



**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 Easter 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 **Eloquent and Truthful**

Pupils are growing to be eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

**What does this mean?** Catholic schools help their pupils grow by developing an eloquent language which pupils can use to understand and articulate their emotions, beliefs, and questions, encouraged by the example of their teachers to be truthful in the way they represent themselves and speak about the world.

### **Pope Francis monthly message for May**

*For the formation of religious and seminarians*



We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

### **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.

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, Mrs Anslow** and Safeguarding Officers are **Mrs Hill, 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.

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Principal: Mrs Carmel Hinton

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**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 morning	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 2 -	Monday afternoon	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 3 -	Monday morning	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 4 -	Monday morning	Sports coach Class teacher
Year 5 -	Monday morning	Swimming Class teacher
Year 6 -	Monday afternoon Friday Afternoon	Sports coach Class teacher



## ST PHILIP'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

### 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.**

### 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.

### 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 8:50 am**. 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**

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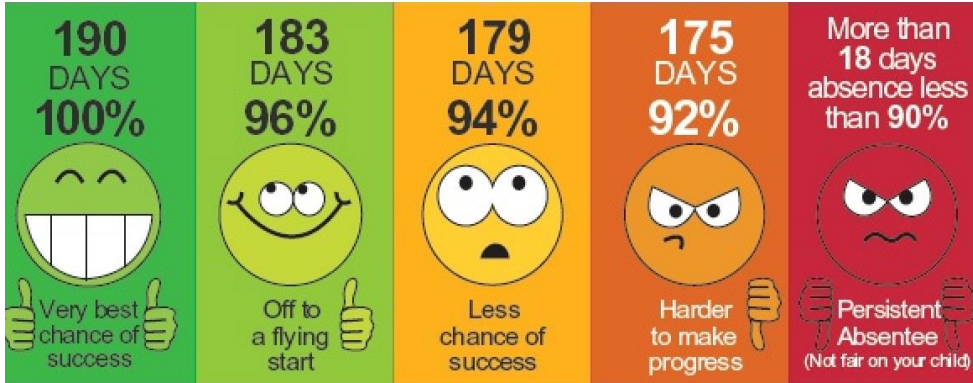
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schooling and we ask for your co-operation to not take your child away in school time as this will be **UNAUTHORISED** .



**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”**. We would like to invite you to 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 they can come and collect the 'Happy Birthday bear' to be their friend for the day. So far, the children have really enjoyed having the birthday bear as their friend for the day.



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### 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 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.

### A gentle reminder!

We are very proud of all our children who go into the wider community and we are very thankful for parents support.

Sadly, I have to ask parents that when you are present supporting your child/child's school, we ask that you behave respectfully and appropriately in the environment where children are present. Please refrain from using verbal abusive language of swearing, shouting and using inappropriate language towards people. This has been the case recently, please be mindful that the activities organised are for our children to have a positive experience and NOT to be frightened! I ask for your respect and support in this matter.

### Nursery places — Please see the information below!

We have nursery places available for this summer term of 2024. 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.

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

The banner features a blue background with a white shield containing 'SP' and three circular images showing children in a nursery setting.

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**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.

**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 very day (if you choose to take it) you will generate significant funding for our school for many years to come - finding 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/](http://www.st-philips.sandwell.sch.uk/)

**Dates for your diary**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT OTHER DATES WILL BE TO BE ARRANGED**

Term Dates	Activity
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> April 2024	School opens to children. Children return to school.
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	May Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	School open to children. Children return to school.
Start Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May- 16 <sup>th</sup> May	KS2 YEAR 6 SATS TESTS

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Starting 20 <sup>th</sup> May	KS1 SATS
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May 2024	Children break up for half term.
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024	School opens to Children. Children return to school.
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 phonic screening test week
Sunday 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	First Holy Communion @9:30 am in St Philip Neri Church.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> July 2024	Children break up for Summer
Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2024	Training Day

### Term dates for 2024 /2025

#### Autumn term 2024

- Term starts: Monday 2 September 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

#### 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
- Summer holiday starts: Tuesday 22 July 2025

### Proposed MAC INSET dates for 24/25:

Monday 2nd September 2024

Tuesday 3rd September 2024

Friday 4th October 2024

Monday 21st July 2025 (disaggregated over 3 twilights)

Plus one MAC training Day perhaps Friday 14th February 2025.

**Mrs C Hinton**  
Principal