



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.

School lunches Parents, a polite reminder to ask you to ensure that you **pre-book** your child's lunch choice before the new day/week starts with your child/ren and talk to them about what they will be having for lunch. The children are enjoying the new system, menu and food choices on offer at lunchtimes, but if the children don't know what they are eating for lunch they get upset because they don't want the choice that has been chosen for them and want another choice seen. It is important to remember that the food is prepared on our school site based on the orders that we receive from school grid. **You can also add onto this system an update on your child's allergies or dietary requirements which help us immensely with knowing your child's allergies and needs for lunchtime, this is very important.**

Breakfast Club

Breakfast club starts at 7:50am—8:40 am Monday-Friday for the cost of £1:00 per day. Your children will **NOT** be let into school before 7:50 am. There are no adults on site school who are required to supervise children earlier than the start of breakfast club. Please ensure that you wait with your child/ren until the doors open at 7:50 am. It is very important that your children are supervised by yourselves to ensure their safety. To ensure your child receives breakfast before the club finishes, please arrive at school **NO** later than 8:25am. If you arrive after this time, you will need to enter school on the back playground that is open at 8:40 am.

Pupil Premium funding

Free School Meals/Pupil Premium - you can easily help the school get more funding to spend on the children. If you receive certain benefits you could help the school to obtain precious extra funding called 'Pupil Premium.' As you know, all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 receive a free school meal every day - **however, if you receive benefits it's still important to apply for free school meals - even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 - that is the only way the school will receive pupil premium funding. It's the same case if your child is in Year 3, 4, 5 or 6 and they prefer to bring their own lunch - if you apply for free school meals you need never actually take a free meal - we will still receive pupil premium funding for up to 6 years.** This funding is very precious to us and is spent 100% on the children - helping them in a number of ways and opportunities and experiences to achieve the highest standards possible and make the best progress they can.

How to apply : You can get a form from the school office and Mrs Slater will send this to the authority to check your eligibility. We are very grateful for your help.

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. We very much value your support.

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.

Lord Mayor's Christmas Concert A huge thank you to the wonderful children who took part in The Mayor's Christmas Concert at West Bromwich Town Hall. You were amazing children! Well done. Many thanks to you parents that helped and attended.

Goodbye and Farewell.

At the end of this term we say goodbye to Mrs Jodie Hitch in the school office. Mrs Hitch has worked at St Philip's for four and half years. We wish her well in her new job and the future. We also say farewell to Miss Devi who leaves us next week to take up a new post. We wish her well in her new role.

Sacraments

If you want your child to make the sacrament of the Eucharist and or Confirmation in 2020 and they are baptised Catholics, please come forward to speak to myself, Miss Anslow or Father Damian and we can support. Key dates to remember : **First Holy Communion**—Sunday 14th June 2020 at 9:30 am and Sacrament of Confirmation—Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7:00pm.

Dates for your Diary

Tuesday 17th December—KS2 Carol concert in the hall 9:15 am please join us ! Christmas parties for the whole school.



Wednesday 18th December— Whole school mass in the school hall at 9:15 am please join us. **Children break up for Christmas holiday at 3:00pm.**

Monday 6th January 2020 - :SCHOOL REOPENS TO CHILDREN AT 8:50AM. Breakfast club is available from 7:50 am

Wednesady 15th January 2019— Swimming commences for Y4 and Y3

Spring Term 2020

Monday 6th January

Friday 14th February

Monday 24th February

Friday 3rd April

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April

Friday 22nd May

Monday 1st June

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

Children return to school

Children Break up for half term

Children return to school

Children break up for Easter

Children return to school

Children break up for half term

Children return to school

Children break up for Summer Holidays

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 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.



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.

