St. Philip's Newsletter

13th November 2026

Dear St Philip's families,

I hope you all had a lovely half term! The children have settled back into school and I have seen some fantastic learning taking place over the last two weeks.

Catholic Life

November is a time for remembering and praying for our loved ones who have gone before us and whose loss we feel. It is also the month when we celebrate Remembrance Day, which we commemorated in our assembly on Monday 9th learning about the importance of Remembrance and by taking part in the 2-minute silence on Wednesday 11th.



Children in Need

Today we supported BBC Children in Need by taking part in the Strictly 26 Step Dance Challenge. This national challenge, created in partnership with Strictly Come Dancing, encouraged the children to learn a series of dance moves over 5 days, building up to a fun 26-step routine.

Thank you to all of the parents who have been able to donate so far. Our Just Giving page will remain open if any more families would like to donate:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/st-philips-catholic-primary-school-4

All money raised will help support children and young people across the UK.

Sports News

On Tuesday 10th November, a team of Year 6 children took part in a basketball event at Uckfield College. They were taught how to dribble a basketball, aim and shoot a basket. After plenty of skills practice, the children took part in a round robin of competitive matches. Mrs Schofield said the children played well, and demonstrated good defending! Well done to William C, Elim, Daniel, Chloe, Elizabeth and Theo for taking part.

EYFS Emergency Day

Reception and Nursery had a fantastic Emergency Services Day on Monday 9th. The excitement started when the children arrived to find a crime scene in the classroom! Using clues left around the role-play area, they worked hard as detectives to solve the mystery of the stolen chocolate and discovered that the culprit was Mr McCurdy! We were also very fortunate to welcome Sergeant Thomson, a serving police officer (and St Philip's parent), who spoke to the EYFS children about his role and the important work that police officers do. The children enjoyed trying on police uniform, sitting in a police car, and even speaking to Bexhill Police Station using the radio. Thank you to Mrs Brown, Mrs Hayward and the rest of the EYFS team for organising such an exciting day for the children!







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Year 6 visit to Glyndebourne

On Thursday 5th November, Year 6 had a fabulous day watching the Barber of Seville in the front row at Glyndebourne Opera House. Year 6 represented our school brilliantly! Thank you to Miss Hailstone, Mrs Smith, Miss Pescott and our parent helpers for accompanying them, and to Mrs Burman for securing the tickets for us!



ROAR project

This term, Years 5 and 6 have been busy designing and making innovative products as part of the ROAR project, which they then presented to a panel of judges on Wednesday morning. The children have worked incredibly hard throughout the process and have blown us away with their creativity, innovation and problem-solving skills. The winning team will represent St Philip's at the Uckfield ROAR Competition event next week on 18th November.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend,

Mrs McCurdy
Headteacher

Advert for Crossing Patrol

As most parents will be aware, we have not had a Crossing Patrol for some time now. We are actively working to support the County Council in recruiting a new School Crossing Patrol. If anyone is interested in the role, please visit www.eastsussex.gov.uk/patrol



Prospective parents open mornings

On Wednesday 4th November, we held our first prospective parents open morning. We were delighted to have so many new families come to visit us this year! The parents were very complimentary about the school and in particular about their Year 6 tour guides. Well done to all of the Year 6 children who took part and for being such fantastic ambassadors for our school.

Our next Open Morning is on Monday 16th November at 9am. The deadline for applications for Reception 2027/2028 is 15th January 2027.

November	
Mon 16th	'Odd Socks Day' for Anti-Bullying Week 9:00-10:15 Prospective parents Open Morning
Tues 17th	Individual Photos 3:30-6:00 Parents evening
Wed 18th	10:00 Year 6 and Year 2 attending Mass
Thurs 19th	4:30-7:00 Parents evening
Mon 23rd	Year 2 visit to Boothland Woods am
Tues 24th	3:45-5:00 KS1 Multiskills event at Uckfield College
Wed 25th	10:00 Year 5 and Year 1 attending Mass
Fri 27th	Year 6 Survival Day
Mon 30th	8:55 Advent Liturgy in the school Hall led by Year 6 – parents welcome to attend
December	
Wed 2nd	10:00 Year 3 and Year 2 attending Mass
Thurs 3rd	3:15 Friends Christmas Fair in Hall
Fri 4th	11.00 Service of reconciliation led by KS2, followed by Individual Reconciliation 7:10 Carol Singing at Late Night Shopping in Uckfield High Street
Mon 7th	9:00 Rocksteady Concert 4:00 Drama Club performance to parents
Wed 9th	10:00 Year 6 and Year 4 attending Mass 2:00 KS1 Nativity Performance to parents in the school Hall

Thurs 10th	9:15 KS1 Nativity Performance to parents in the school Hall
Mon 14th	Year 6 attending Mayfield Live Crib pm
Tues 15th	4:05 Street dance club performance to parents 6:00 KS2 Nativity Performance in Church
Wed 16th	Christmas Lunch and Dressing up Day 2:00 Pantomime for whole school
Thurs 17th	6:00 Parish Christmas Carol Concert at St Philip's Church
Fri 18th	10:00 Y1-Y6 Whole School Mass Last day of term
w/c 21st w/c 28th	**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**
January	
Mon 4th	**INSET Day**
Tues 5th	Children back to school
February	
Thurs 11th	Year 5 Culinary workshop session
w/c 15th	**HALF TERM**
24th – 26th	Year 6 at Hindleap Warren
March	
Wed 3rd	Year 2 Great Fire of London workshop
Thurs 4th	4:30-7:00 Parents evening
Fri 5th	Dressing up as a book character
Tues 9th	3:30-6:00 Parents evening
Thurs 18th	Year 5 visit to Herstmonceux Science Centre
Fri 26th	**GOOD FRIDAY – school closed**
26th – 11th	**EASTER HOLIDAYS**
April	
w/c 26th	Year 5 Bikeability
Fri 30th	Reception and Year 6 Vision and NCMP screening with School Nurse
May	
Mon 3rd	**BANK HOLIDAY**
10th -13th	Year 6 SATs
w/c 31st	**HALF TERM**
June	
Tues 8th	Sports Day (Rec-Y6) Times TBC
July	
Tues 20th	Last day of the school year
Wed 21st	**INSET DAY**
Thurs 22nd	**INSET DAY**