



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## Newsletter – 16 May 2025

### Summer Term

#### Year 5 Class Assembly

Year 5 transported us back in time with their fantastic class assembly all about the Victorian era. The children brought history to life focusing on what life was like for children and the stark contrast between rich and poor and the harsh realities of child labour. Their performance showcased just how much they have learned. A huge well done to all of Year 5 and their teachers for their hard work and enthusiasm.



#### Year 3 Class Trip to British Museum

As part of our learning about Ancient Egypt, Year 3 enjoyed a trip to the British Museum. We explored ancient artefacts such as mummies, jewellery, and hieroglyphics. We enjoyed completing special museum missions, which helped us explore life in Ancient Egypt. We had lots of fun and learned so much along the way! Thank you to the adults who supported us on this trip.



## Catholic Life of the School



#### Crowning of Mary

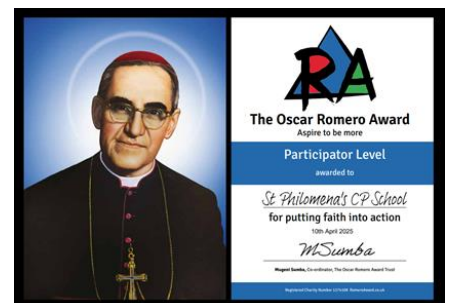
We gathered together as a school community, in the sunshine, to honour Mary during this special month of May. Our beautiful Marian service included the crowning of Our Lady with flowers, symbolising our love and devotion. The service was beautifully led by our RE Ambassadors, and it was truly special to share this moment of prayer and reflection with our parents and carers—thank you for joining us and for providing beautiful flowers.

A heartfelt thank you also to Mrs. Martin for providing the music and for teaching the children the hymns that made the celebration so meaningful.



#### Oscar Romero Award

We are delighted to share that our school has recently received the **Oscar Romero Award**! This special recognition celebrates our commitment to Catholic social teaching and putting faith into action. We're proud of the way our children and staff live out Gospel



values through acts of kindness, justice, and compassion within our school and wider community. It is really lovely to have received this award as a way of recognising all that we do.

### **Joining St Oscar Romero Catholic Academy Trust**

Further to the information we shared two weeks ago, regarding this forthcoming change to our status as a single academy trust, we wish to advise that the consultation period is now closed.

Many thanks to all those who submitted questions.

### **Reception Wish List**

Below is a list of items that would greatly benefit our Reception children and enhance their learning experience:

Tyres  
Pallets  
Wood (off cuts)  
Black chalk paint  
Large fabric (natural colours)  
Cable reels  
Fake grass  
Soil  
Bulbs  
Plants to grow (veg, fruit or flower)  
Tarpaulin  
Large pegs  
Scrap paper (large or small)  
Rope  
Outdoor paint (any colour, remnants or new pots)  
Nails, screws, etc  
Wood bark chipping  
Clear plastic tubing (water play)  
Baskets (natural)

If you have any of these things at home and no longer require them, or if you know where to get them for free, we would love to have them! Thank you!

### **Mental Health Awareness Month – May**



In the UK May is National Mental Health Awareness Month, an occasion for individuals and organisations around the country to open up conversations about mental health.

### **Secondary Transfer**

Year 5 parents are invited to a Secondary Transfer Meeting on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at 3.30pm in St Philomena's School Hall

### **PTA Meeting**

All are invited to our upcoming PTA Zoom meeting  
Time: May 21, 2025 04:30 PM London  
Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81347396684?pwd=Wtn088YAueLnPq9EWhRU9aVfMtshns.1>

**Meeting ID: 813 4739 6684**

**Passcode: EYUFU3**

This meeting is a great opportunity to stay informed, share ideas, and collaborate to support our children and school community.  
We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Assembly Dates**

Reception - 12 June 10am  
Year 1 - 03 July 10am  
Year 2 - 19 June 10am  
Year 3 - 22 May **9.30am**  
Year 4 - 26 June 10am  
Year 6 - TBC

### **Ice-Cream Friday**

Ice creams and Ice lollies will be sold after school every Friday (weather permitting). Please bring small change with you.



Volunteer opportunities for "Ice cream sales" are now open.

Please click on the following web link (or copy it into your web browser if clicking doesn't work) to go to the signup sheet:  
[volunteersignup.org/HDKAM](https://volunteersignup.org/HDKAM)

To sign up, just follow the instructions on the page. It only takes a few seconds to do.



# Community Info


## Congratulations

A big congratulations to Ollie in Year 2 for scoring the winning goals in both of his recent cup games. Ollie also celebrated scoring 64 goals this season, a huge achievement for a boy his age.



### Virtue of the Month

#### Resilience and Perseverance



Saint: St. George, who showed great perseverance and kept going bravely even when facing tough challenges.

#### Signs of Living the Virtue

- I keep trying with God's help, even when faced with difficulties
- I learn from mistakes and trust Jesus to strengthen me
- I support others to keep going, inspired by the courage of the saints
- I pray for the grace to persevere in faith and goodness

#### Let us Pray

Dear Lord, Please give me courage to keep going when things are hard. Help me to stay strong, keep trying, and never give up. Amen.

## Pictures Alive at Orpington Library



Come and explore illustrated books with us and focus on a different illustrator/ author each month!

**This months focus: Mariajo Ilustrajo**

**Monday 19th May**

**4-5pm**

**Age: 4-7s with parent/carers**

To book contact: <https://orpingtonlibrary.eventbrite.co.uk>



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# DATES TO REMEMBER



1. Sports Day - Wed 25.6.25
2. Back up Sports Day - Wed 9.7.25  
KS1 9.30-11.15pm  
KS2 1.30-3.15pm
3. PTA Summer Fair - after sports day
4. School Class photos - Thursday 26 June 2025

Have a good weekend.

Miss Veronica Maher  
Head Teacher



## ACADEMIC YEARS 2024 - 2025

### Summer Term 2025:

<b>Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Monday 5th May 2025</b>
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:

<b>INSET DAYS:</b>	<b>Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> August 2025 Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025</b>
First day back: 2025	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
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
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<b>Bank Holiday</b>	<b>Monday 4th May 2026</b>
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
<b>INSET DAYS</b>	<b>Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026</b>