



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 31 January 2025

Spring Term

Green Team Celebrates Blue Peter Badge Success!

We are thrilled to announce that our Green Team has been awarded a prestigious Blue Peter Green Badge for their outstanding contribution to eco-friendly initiatives at St. Philomena's. This badge is a huge honor and recognises the incredible hard work and dedication of our eco-warriors in promoting sustainability and protecting the environment, inspired by Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'*. His call to care for our common home has been a guiding light for all the amazing projects the team has undertaken.

From building birdhouses, creating recycling bins, promoting locally grown British food, and securing funding for a school orchard, the Green Team has shown what it means to care for God's creation, embodying the principles of *Laudato Si'* in tangible ways. A huge well done to everyone involved!

Keep an eye out for their next exciting project as they continue to make St. Philomena's a greener, more eco-conscious school.



CUSTOMER NOTICE

The London Borough of Bromley will soon commence works on the refurbishment of Orpington Library, closing temporarily from Friday 31st January 2025.

We will be holding the following programme of temporary events:

Wednesday 5th, 12th and 19th February

Knit and Chat-Crafty Crochet-Welcome Wednesday, 10-11.30am at Hope Church, Unit 8, The Walnuts Shopping Centre, BR6 0TW

Thursday 6th, 13th and 20th February

Baby Rhyme Time,

10-10.30am at Jungle Soft Play area, Central Atrium, The Walnuts Shopping Centre, BR6 0TW

Thank you in advance for your patience during this period.



Orpington Library will close for their refurbishment on Fri 31st January for a number of months. However, they will be moving into a temporary location in Orpington during February - The unit in the Walnuts Shopping Centre previously occupied by Argos. It is situated close to the Jungle Soft Play area.

Year 5 School Journey to Wick Court Farm

Our Year 5 children looked so excited when I waved them off on Monday. They were all very much looking forward to their five days at Wick Court Farm in Gloucestershire. I am sure they will have had wonderful farmyard experiences with the animals and enjoyed the adventure of being away from home.

Year 5 parents, you can expect some very tired children on Friday ! And I know the adults who went with them will be looking forward to a quiet and restful weekend...??

Huge thanks to Mrs Williams, Mrs Didd, Mrs Beeson, Mrs Jonson and Mrs Greenwood for giving up their time to look after the children and ensure they had the best time ever.

Children's Mental Health Week 3rd to 7th February

In school next week, all children will be taking part in sessions to help them recognise and understand their feelings, linked to the theme of 'Know Yourself, Grow Yourself'.

You can access lots of resources here <https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

Please do ask your children what they have been thinking about. Those conversations are key to ensuring that our children feel comfortable acknowledging their feelings and emotions.

School Photos

You should have received your school photo proof this week so that you can place your order online. The online cut-off date for orders to be placed for free postage back to the school is **5th February 2025**

Visit www.getphotos.co.uk and use your photo code on your proof card

Community Events

We have two family open days coming up at the Essex Fire Museum:

- Tuesday 18th February 2025
- Sunday 23rd February 2025

There will be opportunities for families to get involved in history trails around the museum, spot hazards in our fire safety room, enter a haunted house, partake in craft activities and a sit on our fire engines (and squirt water 😊).

The museum is free entry (but visits are by appointment only.....as we are on the site of an operational fire station).

If families are interested, could they please email us at: museum@essex-fire.gov.uk and tell us the number in their party and the time they would like to arrive (we are open from 10.30am to 4.00pm). This is just because we have to keep the main station informed of numbers throughout the day. Suggested last admissions are 2.30pm. This is just so that people have enough time to experience everything on site.

Our address and contact details are:

Essex Fire Museum
Grays Fire Station,
Hogg Lane,
Grays RM17 5QS

Phone: 01376 576847

Email: museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Website: [Fire Museum \(essex-fire.gov.uk\)](http://Fire Museum (essex-fire.gov.uk))

Essex Fire Museum
Open Days



**Tuesday 18 and
Sunday 23 February
2025**

**10:30AM
To
4:00PM**

**Fire Station, Hogg Lane, Grays
RM17 5QS**

Book Now 

Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk

Class Assemblies

Reception	06.02.25 10am
Year 1	06.03.25 10am
Year 2	27.02.25 10am
Year 3	13.02.25 10am
Year 4	13.03.25 10am
Year 5	02.04.25 (Passion Play 2pm)
Year 6	20.03.25

**Attendance and Lateness for the week
beginning 20th January 2025 :**

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	91	0
Year 1	97	1
Year 2	99	1
Year 3	91	0
Year 4	89	2
Year 5	84	2
Year 6	90	1

Well done Year 2 - you are the winners again
this week !

Overall, attendance was very low this week due
to high levels of sickness. Hopefully, we are all
feeling fit and healthy for next week

League Table

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

Weeks in competition: 19 (full weeks only)

OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 91.9 %

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Veronica Maher





ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

Autumn Term 2024:

Spring Term 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**

ACADEMIC YEARS 2025 - 2026

Autumn Term 2025:

INSET DAYS: 2025

Wednesday 27th August

Thursday 28th August 2025

Friday 29th August 2025

Monday 1st September

First day back:
2025

Half-term

20.10.25 – 31.10.25

Back to school

Monday 3rd November 2025

Last day of term

Friday 19th December 2025

Spring Term 2026:

First day of term

Monday 5th January 2026

Half-term

16.02.26 – 20.02.26

Back to school

Monday 23rd February 2026

Last day of term

Friday 27th March 2026

Summer Term 2026:

First day of term

Monday 13th April 2026

Bank Holiday

Monday 4th May 2026

Half-term

25.05.26 – 29.05.2026

Back to school

Monday 1st June 2026

Last day of term

Monday 20th July 2026

INSET DAYS

Tuesday 21st and

Wednesday 22nd July 2026