



We come to end of a busy Spring term and I would like to congratulate the children on all their achievements this term and thank you parents for your support.

Thank You Parents

A huge thank you Parents for the overwhelming support you have given supporting our Lenten charities. We have supported the Father Hudsons Appeal and raised £85.09 and CAFOD charities raising £141.34, we have done this through our Mad Hair Day and Cake sale. The children have been involved in activities to understand how alms giving makes a difference to people in need. St Philip's and the School Council would like thank parents for your continued support.

Holy Week Assemblies

Thank you parents for coming to join us for our Holy Week assemblies this week. The classes have been focusing on the events of Jesus leading up to Good Friday. The children were wonderful and really enjoyed being reflective and focused on the journey to Easter.

Congratulations

A big well done to the Girls football team who won 1—0 against Hargate Primary and the boys Football team who won 5-3 against Cape Primary, 5-1 against Crockets Primary and 5-1 against Galton Valley Primary. Congratulations to the Y5 & Y6 Girls who won the WBA tournament. Also well done to the Tennis team who participated in the level 1 tennis tournament. A huge congratulations to all children who participated in sporting activities this term. We are very proud of you. Well Done!

Cake Sale and Raffle

A huge thank you parents for your donations towards the cake sale and raffle this week. It has been a huge success and all proceeds go to CAFOD as part of our Lenten almsgiving.

Healthy Lunches

We have seen an big increase in snacks and in lunchboxes unhealthy choices. Please take care to think about choosing healthy choices of fruit, sandwiches and other healthy options for lunchboxes and snacks at playtime.

Parking

Please be very careful when arriving at school and driving away from the school building. There has been some near misses with children and adults as drivers are approaching school. We ask you to park your cars safely so that your children can get into school safe. Due to drivers not been cautious we have had to deal with concerns from residents around the school, that their drives are being blocked by families arriving at school has caused concern. Please give yourselves enough time to arrive safely at school and take care driving away from the school building.

Children's Safety

Sadly, school has had some reports of incidents that have happened within the local area around school. Please ensure that you talk with your children about personal safety and being aware of how to be safe over the coming holiday. Talk with your children about stranger danger and what to do in this situation.

Keep in touch

At St Philip's we are genuinely committed to making sure your children are safe and happy. We try our best to prevent any problems from arising but inevitably things **can** and **do** go wrong from time to time. If something goes wrong, if there is a problem or if you or your child are unhappy for any reason it is vital you **let us know straight away**. No problem is too small and the quicker we know about things the quicker we can sort them out.

Safeguarding of Children

The designated safeguarding lead is Mrs Hinton and the deputy designated safeguarding lead is Mrs Holden.

Our School Website

Our school website is live. It provides us with lots of information for parents and shares with you celebrations of activities the children have been involved in this term. Please log on and have a look! You can post a message on the guest book page to let us know your thoughts about the website. Please log on and I encourage the children to post their positive comments.

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

Pupil Premium / Free School Meals Applications

The school receives valuable government funding for every child that is eligible and has successfully applied for free school meals. The only requirement is that parents complete the confidential application form and if the family qualify, the school is given generous extra funding for up to 6 years. Those of you who have been coming to St Philip's know that this school spends generously on provision for the children, providing a beautiful, modern school that is well resourced. **WE NOW URGENTLY NEED YOUR HELP.** School budgets are being cut and we desperately need to access any funding we possibly can. Please help us to access

PUPIL PREMIUM FUNDING.

If you receive **ANY** of the following benefits you could qualify:

- ☐ Income Support
- ☐ Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- ☐ Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- ☐ Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- ☐ the guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- ☐ Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- ☐ Working Tax Credit Run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- ☐ Universal Credit

Applying is easy and you are not required to provide any additional documents. You can apply online at <http://www.dudley.gov.uk/resident/your-council/council-tax-and-benefits/benefits/free-school-meals/> or you can complete the paper form attached to this letter. We have also text you the online application.

It is especially important that parents from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 apply. All of the children in these classes

Dates for your Diary

Monday 24th April—Children return to school.

W/B Monday 24th April—British Values week. Each class will have a focus and then will celebrate through an assembly on Friday 28th April at 2:00pm . Please join us.

Tuesday 25th April—Heights and weights for Reception class.

Wednesday 26th April—Olympic Athlete in school.

Thursday 27th April—Feast day of St Catherine of Siena . To celebrate being St Catherine of Siena Mac we will be celebrating with a collective Mass for years 3, 4 and 5 classes at St Gregory's Catholic Church On Three Shires Oak road in Bearwood. Please join us.

Thursday 27th April—Councillor Steve Ealing will be visiting our school as part of British Values week.

Monday 8th May—KS2 SATS week for year 6 . After the Easter break we will send a timetable letter for parents.

Wednesday 17th May—Friday 19th May—Ingestri Hall visit for year 5 and 6 pupils.

Sunday 21st May—School Parish Mass

Friday 26th May—St Philip Neri Feast Day and break up for Whitsun holiday.

Monday 5th June—Children return to school.

Thursday 8th June—Parent meeting for Holy Communion children in school at 3:15pm

Friday 16th June—Reconciliation for children making their First Holy Communion at St Philip's Church.

Sunday 18th June—First Holy Communion

Wednesday 5th July—**Friday 7th July**—Year 3 and 4 visit

Sunday 9th July—Last School Parish Mass of the year.

Friday 21st July—Children break up for the Summer holiday .

Monday 24th and 25th July—Teacher training days

I hope you and your family have a wonderful and peaceful Easter.

Mrs Hinton