



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## Newsletter – 10 February 2023 Spring Term

### Wick Court Farm

Year 5 had a brilliant time at the farm last week. They fed new born calves, trained lambs to walk on a halter (well, nearly !), weighed pigs, groomed horses and so much more !

As always, I really enjoyed the few days I spent with them. Getting to know our children in a completely different environment is so insightful.

I would like to say huge thanks to Mrs Bunce, Mrs Beeson, Mrs Didd, Mrs Williams and our most experienced farm hand, Mrs Greenwood for giving up their time to look after the children. It is really good fun but exhausting !



### Litter Picking

Our school council wanted to establish a new initiative of taking better care of our school grounds and organised a 'litter-picking' rota for all classes. The first group (Reception and Year 6) worked on this yesterday and picked up lots of bits and pieces through their joint efforts. Mr Hill does an amazing job of looking after our school but I'm sure he appreciated a little bit of help from our enterprising children.



### Appeal for help!

In response to our appeal for help in restoring our picnic benches, we would like to say a huge thank you to Mr Siepak for offering.



### Parent Governor Ballot

I hope you all received the information (sent home as hard copy) yesterday regarding your chance to vote for one of the parent governor nominees :-

Nadine McDonald (parent of Joseph in Year 1)

Karis Procter (parent of Teddy in Year 2)

Please do take full advantage of this opportunity and submit your ballot paper by Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023.



### KS1/KS2 Geography Competition

Thank you to everyone who participated in the geography competition, we had a fantastic number of entries – it was so hard to choose a winner because everyone had made such an amazing effort! Winners were announced today in class, they were **Noah in Year 1** for creating a wonderful flag to represent himself and **Caleb in Year 3** for his fact – file all about Jamaica. Both children have received a Geography Fact book/ Atlas for winning. All participants have a received a certificate. Well done!

Miss Molineaux

Geography Subject Leader



### Children's Mental Health Week (6.2.23 – 10.2.23)

This week is Children's Mental Health Week.

Each class had a container/jar in their classroom and the children were asked to write down things that they are grateful for and place them in the container throughout the week.

On Friday we shared ideas with the whole class.

This is a small but powerful activity that helps children to think positively, which is



great for developing their wellbeing. Sharing some ideas on Friday will have hopefully sent the children off in good spirits for their half term break.

Sam Coleman and Corinne Heffernan  
Youth Mental Health First Aiders

### 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.



### Open Classrooms

Our new initiative of 'Open Classroom' was very warmly received so we will continue this offer for the foreseeable future.

Here are the dates for this term Please come with your child so they can share their super work and displays. The Class Teacher will not be available – all very informal.

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Year 2 and Year 4

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February – Years 1, 5 and 6

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March – EYFS and Year 3

I am confident this will assist with the conversation you will have with your child's teacher at the Parent/Teacher meetings the following week.

(Confirmed timings and details of booking system to be shared with you soon).



If you have any questions, please ask.

### Book Week

During the week of 27<sup>th</sup> February – 3<sup>rd</sup> March the children will take part in a variety of experiences that are all focused around books; including book character fancy dress day, reading breakfast, school library visits and story time teacher swaps. All children are invited to come to school on **TUESDAY (28th February)** dressed as their favourite book character.

We are also organising a special reading breakfast for the children on **Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February at 8am**. Each child who books a place will receive a croissant and a carton of orange juice to enjoy in their costumes. The cost of the breakfast will be £1.50. ALL CHILDREN MUST BE SUPERVISED BY AN ADULT – THEY SHOULD NOT BE LEFT UNATTENDED - the cost of this will be £1.50 per breakfast. (An adult breakfast consists of a hot drink (tea or coffee) and a croissant - we ask that you bring along a reusable coffee cup with lid that we

We would be grateful if

you could pay using Pay360 by Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023. We will then be able to order sufficient provisions.



### Other Faiths Week

This week the children have been learning all about Hinduism in class. Their learning culminated in assemblies lead by London Institute of Vedic Education sharing Hindu stories, traditions and beliefs.



Thank you to Ms Omilegan for organising this significant week of learning.



### Class Assembly List

Year 3	- Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March
Year 4	- Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 2	- Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March
Rocksteady Concert	- Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March
Reception	- Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 5 Passion Play	- Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> March
Year 1	- Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March



Class Assembly

## **TERM DATES**

### **ACADEMIC YEARS 2022 - 2023**

#### **Spring Term**

**2023:**

**INSET DAY**            **Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023**

First day of term    Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Last day of term    Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

#### **Summer Term**

**2023:**

First day of term    Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

**Bank Holiday**        **01.05.23**  
                              **08.05.23**

Half-term            29.05.23 – 02.06.2023

**INSET DAY**            **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

Last day of term    Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**INSET DAY**            **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

The 2023/2024 term dates are available on the School Website.

Please refer to these dates when you are considering booking your holidays as holidays **MUST NOT** be taken during term time.

Thank you for your co-operation

## **DINNER MONEY**

Dinner money is £2.30 per day - please see below the monthly costs. ***In accordance with our school policy, dinner money should be paid monthly in advance.***

### **DINNER MONEY 2022 – 2023**

#### **SPRING 2023**

January	£48.40
February	£35.20
March	£50.60

#### **SUMMER 2023**

April	£22.00
May	£41.80
June	£44.00
July	£33.00

Difficult to believe we are already in February but do please have a restful half term break and we look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Miss Veronica Maher

