



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## **Newsletter – 22 September 2023 Autumn Term**

### **'Open' Classroom**

Last year we introduced this initiative which provides children with an opportunity to show their parents their class, books, displays etc..

Class teachers will not be available, it's all very informal and a lovely chance for the children to talk about their learning. Parents and carers have fed back very positively about how open classroom assists the conversation with teachers at the subsequent parent/teacher meetings.

The classroom will be available from 3.30pm until 4.15pm on the following days :-

|                      |                  |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Monday 2nd October   | Years 2 & 4      |
| Tuesday 3rd October  | Years 1. 5 and 6 |
| Thursday 5th October | EYFS and Year 3  |

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to speak with your child's teacher.

### **School Gateway System**

Please make sure you are registered with our new School Gateway System. This system is used to make payments and to register for clubs. .

### **Piano Lessons**

There are spaces available for Piano lessons. Please contact the school office and we shall send you a Bromley Youth Music Trust form to complete.

### **PTA Meeting**

The next PTA meeting will be Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> September at 9am in the school hall. All parents are welcome – we look forward to also meeting some of our new families.

### **Taekwondo**

Next week Taekwondo will be on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> NOT Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

### **Bromley Safer Schools Team**

The Bromley Safer Schools Team has historically found that robberies increase each year at the release time of the new iPhone. This is due to both people buying the new model but also older models being reduced in price and become more accessible. For our young people this can be an exciting time getting a new device and we want to ensure that they can do so without the fear of it being stolen.

### **Please see below some mobile phone safety tips to share within your schools and settings:**

- \* Keep your phone and valuables out of sight in a safe place when travelling to and from school. Be careful when you take your phone out in public places.
- Bus stops, train stations and surrounding areas are common target areas for thieves, who can approach on foot, moped or on a pedal bike or e-scooter.
- Earphones/headphones can distract you, stopping you from seeing or hearing someone approach you from behind.
- Don't confront a thief – it's not worth risking your own safety for possessions that can be replaced.
- Robbery or attempted robbery are serious crimes and should be reported. It's important you seek help straight away by dialing 999 rather than contacting Police when you get home. Use a friend's phone or the phone of a trusted adult. This gives us the best chance to catch the suspects, recover any stolen property and ensure your safety.
- If you have information about a robbery and do not want to report it to police, speak to Fearless 100 % anonymously at [www.fearless.org](http://www.fearless.org). Fearless is the youth service of independent charity Crimestoppers.
- Whether you have a phone or not, memorise or keep a parent/carer's phone number in a separate place in your bag/zipped pocket in case of emergency. Help protect your child's phone if it's stolen:
- Use your device's security features, apps or PIN locking mechanisms to protect your data and prevent the phone being used.
- Keep a record of the phone's IMEI number (not on your phone!). This is a 15-digit unique number which can be obtained by keying in \*#06#. You need this information if the phone is lost or stolen.
- Consider installing a tracker app, available online

# Black History Month:

## October 2023



Black History Month 2023 is a momentous occasion to recognise and celebrate the invaluable contributions of black people to British society. The aims of Black History Month are to:

- Promote black history, culture and heritage.
- Share information on positive black contributions to society.

This year the theme is '**Saluting Our Sisters**' in which we will be learning about and celebrating the exceptional achievements of black women.

Would you like to help us? Maybe you'd like to:

- Come in and read or tell a story
- Teach a group of children a traditional African or Caribbean dance
- Teach greetings in an African language
- Teach our children any traditional arts or crafts, e.g. tie dying or jewellery making

If so or if you have any other suggestions, please let Miss Molineaux know or email the office.

Thank you! Miss Molineaux

### Foundation Governors

We are seeking practising Catholics to serve as Foundation Governors at St. Philomena's.

If you are curious to know what this might entail, the Education Commission of Southwark Diocese is hosting a couple of information sessions.

Information on how to book yourself onto one of these sessions can be found at the following links.

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi\\_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/join?secret=us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati)  
[on](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/join?secret=us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati)

[https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi\\_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/join?secret=us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati)  
[on](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/join?secret=us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZElcuGrqiktGde8Yi_VXrNknQCqATuFSfqD#/registrati)

You can always come and have a chat with Miss Maher or one of our current serving governors, please contact the school office. Thank you

### Art Week

We have had an incredible Art Week dedicated to Eco Art! Your contributions of bottle tops, junk modelling and t-shirts were very much appreciated: as always, we are grateful for your support. The junk sculptures made this week showcased exceptional creativity, and the junk percussion added a unique rhythm to our celebration of Recycled Rhythms. Our upcycled clothes looked amazing! It was a wonderful week filled with sustainable creativity. Competition winners will be announced next week!



### Attendance Race 2023- 2024

Attendance and Lateness for the week  
beginning 11<sup>th</sup> September :

| Class     | Attendance (%) | Lates<br>(occasions) |
|-----------|----------------|----------------------|
| Reception | 98             | 1                    |
| Year 1    | 95             | 0                    |
| Year 2    | 99             | 1                    |
| Year 3    | 98             | 1                    |
| Year 4    | 97             | 1                    |
| Year 5    | 96             | 0                    |
| Year 6    | 95             | 0                    |

Year 2 are the winners for the first week of this school year - Well done !

### League Table

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

**Weeks in competition: 1(full weeks only)**

**OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 97.1%**

### 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.

### OUTSTANDING DINNER MONEY

Should there be any outstanding dinner money from last term please can you make sure this is paid as soon as possible so that the account can be cleared on the school gateway system.

### TERM DATES

**ACADEMIC YEARS 2023 - 2024**

**Autumn Term 2023:**

Half-term 16.10.23 – 27.10.23  
Last day of term Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Spring Term 2024:**

**INSET DAY** **Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**  
First day of term Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2024  
Half-term 12.02.24 – 16.02.24  
Last day of term Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Summer Term 2024:**

First day of term Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Bank Holiday**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024**  
Half-term 27.05.24 – 31.05.2024  
Last day of term Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024  
**INSET DAYS** **Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

### Important Dates

Year 4 Our Lady of the Cray Mass  
Thursday 28 September

Year 2 Our Lady of the Cray Mass  
Thursday 12 October

Whole School Mass – Our Lady of the Cray  
Wednesday 1 November

Reception Mass – Our Lady of the Cray  
Thursday 23 November

Remembrance Assembly – School Hall  
Thursday 9 November

Harvest Festival Event  
Tuesday 10 October

Carol Concert – Our Lady of the Cray  
Tuesday 5 December

### Class Assembly Dates

Year 3 Friday 17 November  
Year 4 Friday 1 December  
Year 5 Friday 24 November  
Year 6 Friday 10 November

Have a lovely weekend !

Miss Veronica Maher

