



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026



*Where Kindness Meets Ambition*



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Dear Parents,

I am looking forward to seeing many of you at tonight's quiz night. A huge thank you to Parents Link and to all of you who have played a part in organising the evening for the benefit of our community. I am very grateful. The teacher's table will be bringing their game face...

You will receive the weekly bulletin a day earlier than usual, as tomorrow is our digital detox day. On that note, it has been good to speak with many of you this week about the government consultation I mentioned in last week's bulletin, and to hear your reflections on how children are growing up with technology. The survey can be accessed here: [Growing up in the online world: a national consultation](#).

A 2025 UNICEF report on childhood in a digital world reflects much of what educators see in schools in that technology shapes the environment in which children are learning, both in and out of school. It is worth drawing a distinction here because the considered use of educational technology can support learning in specific ways, but that is different from constant access to devices, which as we all know is diluting attention spans and, I would argue, reducing the ability of children to spend sustained time working something through. In school, we are selective in how technology is used. It has a place, and I think it needs to, but it does not lead. We are less focused on physical devices than many other settings because we want children to have extended time for reading, writing, discussion, and sustained thinking.

As we move towards completing our action plan for 2026–2027, which I will share with you towards the end of term, this remains central. The curriculum must give children work that stretches them, along with the time to engage with it properly.

Tomorrow's digital detox gives us a chance to look again at the day in its simplest form, and at how children engage with their work within it.

Wishing you all a great bank holiday weekend when it comes

Best,

**Damien Walshe**  
Headteacher



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## Frida Kahlo Display

I wanted to share a photo of this fantastic Frida Kahlo display. It's really brightened up the Arts Hall.

A special mention goes to the Year 6 girls, who did a brilliant job designing the portrait of Frida herself. It looks wonderful and was the perfect way to bring the whole project together.

The display actually started during our Hispanic Week, when everyone in the school had a go at making those traditional Mexican tissue paper flowers. Year 6 then worked hard to design Frida's face, hair and earrings to finish the display.

I especially love this piece because it is such a clear example of creativity combined with collaboration. Best of all, it was entirely created by the children themselves.

Well done, everybody, for contributing with your own personal touch.

Ms Bretones - Head of Art and DT





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## Post has arrived! News from out Spanish Pen Pals

We have some very exciting news to share from Year 5 and Year 6! After waiting patiently, the children have finally received replies from their pen pals in Barcelona.

The atmosphere in the classrooms was fantastic, the children were so excited to open their envelopes and see who had written to them. We were all blown away by how much effort the Spanish students had put into decorating the envelopes. We need to step up our game for the next round of letters!

It's been wonderful to see the children comparing letters and learning about life in a different city. It's such a natural way to bring our Spanish lessons to life.

Ms Bretones - Head of Art and DT





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## Nursery have been making laptops!

Nursery really enjoyed making their own laptops and iPads through junk modelling this week. The idea evolved as the week went on, with the children adding different features such as a mouse and keyboard, designing their own brands, the most popular being the banana brand! They then started making up games for their devices. It was amazing to see so much problem solving, imagination and creativity, and this interest continued for the whole week.

Ms Randle - Head of EYFS and Nursery Class Teacher





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## Building and Fixing in Reception

This week, Reception has been learning about different jobs linked to building, fixing and designing. The children became very interested in construction workers, builders, architects and engineers after reading 'Let's Build a House', where we learned about the different people, tools and materials needed to build a home. During choosing, the classroom was full of busy builders wearing hard hats and construction vests while using hammers, screwdrivers, measuring tapes, checklists and design pages. We had lots of important problems to solve this week, including fixing a broken washing machine, repairing a damaged table and measuring and moving items such as the baby crib. The children were especially excited to use our new cardboard construction tools. With adult support, they used special tools to poke holes, add brackets to strengthen walls and secure pieces together with screws. We even used a cardboard saw to cut out a door and prepare a roof. It has been a fantastic week of teamwork, problem-solving and creativity, and we are excited to see which jobs we will explore next.

Ms Williams - Reception Class Teacher





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## Year 1 - Salt Crosses in Art and DT

Year 1 have really enjoyed completing their salt art crosses, which they began last term. Using glue and salt, they carefully created their cross designs, and this week they used paintbrushes to apply watercolour paint, gently touching the salt and watching as it absorbed and spread the colour. This creative process also linked to the season of Lent, helping the children reflect on the importance of the cross as a symbol of Jesus' love and sacrifice, and it was lovely to see them so engaged in both the art and its meaning.

Ms Khalique & Ms Bretones - Year 1 Class Teacher and Head of Art and DT





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## Year 2

In Year 2, the children have been busy in Art creating fantastic 3D models of the United Kingdom, linking closely with their recent Geography learning. Using paper mâché and a range of materials, they have been shaping and building their own versions of the UK.

They have been thinking carefully about the different countries and their features, and it has been great to see their creativity, teamwork and attention to detail. The finished pieces are really starting to take shape.

**Mr Burke - Year 2 Class Teacher**





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## KS1 Story Club

Dogman Unleashed : *I like it because it is very interesting. It has action in it.* - Child in Y1 MK



*My Presents: I like this because it was my birthday a few days ago.* - Child in Y1 OH



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## Year 3

This week in Year 3, the children have been enjoying reading *The Iron Man* and have been using the text as inspiration for some fantastic descriptive writing. They have worked hard to describe the Iron Man in detail, thinking carefully about vocabulary and how to bring their ideas to life for the reader.

In Art, the children have drawn their own versions of the Iron Man based on their descriptions, which has been a great way to combine their writing with creativity. They are also continuing their work on their impressive volcanoes, which are really starting to take shape.

The children have also thoroughly enjoyed their swimming sessions this week and have shown great enthusiasm and confidence in the water.

**Miss Sephton - Year 3 Class Teacher**



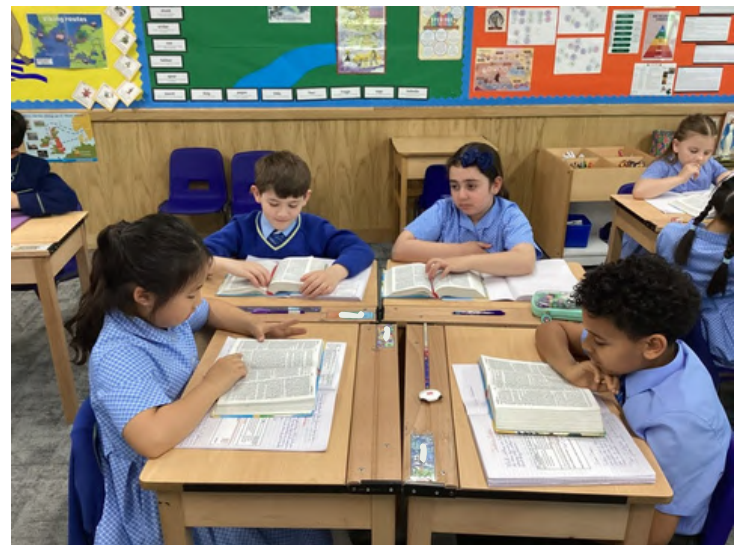


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## Year 4

This week in Year 4, we deepened our understanding of faith and forgiveness in RE by learning about Peter and the Empty Tomb, linking this to his Declaration and Denials and reflecting on what these stories teach us. In History, we explored how, where and why the Vikings travelled before putting our engineering skills to the test by designing our own Viking longships based on our learning. In Maths, we completed our money topic by solving problems and sitting our end-of-unit assessment, before starting our new topic on time by learning about different units such as days, months, years, hours, minutes and seconds. Our English lessons focused on revising apostrophes for possession, completing a comprehension on The Spider and the Fly, learning about superlatives, and using these to describe characters in Beowulf. We also enjoyed a very special Art lesson led by Ms Derveni, who taught us techniques for drawing realistic Viking warrior portraits; the class were amazed at how closely their careful sketches matched the original images by following her expert guidance step by step.

Ms Farquhar - Year 4 Class Teacher





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## Year 5

In their Catholic Social Teaching lessons, Year 5 have been learning about Fairtrade and how our choices can help others around the world. They explored the importance of fairness, justice, and supporting those in need.

Inspired by this, the children have written their own pieces to share what they have learned and how we can all make a difference.

**Ms O'Leary - Year 5 Class Teacher**

## Fair Trade:

Hi my name is Camilla and I am in year 5.

This week in our catholic social teaching lesson we have been learning about Dignity to workers . Dignity means to respect someone or to be loving and fair to them . When you are at the store / supermarket have you ever seen a Fair Trade sticker? Well Fair Trade is a company / brand of food and some other cool items that you probably didn't know about! However Fair Trade items are more expensive but it all goes to the workers so it is worth it in the end! It is given to the workers because in some places workers are not given a fair wage. A quote from the Bible that I found that inspires me to buy Fair Trade items is ... " The hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the crops" [ 2 Timothy 2:6 ] Have I persuaded you to buy Fair Trade items? Some common items are bananas, chocolate, coffee beans, honey, sugar, cotton, clothes, flowers, sports balls and even GOLD. Thank you for reading my Fair Trade notice. Will you be the next Fair Trade superhero?

Hello parents, my name is Diyan from year 5 and I want to talk to you about Fairtrade. In our RE lessons we are talking about the dignity of workers and i think fairtrade supports that. Did you know that fairtrade sells a number of products such as tea coffee bananas chocolate honey and sugar? Did you know that fairtrade also sells sports equipment? One of the most expensive items on the market is gold fairtrade sells that. All of these items fairtrade sells are slightly more expensive but the little bit that they are that money goes to the farmers. So a little change in your shop can help change lives . The way I will help is by:

Asking Mr Raveny to buy fairtrade sports equipment

Asking chef Nigel to buy fairtrade food

I will also buy fairtrade things myself at home

Thank you and I will finish with this quote "a hardworking farmer should be the first to receive a share of the of his crops'.

Thank you Diyan.



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## Year 6

As part of their Leavers' Programme, Year 6 have been learning Basic Life Support and essential first aid skills that could one day help save a life. They have explored how to keep themselves and others safe in an emergency, how to carry out a primary survey to check if someone is responsive and breathing, and when it is necessary to call 999 or 112 for help. The children also practised placing an unconscious casualty who is breathing normally into the recovery position, understanding why this is so important while waiting for emergency services to arrive.



This week, the children have also been putting their maths skills into action. They have been scaling quantities in recipes, working with ratios, and carefully budgeting so they can make the most of their allocated £15 to begin their Legacy Projects. With plans in place, we headed to Tesco, shopping lists in hand and maths minds switched on! It was fantastic to see the children navigating the aisles, comparing prices, and making thoughtful decisions as a team. Once the ingredients were purchased, the baking began.

**Mrs Ellidson - Year 6 Class Teacher**



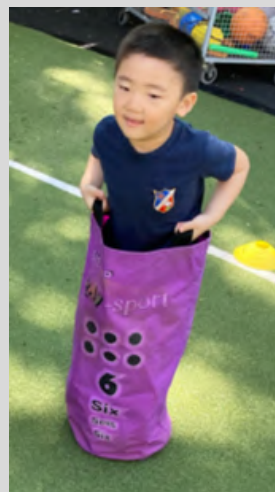
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## Sport Update

It has been a busy start to the term and successful week of sport in the sunshine. Year 3 have made a fantastic start to their intensive swimming lessons this week and are already making great progress in refining and developing their swimming techniques. They have spent time focusing on front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke, showing growing confidence and control in the water. It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and determination during each session. Next week, the children will be introduced to the dolphin kick and will begin learning some simple water safety skills, while continuing to develop their breathing techniques and coordinated arm and leg movements.



Cricket is in full flow during our PE lessons. It has been so lovely to see the children getting stuck in and showing great enthusiasm towards cricket. Our younger classes have enthusiastically begun their preparations for Sports Day. This week, they have been focusing on traditional events such as the sack race and egg and spoon race, developing key fundamental athletic skills while having lots of fun.





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On Monday our Year 5 and 6 cricket team secured an impressive 11-run victory against St Mary's. The team played some excellent cricket, demonstrating accurate bowling, impressive fielding, and strong teamwork throughout. A special well done goes to Beatrix, who was nominated as Star Player for her outstanding all-round performance.

On Tuesday, we co-hosted an exciting football tournament, welcoming 16 teams to take part. The level of competition was extremely high, and it was fantastic to see some of our girls representing the school in their very first football event. Our B team worked tirelessly throughout the afternoon, showing great determination and playing some lovely football. Well done to Pia, who was awarded Star Player for her efforts. The A team delivered some strong performances and achieved several victories across their matches. While consistency proved challenging at times, their teamwork and determination were clear to see throughout the event. Congratulations to Dena Rose, who was named Star Player for her excellent defensive performances. A huge thank you goes to Mr Artur and Mr Hirst for their invaluable support in organising and running such a successful event.

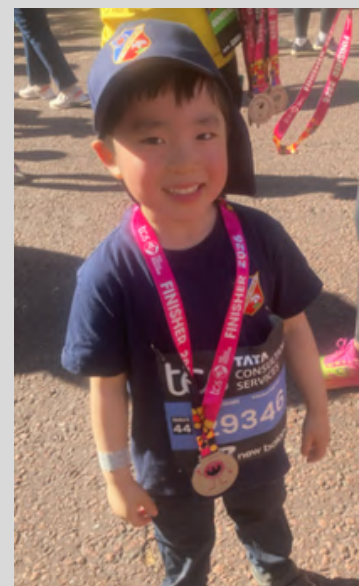




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## London Mini Marathon

We also want to celebrate a truly special event, the London Mini Marathon, which took place last Saturday. This was an amazing day and a wonderful experience for everyone involved. Fifteen of our children took part, supported by their parents. The children completed a warm-up led by Joe Wickes before embarking on the 1 mile race which started at Horse Guards Parade and concluded at the Mall. It was a very special experience and a memory I am sure they will remember for a very long time. The event itself was incredibly inspiring, with children running alongside participants from schools across London with over 20,000 children completing the course during the day. The sense of pride, determination, and excitement was evident throughout the day, and every child should feel extremely proud of their accomplishment. The children all completed the race and received their finishing medals.





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## Westminster Mile Opportunity

For those who enjoyed the Mini Marathon, as well as anyone who is interested in taking part in a one-mile event, you now have the opportunity to sign up for the Westminster Mile, taking place on 26th September. To register, please visit the official website <https://www.londonmarathonevents.co.uk/westminster-mile> where you will find a range of start times available to choose from. The cost to register and take part in the race is £12 per adult with children running for free. This is a fantastic opportunity to get involved in another exciting running event.

Date	Against	Team/Yr	Venue	Time
Monday 11th May	Sarum Hall	Y4, 5 and 6 Cricket (Girls)	Home	15.30 - 16.30
Friday 15th May	Trevor Roberts	Y4 Cricket (Mixed)	Away	15.00 - 16.00
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Southbank Tournament	Y3/4 Football (Boys)	Away	10.00 - 15.30
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	St Mary's Tournament	Y5/6 Cricket (Girls)	Away	12.00 - 15.30
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	Ivy House	Y5/6 Cricket (Mixed)	Home	15.50 - 16.30
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Trevor Roberts	Y3 Class (Mixed)	Home	14.30 - 15.30
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> June	Trevor Roberts	Y5/6 Cricket (Mixed)	Home	15.30 - 16.30

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

## 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

## Music Update

### "Spring Sing!" EYFS Singing Showcase

On Wednesday morning Nursery and Reception children proudly performed a selection of songs they have been learning since January. It was wonderful to see them perform with such enthusiasm, big smiles, and growing confidence on stage. It is always a good experience for them however much they feel able to take part on the day, and we are really proud of how far they have come and how brave they were.

It was great to see parents joining in too! Thank you for your continued support—it makes a real difference to the children's confidence and enjoyment.

### [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:

**Tuesday 12th May (6.00 pm)** - KS2 Spring Concert (ensembles)

**Wednesday 13th May (9.00 am)** - "An introduction to learning a brass instrument" assembly (details to follow)

**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](mailto:ebryant@saintchristinas.org.uk)

Mrs Bryant - Director of Music



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

## 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



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

## 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](mailto:scomms@saintchristinas.org.uk)

Please do not send emails to the [scomms@saintchristinas.org.uk](mailto:scomms@saintchristinas.org.uk) email address, as this inbox is not monitored. Instead, kindly direct your emails to [office@saintchristinas.org.uk](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> May**

- **BANK HOLIDAY - SCHOOL CLOSED**

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May**

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

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May**

- School Council Trip

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May**

- Year 5 Mass

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May**

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

**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May**

- Spring Concert (6 pm)

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May**

- Brass Showcase (Details to Follow)



# SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May

- First Holy Communion (11 am)
- Year 4 Cricket Fixture (Away)

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May

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

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May

- Year 1 & Year 4 Zoo Trip

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

- No Mass
- Year 5 and 6 return from Residential Trip

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May

**SCHOOL CLOSSES AT USUAL TIME FOR HALF -TERM**

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> 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/>