



ST PHILIP'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

16th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

How time flies! we have reached the end of the autumn term. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all your support this Year to the staff, school and the chosen charities who have been extremely grateful for the school's support. Your support and contributions are very valued and appreciated. Thank you!

The children through the season of Advent have been reflecting on preparing and getting ready to welcome Jesus into our lives. The children have been further reflecting on Pope Francis' December message below and how we can live the message out in our daily lives.

Pope Francis December prayer intention: For a life of prayer



December message

Pope Francis speaks about the power of prayer to change reality and our hearts, and prays that, through a life of prayer, we may nourish our relationship with Jesus Christ.

Live Simply Challenge

During this Christmas the children have been thinking about how we look after our beautiful world and make a difference. We would like to ask to you to send as many e-Christmas cards as you can to reduce your carbon footprint.

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

Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154





ST PHILIP'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Goodbye and farewell

We say goodbye and farewell to Mr Wilkes today who is leaving St Philip's. He will be taking up the post of Principal in January 2023 at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School in Stourbridge. Mr Wilkes leaves St Philip's after serving the children and families of our school for nearly 5 years. Mr Wilkes has been dedicated to our school community in a number of ways to help and support our children and families. We wish him our best wishes and congratulations as he takes up his new post as Principal in his own primary school.

We also say goodbye to Mr Matthew in the school office who has been with us for a term. I would like to thank Mr Matthew for supporting our school and for being an efficient member of the staff in Mrs Slater's absence. We wish Mr Matthew all the very best for the future and good luck in his new adventure.

AIP Catering Providers

We are working very hard at school to ensure that your children have a happy lunchtime, where they can enjoy a hot dinner of their choice. Our new catering providers AIP will become live from Wednesday 4th January 2023. The new menu gives you a good picture of meal choices your child can have throughout the week. Thank you for all your support and patience with the new systems while we put them in place. It is really important that you and your child logs on to the Schoolcomms app (when it goes live) to make their lunchtime choices for the day or week. Please remind your child that the choice of meal that they have made with you is the one that they will receive, and an alternative cannot be chosen. The children are looking forward to the new meal choices and choosing a variety of different foods. Please note that if you pay for meals all payments **MUST** be made in a timely manner via the Schoolcomms app and not Schoolgrid.

Contact Details

If your contact details have changed, please let Mrs Slater (Office) know in the new term so she can update any new numbers and other information to enable us to contact you directly. During this time, our communication with you is limited by email or text. Please contact us by emailing office@st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk or sending a message via Schoolcomms and we will update your information.

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

Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154





ST PHILIP'S
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Christmas Reflection

Christmas is the time we think of the birth of baby Jesus born in a manger, with Mary and Joseph beside him. The first witnesses of Christ's birth were the shepherds who were considered poor and lowly but were chosen. The angels announced in glory the birth of the saviour for the first time to the shepherds. God chose the shepherds and not the kings and powerful or rich people.

Christmas is not just a day to remember and commemorate, it is not just a season to celebrate....

Christmas is love. It is the time when the love of God is revealed to us and received by all people of goodwill, not only to the shepherds and the "magi" to whom the Lord has chosen to reveal, but also to us today.

Celebrating Christmas is celebrating God's love for us all. Christmas is the highlight of a joyful and hopeful time of waiting for the saviour to come.



O God,
bless our family this Christmastime
bind us together by your love.
Give us kindness and patience
to support each other;
and wisdom in all we do.
Let the gift of your peace
come into our hearts
and remain with us.
Amen.

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

Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154





Please see term dates below for the year ahead

Term Dates for the academic year		2022- 2023
Spring Term 2023		
Tuesday 3rd January		Teacher training day
Wednesday 4 th January		Pupils return to school
Friday 17 th February		Pupils break up for half term
Monday 27 th February		Pupils return to school
Friday 31 st March		Pupils Break up for Easter
Summer Term 2023		
Monday 17 th April		Pupils return to school
Monday 1 st May		May Day Bank Holiday - School closed to pupils
Friday 26 th May		Pupils break up for half term
Monday 5 th June		Pupils return to school
Friday 23 rd June		Teacher Training Day - School closed to pupils
Tuesday 25 th July		Pupils break up for summer



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

Part of the Emmaus Catholic Multi Academy Company

Private Limited Company of Charitable Status within the Archdiocese of Birmingham
Registered in England and Wales Company No 09174154

