



We are coming to the end of a very busy term, with lots of events and achievements for the children to celebrate and be very proud of. Well done children! I would like to thank you parents, for your continuing support this year and your contributions to charities we have supported and the mufti days we have held over the year with your support. Your support and contributions are very valued and appreciated.



Our values this half term are **faith filled and hopeful**. All of us can be **faith filled** and this value is relevant to people of all faiths and denominations. The **hope** of the Church lies in Jesus and our belief that his example will help the world to be a safer, fairer and more peaceful place for all people. Again people of all faiths share this **hope** for a better world. The values of **faith filled and hopeful** link totally to the season of **Advent** and all it brings to us.

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. The playground opens at **8:40am** and the school day starts at **8:50am**. If your child arrives to school after the registers close they will receive a late mark. 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, if you are planning on travelling in term time please complete a leave of absence form that can be obtained from the school office. If your child is ill you must supply medical evidence (appointment card/ prescriptions/ medication).

Swimming

Year 3 and 4 will be taking part in swimming lessons Spring term. Please ensure your child has a swimming costume/shorts, swimming hat and towel to take part as this is an important part of the curriculum.

Afterschool Clubs

The afterschool clubs have now finished for this term.. The new offer letters will be given out on 7th January to inform you if your child has been offered a place. Payments are now available on line to secure your child's place for gymnastics and dance club.

Christmas Productions Well done to EYFS children and KS1 children for their lovely Christmas plays. The children did so well and made everyone proud. Well done children. Thank you also for your support with your children's costumes.

The School Choir A huge well done to the school choir who were involved in visiting Holmpark home for the elderly. The children sang beautiful carols and were complimented by so many people for their lovely singing. Well done children.

Shoe Box Appeal Thank you so much for your contributions to our Advent appeal, your generosity was very much appreciated.

Save the Children Thank you for your silver coin donations on Christmas Jumper day, we raised an amazing £60.20.

Athlete visit—The children really enjoyed the visit from an Olympic athlete last Friday. The athlete was so impressed with our wonderful children. We collected £312.65 in sponsor money. Well done children.

Sacraments

If you want your child to make the sacrament of the Eucharist and or Confirmation in 2019 and they are baptised Catholics then please look out for a letter coming home next half term for a date for a parents meeting. Or you can speak to myself or Miss Anslow.

St Philip's Catholic Primary School
School Term Dates 2018/19

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 18th December—KS2 Carol concert in the hall at 2:15pm

Wednesday 19th December - Whole school mass in the school hall at 9:15 am please join us . Assembly at 2:00pm.

Wednesday 19th December—Children break up for Christmas holiday at 3:00pm.

Monday 7th January 2019- :SCHOOL REOPENS TO CHILDREN AT 8:50AM. Breakfast club is available from 7:50 am

Wednesday 16th January 2019—Swimming commences for year 4 and year 3

Week beginning 14th January — Afterschool clubs begin. Gymnastics will commence on Thursday 10th January.



Date	Event
Spring Term 2019	
Monday 7 January	Pupils return to school
Friday 15 February	Break up for Half Term
Monday 25 February	Pupils return to school
Thursday 12 April	Break up for Easter
Summer Term 2019	
Monday 29 April	Pupils return to school
Monday 6 May	May Day Bank Holiday
Friday 24 May	Break up for Half Term
Monday 3 June	Pupils return to school
Friday 19 July	Pupils break up for Summer
Monday 22 July	Teacher Training Day

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 Christmas time
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.



School Governor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for being a member of our governing body . If you would like to find out more about this commitment , please come and speak to myself or Mrs Holwell at the school office.

On behalf of all the staff and governors of St Philip's Catholic Primary School, I wish you a very happy Christmas and new year.

