



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## Newsletter – 7 February 2025

### Spring Term

#### Year 3 Visit to St Andrew's Church

As part of the Year 3 Tudor topic, we visited St Andrew's Church to learn about the Reformation, the beginnings of the Church of England, and how it differs from our Catholic faith. The children enjoyed an engaging talk from the church warden and took part in a scavenger hunt, exploring key features of the church. It was a fantastic opportunity to bring history to life! A huge thank you to the staff at St Andrew's for welcoming us and allowing us to look around.



#### Reception Class Assembly

Reception really enjoyed telling the story of 'The Gruffalo' for their class assembly this morning. The children sang the Gruffalo song and acted out the story. The Gruffalo was very scary!





## Year 6 Trips

This week has been incredibly busy for Year 6 as we set off on two fantastic school trips that really enhanced our learning experience.

On Tuesday, we visited the Natural History Museum, which was a brilliant addition to our Living Things topic in Science. The students had a great time acting like taxonomists as they explored the exhibits and took part in hands-on activities. Using high-powered microscopes, they sorted and classified real insect samples from the museum. It was exciting to see them interpret these samples to help solve a farmer's problem with his crops, discussing different ways that might help or even harm his harvest. The discussions highlighted their ability to connect classroom learning to real-life situations, especially regarding biodiversity.

On Thursday, we headed to the Unicorn Theatre to watch Pig Heart Boy. This trip tied in perfectly with our work on the book, giving the children the chance to see the story come alive on stage. With front-row seats, they were fully engaged, and it helped them grasp the concept of xenotransplantation even more.

I am so proud of the children's enthusiasm for learning and their fantastic behaviour during both trips. We received lots of lovely comments from the public and workshop facilitators about their manners and kindness, which truly makes me proud to be part of St. Philomena's. A huge thank you to Mrs Bunce, Mrs Heffernan, Mrs Karman, and Mrs Coleman for their amazing support in making these experiences happen. We can't wait for more exciting trips ahead!

*Rowena Omilegan*  
*Year 6 Class Teacher*





### Year 1 Jambs Owl Visit

Jambs Owls came to St Philomena's this week to introduce the children to their "parliament" of owls. The children got to see the friendly barn owls, eagle owls and many more. The children also learnt how owls survive in the wild, what they like to eat and their nocturnal habits.

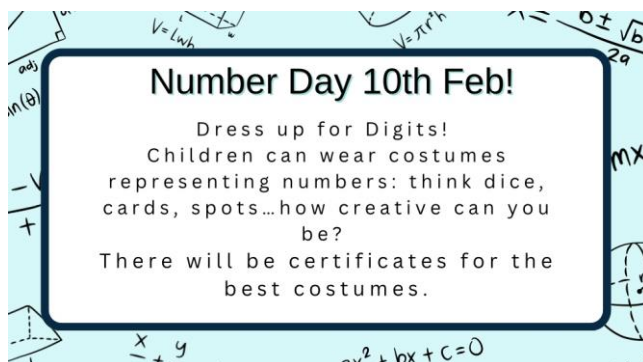


### TTRS Cinema Trip

A selection of children visited the Odeon Cinema in Orpington this week to watch 'Dog Man' as a reward for the hard work and dedication they have shown in learning all of their times tables.

### Luna Workshop – Chinese New Year

The children enjoyed a Luna workshop this week to celebrate Chinese New Year.



### PTA Meeting

The St Philomena's Parent Teacher Association is inviting you to a Zoom PTA meeting, to discuss upcoming events for the whole school and fundraising opportunities. Please join us!

Topic: St Philomena's PTA meeting

Time: Feb 11, 2025 04:30 PM London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/82979592249?pwd=aCdFbi9XEGYDLyVd8zu5vL6lIW990pS.1>

Meeting ID: 829 7959 2249

Passcode: 0US2fS

## PTA EVENTS



### Stay and Play

PTA Stay and Play raised £197.00



International pizza day – we are looking for volunteers to help with this event. Please email the school office if you are able to help.



**Attendance and Lateness for the week  
beginning 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025 :**

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

Well done Year 4 - you are the winners this week –  
all in on time every day !

**League Table**

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

**Weeks in competition: 20 (full weeks only)**

**OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK    98.2 %**

**Class Assemblies**

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

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Veronica Maher  
Head Teacher





## Community Events



### VALENTINE TRAIL

14th - 23rd February

Join our trail and take part in our animal quiz

Pick up your entry form at reception.  
Answer the questions and  
collect your prize from the Tea Room



Open daily (except Tuesday)  
from 1.30pm - 4.30pm



**£4 per entry**



Foal Farm Animal Rescue  
Jail Lane, Biggin Hill, TN16 3AX  
[www.foalfarm.org.uk](http://www.foalfarm.org.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](mailto:Museum@essex-fire.gov.uk)



England Lacrosse Insured  
Full Enhanced DBS  
School Safeguarding Compliant

### February Half Term Lacrosse Camp

**Years 3 +**


**When?**  
Monday 17th | Tuesday 18th | Wednesday 19th  
10 am - 3 pm

**Where?**  
Park House Rugby Club,  
Barnet Wood Road,  
Hayes  
BR2 7AA

**Cost?**  
£30 for 1 Day | £55 for 2 Days | £75 for 3 Days

**Coaches?**  
Current and ex GB, England & Denmark  
international players!

**To Book:**  
Click [HERE](#) to fill  
out the form.




### The Maypole Project Chislehurst Half Marathon 2025

After an extremely successful event last year, The Maypole Project Chislehurst Half Marathon is back, this year we are working with Nice Works to deliver another fantastic event.

This course takes you through some of the green spaces of beautiful Chislehurst where London meets the countryside. Everything raised will go to supporting children with complex medical needs and their families.

**Date:** Sunday 18th May 2025

**Start Time:** 9.30am

**Course Address:** Glebe Football Club, Foxbury Avenue. off Perry Street, Chislehurst, Kent, BR7 6SD

**GET IN TOUCH**

✉ [Fundraising@themaypoleproject.co.uk](mailto:Fundraising@themaypoleproject.co.uk)

☎ 01689 851 596

**THE MAYPOLE PROJECT**

[themaypoleproject.co.uk](http://themaypoleproject.co.uk)



Registered Charity No. 1120163



## ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

### Autumn Term 2024:

### Spring Term 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**

## ACADEMIC YEARS 2025 - 2026

### Autumn Term 2025:

### INSET DAYS: 2025

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

**Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September**

First day back:  
2025

Half-term

20.10.25 – 31.10.25

Back to school

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025

Last day of term

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025

### Spring Term 2026:

First day of term

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Half-term

16.02.26 – 20.02.26

Back to school

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026

Last day of term

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026

### Summer Term 2026:

First day of term

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

### **Bank Holiday**

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026**

Half-term

25.05.26 – 29.05.2026

Back to school

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026

Last day of term

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

### INSET DAYS

**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026**

Please email the school office if you are able to help – thank you.