



# St. Philomena's Catholic Primary School

Headteacher: Miss V Maher

## **Newsletter – 29 September 2023 Autumn Term**

### **Christmas Projects**

Next week the children will be designing a Christmas project/design which you will be able to transfer on to tea towels, mugs, Christmas cards and much more (see order form which will be sent home). The children will bring home their designs and you will have the opportunity to purchase a Christmas item(s) personalised with your child's design.

Please send the following back to school by Monday 9th October 2023 at the latest:

- the design
- the order form

and make the relevant payment on our online payment system by Monday 9th October also.

Please note that the last day for ordering is Monday 9th October 2023 (to ensure that we get the items back to you before Christmas). The amount paid must match up to the completed / handed in order form (or we cannot process the order for you). Orders cannot be made without full payment in advance. All orders must be received by Monday 9th October 2023 at the very latest

### **Drop off Arrangements**

From Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October ALL classes (apart from Reception) will line up on the playgrounds when the bell goes.

Years 1 and 2 are to line up on the Infant playground and KS2 on the Junior playground.

Reception class should still be taken down the side path to the Reception gate. A letter was emailed to parents this week regarding this new arrangement.

Arrangements for collection at the end of the day will remain as they are.

### **Uniform**

Please make sure ALL uniform is labelled – we are ending up with lots of lost property.

### **Breakfast Club and Green Room Club**

The number of pupils attending our wrap around child care facilities ((BC and GRC) have rapidly increased and, therefore, in order to maintain the appropriate staff to pupil ratios we have had to introduce a cap with regard to the number of pupils that attend.

The maximum number of pupils that can attend any session is 25. Please reserve spaces early to ensure that your child has a place and please be aware that you may be refused if you call at the last minute and ask for a last minute booking.

### **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.

### **Choir**

Well done to Choir club for their cake sale last week –thank you to everyone that donated and bought cakes - £204.95 was raised.

### **Perfect Pets Art Competition**

Poster attached to this newsletter.

### '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.

### Attendance Race 2023- 2024

**Attendance and Lateness for the week beginning 18<sup>th</sup> September :**

Class	Attendance (%)	Lates (occasions)
Reception	99	0
Year 1	100	0
Year 2	100	2
Year 3	100	2
Year 4	98	2
Year 5	98	1
Year 6	94	0

Year 1, 2 and 3 all achieved 100% attendance this week which is fantastic – however, the winners for the week are Year 1 because they are the only class whose pupils were all on time - Well done !

### League Table

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

**Weeks in competition: 2 (full weeks only)**

**OVERALL ATTENDANCE FOR THE WEEK 98.3%**

### 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.

### 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**

Half-term                                27.05.24 – 31.05.2024  
Last day of term                    Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

##### **INSET DAYS**

##### **Monday 6th May 2024**

27.05.24 – 31.05.2024  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup>, Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> and Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

### Class Assembly Dates

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

### **Important Dates**

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

Have a lovely weekend !

Miss Veronica Maher



# Perfect Pets

## ART COMPETITION

### NATIONAL COMPETITION

You are invited to draw a picture of your favourite, imaginary or ideal pet (including its name and a few words about it, if you like). It's a lovely way for imaginations to run wild and for you to develop your creativity!

### DESIGN

Entries will be posted to "Perfect Pets", so should be 2D. You can use your choice of materials: pens, paints, crayons, the choice is yours!

### TOP TIPS

1. Start with Simple Shapes: Begin by using circles, ovals, and rectangles to get proportions right.
2. Detail Matters: Pay attention to fur texture, patterns, and unique features that make the animal stand out.
3. Play with Light and Shadow: Use shading techniques for depth and dimension. Light and shadows bring your drawing to life.
4. Consider Backgrounds: Add a simple background to give context to the animal's environment.
5. Find Your Unique Style: You don't have to copy exactly. Add your own style and interpretation to make your drawing special.

### PRIZE FOR SCHOOL

£1000

### PRIZE FOR YOU

Animal sponsorship packages and goody bags.

### DEADLINE

Perfect Pets closes on 31st October 2023,

Submit entries to Mrs Anderson. Make sure you include your name and class.







DONT MENTION

# Christmas!

Next week, your talented young artist will be bringing home a festive masterpiece they've crafted specially for the holiday season. Get ready to be dazzled by their creativity! Alongside the artwork, you'll receive an order form, giving you the opportunity to have your child's design transformed into stunning Christmas cards, perfect for spreading joy and warmth to your loved ones.

When you make a purchase, a portion of the proceeds will go directly towards supporting the school and its students. This thoughtful initiative, organised by the PTA, will make a significant difference in the educational experiences of our young learners.

Join us in spreading holiday cheer and being a part of this exciting PTA project.

Mrs Miller