



St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

Newsletter – 11 February 2022

Spring Term

We have had such a busy week at school – exploring topics such as Judaism as part of our 'Other Faiths' week, gathering our 'Ribbons of Hope' as part of Children's Mental Health Week, E-Safety Day, cricket tournaments, Reception trip to Airjump.. just to name a few! I think we are all now definitely ready for a break.

COVID 19

We are nearly COVID free at St Philomena's, with just two children and no staff having tested positive this week. We are delighted that our outbreak management measures have been successful and are also very grateful to our parents and carers for being so vigilant and testing/monitoring where necessary – thank you! We may not be quite at the end of the journey however, and will update you again upon our return. We hope you stay safe over the half term break.

Mrs Meaney

Please keep Mrs Meaney and her family in your prayers; her funeral will take place on Monday. May she rest in peace.



*In Our
Thoughts
and Prayers*

Other Faiths Week

This week, children have explored the beliefs and traditions of Judaism as part of 'Other Faiths Week'. A special thank you to Mr Gerald Rose from 'Catford & Bromley Synagogue', who led assemblies and brought various artefacts for the children to handle. This work develops the Catholic Social teaching on 'Human Dignity' that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. It helps our children to develop their understanding and tolerance of those who hold beliefs different to our own.



Safer Internet Day was celebrated globally on 8th February 2022.

Here at St. Philomena's our children took part in various activities; some listened to the story 'Buddy the dog' where they were taught how to use the internet safely in a fun way. The children enjoyed singing the 'Being safe online' song. They also had an opportunity to design their own E-safety posters, the older children doing this online. Finally, some children rounded off the day by taking part in an internet safety quiz.



Hope Garden

For this year's Children's Mental Health Week, St Philomena's CP School decided to focus on Hope – especially important for us all in these challenging times.

Each child was given the opportunity to write a message of hope, in words or pictures, onto a length of ribbon which was then hung in the "Garden of Hope" area in the school playground for all to see.

The children's messages ranged from personal, such as "I hope I go on holiday this year", to the worldwide, such as "I hope for world peace" and "I hope that Covid ends".



We wanted to encourage our children to demonstrate hope in their lives through having positive attitudes - even at difficult times, being willing to work hard and do their best and to pursue their goals and follow their dreams.



The Spine Festival

The SPINE Festival is a creative arts festival for children and young people, organised and run by several London boroughs and the spoken word organisation: Apples and Snakes.

As part of this year's SPINE Festival, Bromley Libraries are offering children the chance to take part in Telling Tales: a six-week creative writing programme. For 7-11 year olds. Telling Tales will involve developing and creating stories and poems. Over the six weeks, attendees will engage and participate in writing, with a view to completing a story or poem that they can share with family and friends at the final session.

Bromley's Telling Tales programme will be run by poet, performer and educator Patrick Evans at **Orpington Library**.

Throughout the project, the young people will work towards a Discover Arts Award. (www.artsaward.org.uk)

Workshops will be held on the following dates from **10.30-11.30am**

Saturday 26 February

Saturday 5 March

Saturday 12 March

Saturday 19 March

Saturday 26 March

Saturday 2 April

Please email: orpington.library@gll.org for more information and to book a place. The idea is to attend all sessions where possible.

Orpington Library
Bromley Partnership
01689 831551

<http://www.better.org.uk/library/london/bromley>



Spring Term Online Parent Teacher Meetings

Our Spring Term Parent Teacher meetings will take place over two evenings on Monday 28th February 15:45 – 19:00 and Wednesday 2nd March 15:45 – 18:00. These meetings are incredibly important as they provide an opportunity to speak with your child's class teacher and discuss your child's progress. As a school, we have taken the decision to continue to use SchoolCloud for our Parent Teacher meetings again this term to help ensure the safety of everyone in our school community.

Please visit

<https://stphilomenasprimaryschool.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book an appointment with your child's class teacher. The system allows you to choose your own appointment times and you will receive an email confirming your appointment.

You will be able to attend the appointment online via SchoolCloud by following the link sent to your email. For those of you who are not familiar with the online booking system, attached to this letter is a short guide explaining how to use the SchoolCloud booking system which I hope you will find useful.

APPOINTMENTS CAN BE MADE FROM 7TH FEBRUARY AND WILL CLOSE ON 23RD FEBRUARY

TERM DATES

Spring Term 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)

Summer Term 2022:

First day of term Tuesday 19th April 2022

Bank Holiday 02.05.22

Half-term 30.05.22 – 03.06.22

Bank Holiday 15.06.22

Last day of term Thursday 21st July 2022

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

ACADEMIC YEARS 2022 – 2023

TERM DATES

Autumn Term 2022:

Inset Days: Tuesday 30 August

Wednesday 31st August 2022

First day back: Thursday 1st September

Half-term 17.10.22 – 28.10.22

Last day of term Wednesday 21st December

Spring Term 2023:

First day of term Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Half-term 13.02.23 – 17.02.23

Last day of term Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term 2023:

First day of term Monday 17th April 2023

Bank Holiday 01.05.23

Half-term 29.05.23 – 02.06.2023

Last day of term Friday 21 July 2023

Have a wonderful half term break!



Miss Veronica Maher
Head Teacher