



ST PHILIP'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hello!

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope this newsletter finds you well and you and your families had a lovely Whitsun term break. Please read and refer to for key dates and information over the summer term.

Catholic school pupil profile

This half term we will be focusing on the values of **Learned and Wise**

What does this mean? Pupils are growing to be learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good. Catholic Schools help their pupils grow by the breadth and depth of the curriculum; by excellence of teaching, and the creation of opportunities to become more learned and wise.



Pope Francis monthly message for June

June: For Migrants fleeing their homes, we pray that migrants fleeing from war or hunger, forced to undertake journeys full of danger and violence, find welcome and new opportunities in the countries that receive them

Pope Francis monthly message for July

July: For the pastoral care of the sick. We pray that the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick confer to those who receive it and their loved ones the power of the Lord and become ever more a visible sign of compassion and hope for all.

Contact Details



It is very important that school has the most up to date contact details of your telephone numbers. **If you have changed your contact details**, please pop into the office and let the school know. We want to ensure that we can contact you directly in the case of an emergency or if your child falls ill or has an injury at school during the school day.

St Philip's
Catholic Primary School
Messenger Road,
Smethwick, B66 3DU

Tel: 0121 558 1643
www.st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk
Principal: Mrs Carmel Hinton

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Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham
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Parking and entering school reception.

Please can we request that **YOU DO NOT** park on the **CAR PARK**. It is a small area and there are blind spots where pedestrians maybe which can cause a health and safety issues or an accident. If your child/ren are entering through the school reception area, please ensure that an adult is escorting your child/ren safety into the school building.

KS1 Playground equipment

Could I please ask children **NOT** to use the playground apparatus and equipment after school once parents/carers have collected children from the KS1 classes. We want children to stay safe and free from accidents. Thank you.

Uniform, PE Kits and Healthy lifestyles.

Thank you parents for supporting our uniform policy and sending your child/ren into school so smart. **A gentle reminder that there should be NO hair sculptures or tram lines, shaving, highlights or hair colouring of any description. Extreme hairstyles should only be considered at the beginning of the summer holiday. Thank you so much for your support and understanding.**

Physical Education is an important part of our school curriculum. Please ensure that your child has their PE kits in school ready to take part in PE lessons. A reminder that children should come to school wearing their PE kit (tracksuit) on their designated PE day listed below.

PE kits for school should consist of a plain white T-shirt and black/blue joggers, school jumper or cardigan, pumps or sensible trainers. I would like to remind you that this is the only agreed PE kit in school. **Jewellery** - Please take care not to send your children into school with looped earrings, necklaces or expensive pieces of jewellery. It is important to note that jewellery can be broken or lost in school and not suitable for play or PE activities.

Year group	Day of the week	Activity
Reception -	Wednesday afternoon	Teacher leading
Year 1 -	Monday afternoon Friday afternoon	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 2 -	Monday morning Friday morning	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 3 -	Monday morning Thursday afternoon	Sports coach Class teacher

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Year 4 -	Monday morning	Sports coach
	Thursday afternoon	Class teacher
Year 5 -	Monday afternoon	Sports coach
	Friday Morning	Class teacher
Year 6 -	Monday morning	Swimming
	Friday Afternoon	Class teacher

Healthy Choices

We continue to be proud of our Platinum Healthy School Award. **Please support your children to make healthy choices for break times and at lunchtimes in their lunch boxes.** Please choose the children's snacks with a careful thought. We are seeing a rise in unhealthy snacks across school. Please check your child's lunchboxes and this will give you an indication of how much your child has eaten. Please note that school provides a piece of fruit at breaktime for your child. Thank you for your support.

AIP Catering

Free School Meals and KS1 Universal Free School Meals children - If your child is a Free School Meal child or is in EYFS or KS1 they are entitled to a free school lunch which would be a hot meal from the school canteen. If you would rather send your child in with their own packed lunch you are welcome to do so (please remember no nuts (including Nutella), tomatoes or oranges as we have children with severe allergies in school). Please book online on **SCHOOL FOOD UNITED TO BOOK YOUR CHILD'S PREFERRED LUNCH OPTION.** If you are having trouble logging in or creating your School Food United account, please come and see Mrs Slater in the School Office.

All children should still bring their own filled water bottle each day which needs to be taken home at the end of each day and washed and brought back the following day.

Please remember if you pay for school meals to please clear your balance on a daily basis. Any problems come and see the School Office.

Attendance

Any absence affects the pattern of a child's schooling and regular absence will seriously affect their learning. Please ensure that you endeavour to get your child to school and in on time for **8:50 am.** The playground opens at **8:40am and the official start to the school day is 8:50am.** If your child arrives to school after the registers close, they will receive a late mark that is



recorded on your child's attendance record. If your child is ill and is unable to come to school, please contact the **school office on 0121 558 1643** and leave a message or speak to Mrs Slater. **Please remember that taking holidays in term time will affect your child's schooling and we ask for your co-operation to not take your child away in school time as this will be UNAUTHORISED .**



Reading at home, reading for pleasure !

Reading is a very important tool and life skill. We would like to share how important it is to read with your child at home. I know and understand that home life can be very busy, but we do encourage daily reading with your child to help improve their confidence with fluency and comprehension. To help our children to do this, we have launched **"Book Swap"** this has been a **huge success!** Please come with your child/ren to choose a book for pleasure and enjoyment, take it home and once your child/ren has read the book, return it to school and swap it for another book of your choice. So far, this has been really popular with our children and they love the idea to be able to read and swap a book!

Please get involved and let us know how your children are enjoying this activity. Thank you.



Birthdays

A reminder that if it is your child's birthday, we welcome your child to wear their own clothes to school and that they can come and collect the 'Happy Birthday bear' to be their friend for the



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day. So far, the children have really enjoyed having the birthday bear as their friend for the day.

Afterschool clubs

We endeavour to offer your child/ren an afterschool club of their choice, one guaranteed club for every child in school. However, we have had to look carefully at afterschool clubs because of staffing availability in school and health and safety with staff ratios to ensure the safety of children and staff.

A gentle reminder to share with you, that if your child has been offered a club afterschool, please ensure that your child/ren attend weekly. When your child attends their afterschool club, they are expected to follow the behaviour rules of our school. If your child's behaviour is causing a concern to us, we will speak with you about this and look at a way of resolving the behaviour concerns. We do not want the result to be that your child cannot attend the clubs, but if the actions and choices of your child is causing severe concern, are not following instructions, presenting a health and safety concern, then we will have to talk with you about moving forward with accessing your chosen club.

Nursery places — Please see the information below!

We have nursery places available for this September 2024 and 2025. If you have a child that has turned 3 years old or will be within the term, please get in contact and we will be happy to support with completing the application forms and supporting you. Our next intake will be September 2024. Come and talk to us!

St Philip's Catholic
Primary School
Learning and working together through Christ

Nursery Places Available
FREE 30 HOURS
FOR WORKING PARENTS

Ring us now on 0121 558 1643 to find out more

Messenger Road, Smethwick, B66 3DU

Safeguarding

We are dedicated to safeguarding our young people at St Philip's Catholic Primary School. If you have any concerns with safeguarding, then please speak with a member of staff or myself and we will endeavour to help and support.

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Could I please request that if your child has an injury that has happened at home or outside of school could you please be so kind to let us know. Telling us would avoid myself from contacting you unnecessarily. If you do have a concern or would like to talk to someone in confidence about a safeguarding concern, then I am the Designated Safeguarding leader (DSL) in school. Deputy Designated Safeguarding Officer is **Miss Reaney**, and Safeguarding Officers are **Mrs Davidson- Pope and Mr Padaton**. Our safeguarding policy is available on our website to help and support you with how safeguarding works in our local authority of Sandwell and the Multi academy Company of the Emmaus MAC.

Polite reminder about conduct on the playground and school premises

We would like to thank our school family for their support, kindness, manners, patience and conduct on the playground. It is a pleasure to meet with you every day. Unfortunately, I have to share with you that there have been a few incidents where a small number of parent visitors to our premises have not been respectful in the correct manner resulting in staff, parents and children feeling upset and uncomfortable.



The types of behaviour which are unacceptable and will not be tolerated are:

- *shouting, either in person or over the telephone;*
- *using intimidating / abusive language or behaviour in person, in written communication (such as emails or letters), or on online social media platforms (including but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, WhatsApp, Instagram and Google);*
- *using defamatory language or language which could cause unjustified reputational damage to the school, its staff or governors, in person, in written communication (such as emails or letters) or on online social media platforms (including, but not limited to Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, WhatsApp, Instagram and Google);*
- *any other behaviour likely to cause anybody witnessing it (including the recipient) alarm, distress or to fear that violence may be used against them or others.*

This is a Catholic school where we aim to model to our children how to be respectful and tolerant to each other through compassion and love. I have the privilege of seeing how hard our staff work behind the scenes, they go above and beyond for the children in their care. They chose this profession to make a positive difference. There will, naturally, be moments where things go wrong, and issues need to be resolved. When these issues occur, we want to help and support - please do not take your frustrations out on our staff. Likewise, if there are issues between families we would ask, respectfully, that these issues do not spill onto our premises and be witnessed by our pupils. **My sincere thanks and gratitude for your support with this matter.**



Change of circumstances

It's important for us to know that if your personal circumstance have changed you may be entitled to **Free School meals**. You can help the school to access precious funding for years to come (called Pupil Premium) by registering for free school meals Please apply for free school meals if you are on a low income and/or receive benefits. As well as receiving a free school meal every day (if you choose to take it) you will generate significant funding for our school for many years to come - funding that is all spent on better provision for the children. If you think that you may qualify, please pop into school and speak to Mrs Slater.

Our School Website

Please remember to visit our school website which is full of useful and up to date information. Please log on and have a look. You can post a message on the guest book page to let us know your thoughts and take a look at our X page and blog.

The address is : www.st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk/

Keep in touch

We are here to serve you and it is our pleasure to help. Your child's safety, happiness and academic progress are the reason why every single member of staff is here. If you are concerned about any aspect of school life - no matter how small - it's really important to let us know. The sooner we know about things the sooner we can do our best to sort things out. The teachers and teaching assistants can take quick messages on the door before and after school - if you need a longer, private conversation please call the school and the member of staff that you need to speak with will be in contact with you.

Dates for your diary

PLEASE NOTE THAT OTHER DATES WILL NEED TO BE ARRANGED

Term Dates	Activity
Monday 10 th June	Year 1 phonic screening test week
Tuesday 11 th June	Year 3 and 4 school trip Twycross Zoo
Tuesday 18 th June	Year 1 trip to Ash End Farm
Thursday 27 th June	First Holy Communion children making the Sacrament of Reconciliation @1:30pm
Friday 28 th June	Year 5 trip to GO APE

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Sunday 30 th June 2024	First Holy Communion @ 9:30 am in St Philip Neri Church.
Monday 1 st July	Sports day EYFS- AM KS1 - PM
Thursday 4 th July	Communion children leading on mass @ 9:15am
Monday 8 th July	KS2 Sports Day - PM
Wednesday 10 th July	Year 5 attending MAC sports day at Hagley High school
Friday 12 th July	Year 6 trip to Cinema and Bowling
Sunday 14 th July	School /Parish mass @ 9:30 am
Monday 15 th July	Parent consultations
Wednesday 17 th July	Year 6 leavers Mass in Church
Thursday 18 th July	Year 6 Graduation @ 9:15 am
Friday 19 th July 2024	Children break up for Summer
Monday 22 nd July 2024	Training Day

Term dates for 2024 /2025

Autumn term 2024

- Term starts: Monday 2 September 2024

INSET DAYS

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Friday 4th October 2024

- Half-term holiday: Monday 28 October 2024 to Friday 1 November 2024
- Term ends: Friday 20 December 2024
- Christmas holiday: Monday 23 December 2024 to Friday 3 January 2025

Spring term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 6 January 2025
- Half-term holiday: Monday 17 February 2025 to Friday 21 February 2025
- Term ends: Friday 11 April 2025
- Easter Holiday: Monday 14 April 2025 to Friday 25 April 2025

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Summer term 2025

- Term starts: Monday 28 April 2025 (Bank Holiday Monday 5 May)
- Half-term holiday: Monday 26 May 2025 to Friday 30 May 2025
- Term ends: Monday 21 July 2025 INSET DAY

PLEASE NOTE ! ANOTHER TRAINING DAY WILL BE SCHELDULED .

Mrs C Hinton
Principal

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