



SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Friday 24th April 2026



Where Kindness Meets Ambition



SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the Summer Term, and I hope the Easter break gave you and your loved ones a change of pace and some time together. It has been good to welcome your children back and to see the school in full rhythm again this week, particularly for the excellent Earth Day on Wednesday. A big thank you to Ms Randle and the wider team for making this happen. A warm welcome as well to the new families joining us this term. We are very pleased to have you here, and I hope you begin to feel part of the community straight away.

Over the break, the government opened a national consultation titled [Growing Up in the Online World](#). It looks closely at the digital world children are living in and asks for views on social media age limits, platform design, AI and chatbots, and the question of phones in schools, for which there is now a blanket ban as of earlier this week. You may have also heard last week that MPs voted against a social media ban for under-16s for a second time, with the [Commons rejecting the proposal by 256 to 150](#).

Some of what is being considered in the consultation would bring clear changes, particularly if current guidance were to move into law. What is being discussed reflects what many of us are already seeing in children of primary age, particularly the pull of constant access to messaging, games, and online content, and the effect this can have on attention over time.

All schools are thinking carefully about their individual approaches. We want to be deliberate in what we introduce, and we are also aware that most children will encounter messaging, games, and social platforms early, whether we like it or not. This is an area being discussed at governor level alongside our developing work on a digital strategy.

You will also see in this week's bulletin a pupil-led initiative around digital habits, with the launch of a Screen-Free Day at Saint Christina's on Friday 1st May.

The government consultation is open to parents and to all children from the age of 10, and I encourage everyone to take part. It is early enough for views to be considered before decisions are made and will benefit from hearing from families who are navigating this day to day. The government has signalled their intention to move quickly once the consultation period ends on 26th May. The survey can be accessed here: [Growing up in the online world: a national consultation](#).

In addition, good luck to all the families participating in the Mini London Marathon 2026 tomorrow. Looking forward to hearing all about it next week!

Have a good weekend when it comes,

Best,

Damien Walshe
Headteacher



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National Consultation

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology





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Adrian's Gold in Judo

Adrian's outstanding performances at the London Development Event on 29th March 2026 and the London Youth Games on 18th April 2026 speak volumes about the hard work and expertise he has poured into his judo career. Representing Westminster with distinction, Adrian secured gold medals at both competitions, doing so with an impressive combination of technical mastery and exemplary sportsmanship. Adrian embodies the core values that define the very best in martial arts: discipline in his training, perseverance in the face of challenge, and leadership both on and off the mat. For the aspiring judokas of Saint Christina's and beyond, he stands as a powerful example of what passion, commitment, and character can achieve.

Kelly - Mikes Judo Club





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Earth Day at Saint Christina's

On Wednesday, as it was Earth Day the whole school took part in a range of activities focused on learning how to look after our planet.

We started the day with an assembly, where the children learned about a variety of environmental topics, including Earthships. They were fascinated by these sustainable homes, made from recycled materials and designed to be self sufficient by collecting their own energy and water and even growing food. The children asked some fantastic questions throughout, showing real curiosity and interest.

The rest of the day was made up of a carousel of activities across the school. Children took part in planting sessions at the green wall, in the outdoor classrooms and while tending to different garden areas. They also enjoyed arts and crafts, making eco warriors, contributing to a whole school pledge to help save the planet and creating a world from handprints. There was also a workshop with Mr Hutton from Green Up Your Act, where activities included making eco fish while learning about water pollution, planting microgreens and building bug hotels.

Each phase also completed its own project linked to sustainability. In EYFS, the children learned about simple ways to help our planet, including saving water, recycling, looking after plants and animals and not wasting food. They then went on a walk around the school with clipboards and questions to assess how well we are doing already and to spot areas for improvement. In KS1, the focus was biodiversity and habitats, with a bug hunt followed by ideas for how we could improve our school environment. In lower KS2, the children became energy auditors, learning about renewable and non renewable energy before carrying out an energy audit around the school and identifying any eco crimes! They then suggested ways we could improve. In upper KS2, the children explored whether AI is a friend or an enemy to the planet, ending the day with a debate using everything they had learned.

All of the children's suggestions will be taken to the Eco Committee in the coming weeks, and we will use them to create action points and improvements led by their ideas. It was a fantastic day, made even better by the sunshine, and we hope it will be the first of many more to come.

Ms Randle - Head of Eco & Sustainability





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Resilience Reflection for Home

As part of our work on wellbeing, and in partnership with AndResilience, we will be sharing regular reflections to support simple conversations at home.

This week's quote:

"It's not whether you get knocked down, it's whether you get up." — Vince Lombardi

You might like to ask:

- Can you think of a time when something was hard but you tried again?
- What helps you "get back up" when you feel sad or frustrated?



Mr Burke - Assistant Head (Pastoral)

Screen-Free Day at Saint Christina's

As part of our ongoing work on Digital Wellbeing, we're doing something a little different at Saint Christina's. Over the past couple of months, children have been sharing their views through pupil voice about screen use. Many spoke thoughtfully about balance, staying safe online and avoiding distractions, and several suggested it would be fun to try a day without screens.

So, inspired by the children's ideas, we're launching a Screen-Free Day on Friday 1st May 2026. This also links with Screen-Free Week 2026, which takes place during the first week of May each year.

On the day:

- The whole school will go screen-free
- No laptops, iPads or interactive screens
- All staff (apart from the office team) will be taking part too

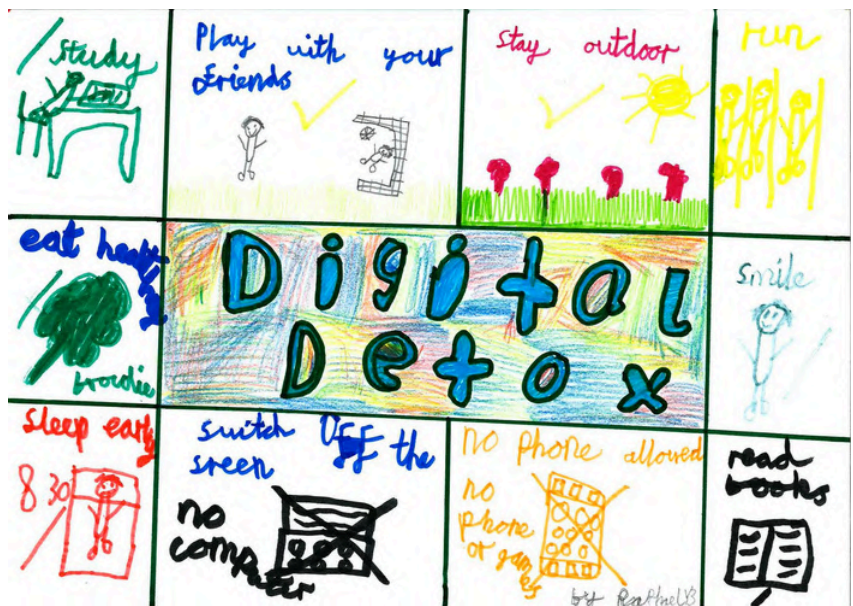
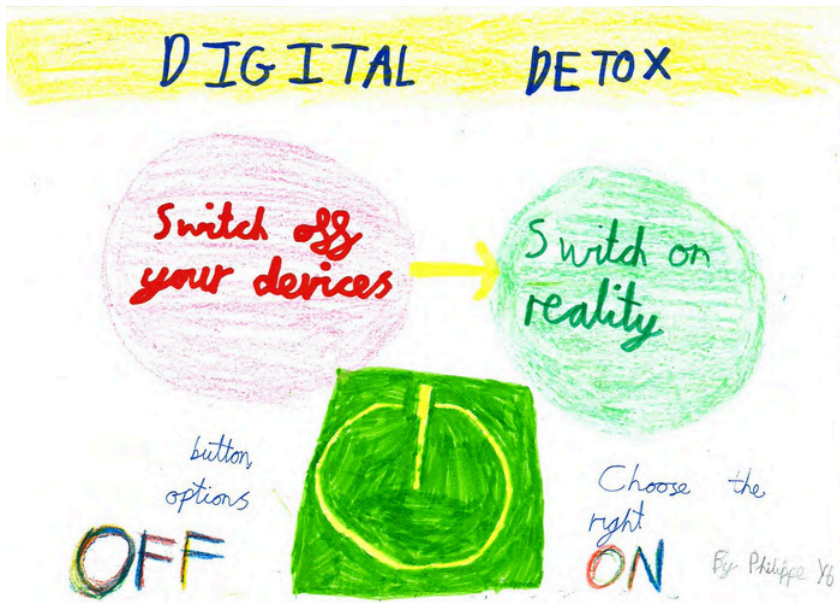
Instead, the day will be filled with learning, creativity, conversation, play and reading — all without screens. We'd love families to join us at home as well, if you can. Whether it's a screen-free evening, board games instead of TV, a family walk, or curling up with a good book, the idea is simply to enjoy some extra time together.

We're really looking forward to this positive, pupil-led initiative and hope you'll enjoy taking part with us.

Mr Burke, Mr Hirst and the School Council



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Earth Day in Reception

This week, Reception has been thinking about our planet as we celebrated Earth Day. Last term, space was a big interest in the classroom, and the children learned all about our solar system and planet Earth. This week, we completed our solar system models and made additional globes, linking to our learning about spheres and 3D shapes. We also read a range of stories about our planet and looked closely at globes and images of Earth. As a class, we talked about how many plants, animals and people share our planet, and why it is so important to take care of it. The children shared thoughtful ideas about how we can help, such as recycling, looking after nature and keeping our environment clean. During choosing, the children created their own Earths at the playdough table, noticing that green represents the land and blue represents the water, and made collages using blue and green tissue paper. As part of our Earth Day activities, the children also helped to plant new plants and shared ideas about how we can make small changes to better look after the environment.

Ms Williams - Reception Class Teacher





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Year 1

We have had such a lovely first week back and it has been wonderful to hear all about the children's holidays and what they have been up to. It has been a busy start to the term with lots of exciting learning, especially as we celebrated Earth Day together!

Some of our highlights included building bug hotels, contributing to the whole school display, learning about biodiversity, taking part in a mini beast hunt and doing some planting. The children showed great curiosity and care as we thought about how we can look after our world.

We have also been getting back into the swing of our learning, particularly in Maths where we have started exploring fractions. We are so excited for everything to come in our final term of Year 1!

Ms Higgins & Ms Khalique - Year 1 Class Teachers


What did you do during your Easter break?



Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★


During my Easter holidays
 I went to Peppa Pig World.
 I went on a lot of rides.
 I went on spooky rides to.

Sea World Bluey's World Opera House



Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★


I went to Australia. I went to
 Brisbane, Gold Coast and
 Sydney. I went to Bluey's
 World in Brisbane, Sea World
 in Gold Coast and Sydney and
 Opera House in Sydney.



Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★

I went to Paris on holiday
 and I saw my friends and I
 went on rides.

What did you do during your Easter break?



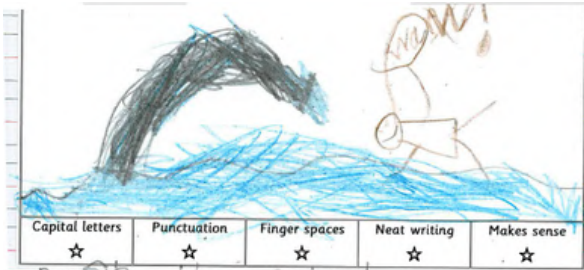
Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★

I went skiing and on the last day
 I went to the swimming pool.



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I went to Ibiza I got two legos one was a car and one is a jet lego. It was my granddad birthday it was fun!



Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★

On the easter brace
I went to Greece
with my frens and Samale
and in Greece I went
to Mal Peche

Writing Assessment Date: Tuesday, 21st April 2026

What did you do during your Easter break?

Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes ser
★	★	★	★	★

In Easter I wacht the champion leg. Buyermunic Reyall madrid the scor wer. 2-1 and the 2 mac was 4-3. I Lovet it! ✓

What did you do during your Easter break?

Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes sense
★	★	★	★	★

On the Easter break I went to the Celloseum and I did tent. I did gymnastic and I had a gymnastic party. I got a lot of presint my favrosinte presint was Amy's presint.

What did you do during your Easter break?

Capital letters	Punctuation	Finger spaces	Neat writing	Makes ser
★	★	★	★	★

In Easter I wacht the champion leg. Buyermunic Reyall madrid the scor wer. 2-1 and the 2 mac was 4-3. I Lovet it! ✓



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Year 2

Year 2 have had a brilliant first week back. In Geography, the children worked collaboratively to create fantastic posters showcasing their understanding of the United Kingdom, including its countries, capital cities, culture, and key landmarks. It was great to see them sharing ideas and taking pride in their work.

On Wednesday, we had a wonderful day celebrating Earth Day. We spent time in our outdoor space acting as gardeners, carefully de-weeding our planters, before heading out on a nature hunt. The children also enjoyed reading outside in the fresh air and finished the day by building their own bug hotel.

Mr Burke - Year 2 Class Teacher





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Year 3's STEM project

First day back to school, and Year 3 children were throwing paper airplanes around the classroom! But it was all part of their learning. Year 3 has started a STEM project looking at the process involved in creating an engineering design. Similar to editing written work, we will be focusing on improving our designs, and where better to start than making paper airplanes?

Some children started the lesson saying they were unable to make a paper plane, and used their commitment and creativity to learn how to make one. By the end of the lesson, every child had made a first plane and then used their critical thinking to make two more, each with modifications. We look forward to seeing how our engineering designs improve over the next few weeks.

Miss Chand - Head of Science





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Year 4

This week in Year 4, we began our new Religion topic, To the Ends of the Earth by exploring the Catholic Social Teaching principle of Dignity for Workers, discussing its importance and learning how Fairtrade products help to support this. In History, we launched our exciting new topic on the Vikings by sharing prior knowledge and learning who the Vikings were and where they came from. Maths lessons saw us start a new unit on money, where we wrote amounts in decimals, converted between pounds and pence, and compared different values. In English, we revised proof-reading skills using the CUPS method, made predictions about our new class text Beowulf, and read the opening chapter together. Our Art lessons focused on developing pencil-sketching skills, practising hatching, blending and shading to create realistic 3D drawings. In PSHE, we continued our learning about Digital Wellbeing, and on Wednesday we enjoyed celebrating Earth Day by working with Year 3 on an energy audit of the school, taking part in a Green Yourself workshop, helping to plant a green wall and creating an art display to celebrate caring for our planet.

Ms Farquhar - Year 4 Class Teacher





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Year 5 Maths

Year 5 have been enjoying learning about angles this week. They explored angles in everyday life and developed their understanding of right, acute, obtuse and reflex angles, measuring them in degrees. The children also began using protractors and discussed how angles are important in real-life careers such as pilots, engineers, scientists and Formula 1 drivers.

Ms O'Leary - Year 5 Class Teacher





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Year 6

This term, Year 6 begin their Leavers' Programme, carefully designed to equip them with the independence, confidence and practical skills needed for a smooth and successful transition to secondary school. Over the coming weeks, the children will take part in a range of valuable workshops and training opportunities, including TfL travel training, road awareness, cycling proficiency, first aid with St John Ambulance, essay writing, study skills, online safety, financial literacy, and sessions focused on resilience, character and responsible decision-making. The aim is that they leave Saint Christina's not only academically prepared but grounded in strong values and confident in who they are becoming.

We invited a TfL representative into school this week who has helped the children prepare for the challenges they may face as they become increasingly independent and equip them with essential life skills for safe and independent travel. The workshop covered journey planning, active travel, and responsible behaviour on public transport. The children learned about the ZIP card scheme, including its benefits, the application process, and the importance of meeting behaviour expectations. They also explored key safety practices, such as waiting safely at bus stops and underground stations, using escalators correctly, and understanding the dangers of underground tracks.

Beyond practical safety, the session encouraged discussions on respect, citizenship, and making responsible choices when faced with peer pressure, uncomfortable situations, or suspicious packages. The children also learned about the impact of vandalism and the legal consequences of breaking the law, including how criminal charges from as young as ten years old can have lasting effects on future opportunities.

The workshop helped the children to develop the confidence to navigate the transport network independently, while reinforcing respect, responsibility, and good decision-making skills that will benefit them as they transition to secondary school and beyond.

Alongside the Leavers' Programme, Year 6 have also launched the start of their Legacy Projects. The children have formed teams and have begun creating their own mini businesses, with the goal of raising money for charity while leaving a lasting legacy at Saint Christina's. This week has been full of creative brainstorming, and I look forward to seeing their ideas develop. The children aim to hold a fundraising sale after school next Friday.

The excitement is also building for this year's summer production: Al-la-la-la...laddin! Auditions took place this week, and the children will learn the cast list next week.

The class thoroughly enjoyed celebrating Earth Day this week. The children took part in a workshop making compost from coconut shells before planting microgreens, which we will now watch grow over the next ten days. Later, they explored the question: Is AI a friend or enemy of our planet? This sparked thoughtful and lively debate as the children considered how AI works, its impact on energy use and climate change, and the ways technology can also help protect the environment. I was incredibly impressed by the confidence, maturity and critical thinking shown by every group. During the day, the children also worked together on the playground green wall and created a wonderful Saint Christina's Earth Day display. It has been a fantastic week of learning, leadership and teamwork in Year 6.

Mrs Ellisdon - Year 6 Class Teacher



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Sport Update

Upcoming Fixtures

Date	Against	Team/Yr	Venue	Time
Monday 27th April	St Marys	Yr5/6 Cricket	Away	16.00-17.00
Tuesday 28th April	Hampstead tournament	Yr 6 Football Tournament	Away	13.30-15.30
Monday 11th May	Sarum Hall	Yr 4, 5 and 6 Cricket	Home	15.30-16.30
Friday 15th May	Trevor Roberts	Year 4 Cricket	Away	15.00-16.00

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport

Enrichment - Long Challenge results

During the Spring Term the Long Challenge was to create a game on the subject of Sustainability.

Two prizes were awarded:

The prize for the Individual Game, created and submitted by just one person working on their own was awarded to Celia (Y1)

The prize for the Group Game, created and submitted by a team of three children was awarded to Theo, Ji and Matthew.

You can see images of the games in this bulletin - and the games are on display in the Mathematics Breakout Room.

Congratulations to all the children who took part in this challenge!



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Summer Term Long Challenge

If you look at the picture enclosed you will see pictures of quite a few different quilts. These quilts were all made in North America.

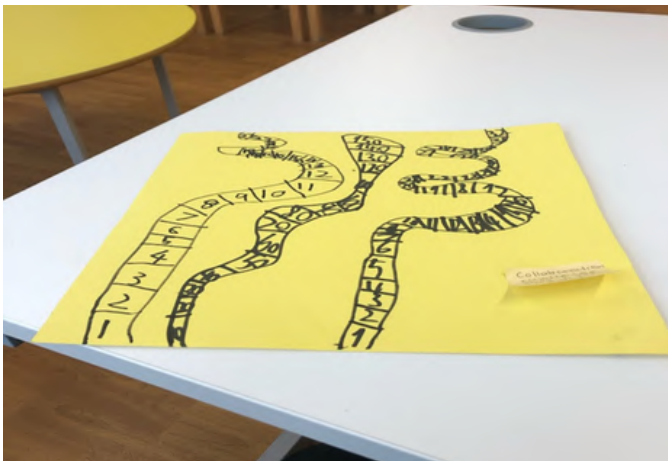
Your challenge is to create a picture of your very own quilt that you have designed yourself.

You can use any sort of materials to create this quilt - i.e. crayons, paint, any sort of paper that you want.

But the quilt **MUST BE** your OWN design!

Finished quilt pictures should be handed in to the Maths Break Out Room by Thursday 21st May, or even e-mailed to me!

Fr Rudolf - Teacher in charge of Enrichment



The prize for the group Sustainability Game was awarded to Theo, Ji and Matthew



The prize for the individual Sustainability Game was awarded to Celia



Pictures of North American Quilts



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Primary Kangaroo 2026

A group of keen competitors took part in the second annual Primary Kangaroo back in March. This competition consists of twenty problems, many of which use 'outside the box' thinking, so that any child who is used to Thinking Moves A to Z is well placed to participate.

The competition does not yet award Gold, Silver or Bronze medals, but does produce certificates.

The following children were awarded certificates for Best in Year/Class performances: Matthew, Diana and Ehwan.

The runners up were Akaria, Philippe, Raphael and Serina.

Congratulations to all of the children who took part in this year's competition!

NB: Our next national Mathematics Competition will be the Junior Mathematics Challenge, which will take place in late April. More information about that nearer the time.

Fr Rudolf - Teacher in charge of Enrichment



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Music Update

Exam Results

Congratulations to the following children who passed music exams recently:

Emilia (Year 6) - grade 2 singing with merit

Philippe (Year 6) - grade 3 music theory with merit

Pia (Year 6) - grade 2 violin

Well done to all of them, and to Ms Baker, Mr Taylor and Mr Puzey their teachers too!

Composer of the Month

Our composer of the month for April is the British composer Sir Edward Elgar. It has been great to see children already engaging with the project for this month during the holidays, and the listening board already has a number of entries so well done everyone! Years 2-6 can find the recommended listening on Google Classroom, and the links are also below. Children can complete a listening log to earn a house point.

[A short biography of Elgar](#)

[Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1](#)

["Sospiri"](#) for cello, harp and strings

["Chanson de matin"](#) (Morning song) for violin and piano

["Nimrod" from the Enigma Variations](#) (be warned this one is sad!)

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 29th April – EYFS Music Showcase Assembly

Tuesday 12th May – KS2 Spring Concert (ensembles)

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd July – Summer Production: "A-la-la-la-la-laddin"

Music Lessons

If you are interested in lessons for your child, you can find information and the application form [here](#). If you have any questions please contact me via email - ebryant@saintchristinas.org.uk

Mrs Bryant - Director of Music



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DINY'S SENSORY AND MESSY PLAY (FROM 10 MONTHS - TO 36 MONTHS)



SENSORY AND MESSY PLAY GIVES BABIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN THE FREEDOM TO EXPLORE THE WORLD THROUGH THEIR SENSES-TOUCH, SIGHT, SOUND, SMELL AND MOVEMENT. THROUGH ACTIVITIES AND EXPLORING DIFFERENT TEXTURES, CHILDREN BUILD CONFIDENCE, CURIOSITY, AND ESSENTIAL EARLY SKILLS.

OUR NEXT SESSIONS WILL EXPLORE A FUN MINIBEASTS THEME, ALONGSIDE A MUD KITCHEN AND SAND TRAY FOR HANDS ON SENSORY AND MESSY PLAY.

LED BY EDINA, A QUALIFIED EARLY YEARS EDUCATOR WITH 10+ YEARS EXPERIENCE INCLUDING ROLES AS BABY ROOM LEADER AND DEPUTY MANAGER.

VENUE: THE ART'S HALL. SAINT CHRISTINA'S SCHOOL,

25 ST EDMUND'S TERRACE

NW8 7PY

25TH OF APRIL/ 9TH OF MAY-

SATURDAY

TIME: 10:30AM - 11:30AM

PRICE: £10 PER CHILD - CASH ONLY

PLEASE ENSURE YOU ARE PRESENT WITH YOUR CHILD FOR THE DURATION OF THE SESSION



PLEASE BOOK YOUR SPACE VIA THE EMAIL ADDRESS BELOW:

RETESIE@GMAIL.COM FIND US ON HAPPITY TOO



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NOTICES and REMINDERS

Nut Free School

We have a number of children and staff in the school who have serious nut allergies. Please will you ensure that you do not give your child any nuts or nut products (e.g. Nutella) to bring into school.

Emailing scomms@saintchristinas.org.uk

Please do not send emails to the scomms@saintchristinas.org.uk email address, as this inbox is not monitored. Instead, kindly direct your emails to office@saintchristinas.org.uk or the relevant class teacher.

Online Safety – New Government Guidance: Screen Time for Under-Fives

The government has this week published its first evidence-backed screen time guidance for children under five, recommending no more than one hour of screen time per day and avoiding screens alone for under-twos. The guidance suggests watching together where possible, avoiding fast-paced content, and trying simple "screen swaps" — a story or a game instead. It also notes that not all screen time is the same; watching with an engaged adult is linked to better outcomes than solo use, and that time limits should not apply in the same way for assistive technologies supporting children with SEND.

You can read the full guidance here: <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/>

At Saint Christina's, we will continue to support children in developing healthy relationships with technology through our Digital Wellbeing provision as part of PSHE. If you would like to revisit the themes raised in the guidance at home, a digital recording of our recent parent talk, Parenting in the Digital Age, is available here: [Parenting in the Digital Age](#)



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Dates for your diary

Monday 27th April

- Clubs Start
- Year 5/6 Cricket Fixture (Away)
- Year 3 Swimming Lessons (2 Weeks)

Tuesday 28th April

- Year 6 Girls Football Tournament (Away)

Wednesday 29th April

- EYFS Music Assembly
- Year 5/6 School Journey Information Meeting (4 pm in the Year 6 classroom)

Thursday 30th April

- London Fire Visit
- PL Quiz Night (7 pm)

Friday 1st May

- Mr Walshe is visiting Latymer Upper School
- Digital Detox Day
- Year 6 Mass (2.45 pm)

Monday 4th May

- **BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**

Tuesday 5th May

- Vision and Hearing Screening for those signed up
- Year 1 - Year 6 Parent Teacher Meetings (All week)



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Thursday 7th May

- School Council Trip (Details to Follow)

Friday 8th May

- World Champion to Starting Again (A Lesson in Resilience talk)
- Year 5 Mass

Monday 11th May

- Year 4, 5 & 6 Cricket Fixture (Home)

Tuesday 12th May

- Spring Concert (Detail to Follow) (6 pm)

Wednesday 13th May

- Brass Showcase (Details to Follow)

Friday 15th May

- First Holy Communion (Details to Follow)
- Year 4 Cricket Fixture (Away)

Monday 18th May

- Year 5 and 6 Residential Trip (1 Week)
- St Raphaela Feast Day

Thursday 21st May

- Year 1 & Year 4 Zoo Trip



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Friday 22nd May

SCHOOL CLOSURES AT USUAL TIME FOR HALF -TERM

Monday 1st June

CHILDREN RETURN

ABOVE TIMES/DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Please note: Policies can be found on the School Website – please click link below:

<https://www.saintchristinas.org.uk/our-school/policies/>