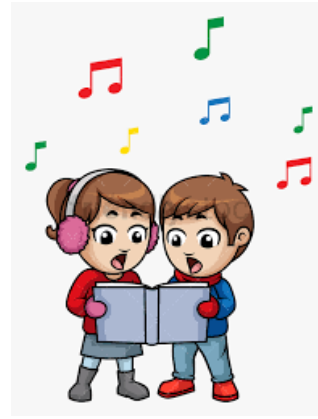
- Only TWO members of the family for each child (no pre-school age children). Tickets must be pre-ordered through the Pay360 online system so that we know numbers of visitors
- Audience members **MUST** wear a mask (**unless exempt**) while inside the school. The hall will be well ventilated too, so you may need to keep your coat on !
- We will also require that you take an LFD antigen test before entering the school and we will need to see evidence that this is negative before allowing you to enter the school. **PLEASE bring the test/result with you.**

If you have had close contact with somebody who has tested positive for Covid-19, please do not attend our school events

It is imperative that we do all we can to continue protecting everyone in our school community so will insist these measures are adhered to. **If not, we will not allow you watch the performance.**

If you have any questions, please ask, well in advance of the performances as there will be limited time to do so if you wish to discuss when arriving at the school to join the audience.

Thank you for continued support and co-operation.



Christmas Carols on the playground – 14/12/21

Key Stage 2 would like to invite all families to come and enjoy Christmas Carols on the playground on Tuesday 14th December at 3:10pm.

We will be selling hot chocolate and mince pies and we hope to have a few stalls (tombola, Christmas decorations, etc) out on the playground for families who come to listen to the Carols.

The gates will open at 3pm and singing will start at 3:10pm. Key Stage 1 will be watching the Carols and can be collected from the playground from 3:20pm. Please come and join us if you can!

Volunteers please! Would you be available to run a stall during our Carols on the playground event? Helpers will be needed from 2:45 – 4pm please. If you can, please let the office know ASAP.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR CHRISTMAS

Monday 13.12.21

Bring in additional decorations for party hats and a glue stick



Last day for Year 2 parents to order tickets for Nativity

KS1 Nativity for Year Parents at 2.00pm

Tuesday 14.12.21

Christmas Cards distributed

Reception Nativity Performance for parents at 10.00am

Carols and Mince Pies in the playground from 3pm

Wednesday 15.12.21

KS1 Nativity for Year 2 Parents at 2.00pm

Thursday 16.12.21

Christmas Lunch Christmas jumper Day

Class parties – children will need individual plates of Party food

Christmas Hamper Raffle winners drawn

Term Dates

Autumn Term 2021:

Last day of term Friday 17th December '21

Spring Term 2022:

First day of term Tuesday 4th January 2022

Half-term 14.02.22 – 18.02.22

Last day of term Friday 1st April 2022

(Good Friday 15th April 2022 and Easter Monday 18th April 2022)

Sumer Term 2022:

First day of term Tuesday 19th April 2022

Bank Holiday 02.05.22

Half-term 30.05.22 – 03.06.22

Last day of term Thursday 21st July 2022

***Staff Training Day Friday 22nd July**

Monday 25th July

Inter-Class Attendance Race

The attendance rates have not been affected by any absence due to Covid-19 (isolation/symptoms or testing).

Attendance and Lateness for the week beginning 29th November 2021:

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	99	0
Year 1	96	2
Year 2	91	1
Year 3	97	3
Year 4	93	2
Year 5	95	4
Year 6	98	4

Reception are the winners again this week. Well done !

League Table

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

Weeks in competition: 15 (full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 95.8%

Have a wonderful weekend!

Miss Veronica Maher

Head Teacher

