



Saint Christina's School

New Year Newsletter 2019

Dear Parents & Carers,

Welcome back!

Welcome back to a new term and Happy New Year! I have very much enjoyed catching up with the children about the various things that they have been doing over Christmas. There has been a lot of international travel alongside those of us who went for something a little quieter on these fair isles. I wanted to remind you about the new faces that we have in school this term. Ms Tola Rego has taken over Senora Rodrigo's Spanish classes for the duration of her maternity leave, and Miss Hudson has taken on the role of TA within Years 5 and 6 following her return from maternity leave. We have a lot of exciting events planned for the term including two Open Events and an opportunity to involve ourselves in the Tatler survey. I do hope that the term starts well for you all and look forward to seeing more of what our children can do.

Mr Gloag
Headteacher

Mrs Montgomery's exciting news

We are so pleased to be able to share the wonderful news that Mrs Montgomery is expecting a baby in May! We will, of course, update you with further information on Mrs Montgomery's replacement as soon as we have made the appointment. We are sure you would like to join us in congratulating Mrs Montgomery on her happy news!

Thank you from Sister Eileen

Last term you all helped to raise £960.03 through your generous donations at the Nativities and the Carol Service. Because of that money many people were able to have a much nicer Christmas; we put together 66 hampers of toiletries to donate to the Dellow Centre (part of Providence Row Homelessness Charity), as well as sending over some Christmas Day treats. Father Terry was also able to put together hundreds of hampers for the women and children helped by Bakhita House. Thank you very much for all of your generosity.

Sister Eileen



Reach for the stars.... As part of the school's intellectual curiosity initiative, we would like to share with you our exciting plan for a special Year Six project to celebrate 70 years since the school was founded in 1949. We are challenging ourselves and the children to plan, design, build and launch a high altitude balloon into near space. We will build a payload, containing tracking equipment and

camera / sensor, and attach this to a latex balloon. The balloon will be filled with helium to provide lift (due to helium being lighter than air) ascending up to approximately 30km, where the balloon will expand and eventually give way. The balloon will then descend back to earth controlled by a parachute and be tracked using a GPS tracker and Raspberry Pi computer, programmed to take photos and videos throughout the flight.

The tracking device should enable us to recover the payload by organising a cross-country chase which will hopefully result in the successful recovery of some inspiring images. An example of an image taken from a high altitude balloon can be seen here:



This is an ambitious project, and we will no doubt encounter many challenges on the way. Irrespective of the pitfalls and problems we may face, and even if we are not ultimately successful, we believe that setting a high bar and challenging ourselves to do something new is an appropriate example to set to the children of Saint Christina's.

If anyone amongst the parent community has any relevant knowledge / experience (in ballooning / GPS tracking / coding/ radio) and would be interested in helping us in any way, we would be delighted to hear from them.

Mr Hirst
Deputy Head

Illness

Please ensure that if your child has had sickness and/or diarrhoea that the 48-hour rule for children to stay at home is observed (children may return 48 hours after the last episode of vomiting and/or diarrhoea). This is to reduce cross infection, and ensure children are fully rested and recovered before returning to school.

School Uniform

Please will you ensure that your children are wearing the correct full winter uniform to school including their school coats, hats, scarves and gloves in this colder weather. We have noticed that a number of interpretations of footwear have been evident this week and ask that if this is the case that uniform footwear is sourced over the weekend. Children should be using the school book bag or rucksack.

Year 6 Entrance Exams

Our thoughts are with the children who are currently sitting their entrance exams soon. We wish them all the very best of luck with their interviews and exams.

Dates for your diary

Please note that dates/timings are subject to change and additions

Date	Event
Monday 14 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs begin
Tuesday 15 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DT Workshops all day
Wednesday 16 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DT Workshops 9.00-12.00 • Y5 Swimming 10.15-12.15
Friday 18 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y4 Trip – Living Rainforest - 8.30am – 3.30pm • Y6 Mass – Resilience 2.15pm-3.00pm
Monday 21 st January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y6 Trip to Muswell Hill Synagogue 9.00am – 12.00pm
Tuesday 22 nd January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y5 and 6 Athletics Competition at Moberly Sport Centre • Quiz Competition 9.00am - 12.00pm
Wednesday 23 rd January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y3 ICT Trip
Thursday 24 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Years Open Morning 9.15 – 11.00am
Friday 25 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 4 Coffee Morning 9am Arts hall • Year 4 Mass – Love and Joy 2.15-3.00pm
Friday 1 st February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 2 Mass – Friends are Gifts 2.15-3.00pm • Year 5 Charity Cake and Craft Sale • Parents’ Link Event - Pyjama Party
Monday 4 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Week • UKLO (United Kingdom Linguistics Olympiad)
Tuesday 5 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet Safety Day • Parent/ Child Learning Review (Session 1) 8.15am-8.45am YR-Y6
Wednesday 6 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 4 & 5 Netball friendly vs. Cavendish 3.45-4.45pm
Thursday 7 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intermediate Maths Challenge (Year 6) • Parent/ Child Learning Review (Session 1) 8.15am-8.45am YR-Y6
Friday 8 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Mass led by KS2 2.15-3.00pm

Wednesday 13 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Year 6 ICT Trip• Year 4 Netball League vs. St Mary's 4.00-5.00pm
Friday 15 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• House Singing Competition 2.00pm• Break up for Half Term 3.30pm