



St. Philip's Newsletter

27th May 2021



Dear St Philip's Families,

We have arrived at half term and the sun has started to come out! It has been a wonderful achievement to have completed a whole half term with all our children in school. It definitely feels as if we are edging back to normality.

Catholic Life

Year 5 led our Liturgy in honor of Our Lady in the beautiful setting of our Mary garden this week. They reminded us of the many flowers associated with Mary, some of which are planted in our garden.

Mr Marsh has placed some benches in the Mary Garden, so when we are allowed to let people into school again, do take the opportunity of maybe sitting for a moment in the beautiful garden.

Yesterday was the Feast of St Philip. St Philip was a jolly man. One of my favourite quotes of his is, "A joyful heart is more easily made perfect than a downcast one." A good sentiment for us to hold dear during this time.

Sunday was the Feast of Pentecost, 'When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.' Acts 2: 2.

The colour most often associated with Pentecost is red, representing the tongues of fire which the Acts of the Apostles describes appearing above the heads of the disciples, as a sign that they had received the Holy Spirit.

Teaching and Learning

Last week, our Link Adviser visited the school. He was very impressed by the calm atmosphere in classrooms and the development of vocabulary he saw throughout the school. He also spent time with subject leaders and was impressed with the work they have done to move their areas forward during what has been a very challenging year.

We are very pleased to announce that St Philip's has achieved the Artsmark Gold award. Mrs Costen has worked tirelessly, over the last two years towards this award and I would like to recognise her for her effort and hard work. Our Artsmark assessor stated that, "St Philip's Catholic Primary School has embedded the Arts across your curriculum, and a higher number of

children are now achieving greater depth in all of the Arts subjects. Leadership makes sure all staff take responsibility for arts and cultural provision and can provide evidence of the whole setting's planning for arts and culture. Your curriculum demonstrates an understanding of, and a commitment to establishing, high-quality arts and cultural provision that connects subjects and learning outcomes across all phases."

We have also achieved the Primary Science Quality Mark! Many thanks to Mr McCurdy for all his effort and hard work. The PSQM team have issued a press release to explain the award, "Schools that have achieved a Primary Science Quality Mark have demonstrated a significant commitment to science teaching and learning, even at this challenging time. The profile and quality of science is very high. Children are engaging with great science both in and outside the classroom, developing positive attitudes towards science as well as secure scientific understanding and skills. Science subject leaders, their colleagues, head teachers, children, parents and governors should be very proud."

Thank you

A big thank you to Pureprint, who, out of the blue, emailed us and offered us a regularly supply of free paper! They didn't ask for any public acknowledgement but they definitely deserve a thank you for this very kind gesture.

Welcome

To Cassie, Y3. We hope you have a wonderful time as part of the St Philip's Family.

Goodbye

To our three student teachers, Miss Reed, Mr Everitt and Mr Leet, they have worked really hard and become an integral part of our team. We will miss them and wish them all the best for their future.

Moving forward

We are looking forward to 21st June and hopefully a lifting of restrictions. As soon as we receive guidance, we will let you know what the next step will look like.

With very best wishes for a lovely half term

Joanna Sanchez

Diary Dates - all subject to government guidelines at the time

May	
Fri 28th	INSET Day – school closed
31st – 4th June	Half Term
June	
Mon 7th	First day of term
Tues 8 th	School Nurse YrR & Y6
Tues 15 th	Individual photos Y5 Hermonceux Science Centre
Mon 21 st	Class photos
Tues 22 nd	Pirate Adventure day YrR & Y2
Thurs 24 th	Y6 Ancient Greek workshop 6pm New Parents Meeting
Mon 28 th	Sports Day
Wed 30 th	Y4 Drusillas
July	
Sat 3 rd	Summer Fair
Mon 5 th -7 th	Y6 Blacklands Farm Residential
Tues 6 th	Transition Morning
Fri 9 th	Y3 Bignor Roman Villa
Mon 12 th	Reserve Sports Day
Wed 14 th	2.15 Reception & Y1 Teddy Bears' Picnic
Mon 19 th	Y6 production
Wed 21 st	9am Leavers' Assembly Last day of term
Thurs 22nd	INSET Day – school closed
Fri 23rd	INSET Day – school closed
September	
Wed 1st	INSET Day – school closed
Thurs 2nd	First Day of School