



Saint Christina's School Bulletin

Friday 11th March 2022

Dear Parents,

It gives me great pleasure to be writing the covering note for this week's bulletin as it has been a truly wonderful week in school. You will see some lovely highlights in the bulletin, including Key Stage One having an exciting start to their new topic on Space with a mysterious spaceship landing in the playground followed by a rocket launch! It was a joy to hear the excited cheers of the children.

We have also had success on the netball pitch, with Year 5 having a fantastic game against Devonshire House, putting their training into action and coming home with a win.

All classes learnt about International Women's Day on Tuesday, celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women and the importance of gender equality throughout the world. Year Four wondered about what their dream job would be when they grow up and Miss Williamson showed them examples of inspirational women at the top of each field, who the children then research about. Also linked to International Women's Day you will see in the bulletin that Fr Rudolf has prepared a fun quiz about famous female mathematicians.

Speaking of fun quizzes, I am very much looking forward to the Parents' Link Quiz next Friday (18th March), especially as it will be the first parent and staff social we have been able to host in a long while. Please see the link below to book your tickets – please hurry as tickets are only on sale until Tuesday:

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/saint-christinas/#.YitKCXrP2U>

On top of all the positive and enriching activities the children have been busy with this week I am most proud of how incredibly motivated the children have been to think of ways in which we can support the heart-breaking crisis in Ukraine. The school is supporting the CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal and every class has decided on a fundraising event that they will do to support. All the details are included further in the bulletin from Mr Burke and our charity prefects, Emily and Adriana.

I wish you all a healthy, safe and pleasant weekend,

Simon Hirst

Deputy Head

Year 2 Trip to the Florence Nightingale Museum

Year 2 had a fabulous trip to the Florence Nightingale Museum last Friday.

The children were engrossed by the wonderful story telling by the talented actor playing Miss Nightingale. The story and historical importance of Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole really came to life.

The children enjoyed learning about the history of medicine, were able to ask many questions, take part in some acting themselves and undertake workshop activities in the museum. It was an excellent day!

Mr Hirst / Miss McQuillan – Year 2 Class Teachers



Geography in Year 4

Our geography topic this term is about rainforests so we had a look at what the rainforest can provide for us - food!

We had a chance to try many things we hadn't had before like passionfruit, figs and grapefruit (some went down better than others!). We then thought about how these foods are used and what would happen if the rainforest was no longer there to provide them.

We then thought about the other things the rainforest provides like medicine and cosmetics products and did the same exercise to work out how important we thought these were to our lives. This also related to our science topic on climate change and helped us to understand further why protecting the rainforests is so vital.



Miss Williamson – Year 4 Class Teacher



Art in Reception

Reception have continued their learning about animals this week. We have been rescuing animals and creating some wonderful junk modelled animals and habitats!

On Thursday, Reception got to know their Year 6 buddies! They helped us to complete our art project - using chalk and pastels to turn ourselves into animals. We then choose our favourite stories for Year 6 to read with us. We are very excited to work with our new friends every week for lots of fun activities and stories!

Miss Higgins & Miss Nunes – Reception Class Teachers



Poetry in Year 6

Year 6 have continued to study their set book 'Macbeth'. During this week they were considering the impact of the language that Shakespeare uses and how they could further penetrate the characters of the main people in the play. They were inspired to write poetry, and were encouraged to create free verse where they felt confident.

Here are three of the poems that they created:

*Thane of Cawdor
King of Scotland
Father of kings
But none yourself*

*Moving trees,
Betrayal, murder
Born of woman
Means nothing to him*

*But yet he's small
And yet to grow tall
If he sees another day*

Isabella

*Three witches sitting in their den
all humbling and blabbering over their
cauldrons, bent*

The first witch cries "There is Macbeth"

*The second witch says "There is him killing
Duncan"*

"Oh what glee" the third witch cackled.

And all three witches cried out loud

*"Out with Macbeth and the mess he makes
For he will soon wake up dead!"*

Martina

NB: This poem does in fact rhyme, but told from the point of view of one of the witches, it gives you a window into how she might have been thinking!

*I may not have a cat and a black pointy hat
Some rude gents even called me fat
But I can give you a prophecy
And trust me, that's not something you'll want to see*

*But trust me, I'll stand there and laugh
While you get ripped in half
And I have two witchy friends
And they are always prepared to stab you with pens*

*Oh, and yes, I told Macbeth his doom
And just like that, kaboom!
Ten more people dead
All because being king got to his head.*

Millicent

I was really pleased that so many of the class had broken away from the 'if it is a poem it has to rhyme' mode of thinking!

Fr Rudolf – Year 6 Class Teacher

Book orders

If you ordered The Leaf Thief from our visiting author we apologise about the delay of receiving this book. Alice Hemming is still waiting to receive them and will deliver them as soon as they have arrived. If you would like to withdraw your order please get in touch with Mrs Ellisdon (lellisdon@saintchristinas.org.uk)

Ukraine Fundraising Appeal

As a result of the heart-breaking events that have been taking place in Ukraine, the school community would like to support the CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

As I am sure you are aware, the unfortunate situation in Ukraine continues to worsen and there has been a fantastic response from people all over the world to support the humanitarian effort that will be needed for a long period of time. As a school, we have decided to hold the following events to raise funds to support with the humanitarian effort:



Nursery will be taking part in a sponsored walk around the outer circle of Regents Park on **Monday 28th March**. This totals a distance of 5km and they will be doing activities and consuming some tasty snacks to keep energy levels up throughout!

Reception will be hosting a coffee morning / art exhibition for Reception parents in the school hall on **Tuesday 22nd March**. Parents will be given the opportunity to bid on a unique piece of art created by all of Reception as a part of a silent auction as well as taking part in a collaborative project with the children.

Year 1 will be taking part in a sponsored dance-a-thon on **Thursday 24th March**. It will be a two hours of non-stop dancing!

Year 2 will be showcasing their many talents in a sponsored talent show on **Thursday 24th March**.

Year 3 will be taking part in a sponsored times table test on **Monday 28th March 2022**. Fr Rudolf will be proud!

Year 4 love reading and writing, so they are holding a book sale that features original stories written by the class. There will also be handmade bookmarks and other small book themed gifts to purchase as well. They will be hosting their sale on **Wednesday 16th March** so please bring small change as each class will have a chance to browse and purchase anything that takes their fancy! **(Please ensure that money is in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it).**

Year 5 will be hosting a bring and buy sale for every class to visit on **Thursday 24th March**. There will be a mixture of handmade crafts and pre loved items such as board games and cuddly toys. Please bring along any small change on this day too! **(Please ensure that money is in a sealed envelope with your child's name on it).**

Year 6 will be taking part in a range of sponsored activities at home including reading and horse riding!

For classes that will be taking part in sponsored events, a sponsorship form will be in your child's folder this afternoon.

While we have been organising class fundraising activities, Felicity in Year 2 has taken the initiative to fundraise individually. We are so proud of her efforts and conducted the following interview with her:

What inspired you to fundraise?

We talked about it in school and I realised that raising money for Ukraine was a good cause. I went home and told my mum about how we were going to create art in our class to raise money and she said it would also be a good idea to do a sponsored walk. I might do this with my sister at the weekend.

What did you do to raise money?

I did drawings and then painted over the top to make it look abstract. I went around some houses on my street and asked for £1 or less but people knew that it was a good cause so some people gave me £5 or £10.

How much money did you raise?

I got £34 which I gave to Mr Burke for the charity.

We are inspired by your efforts Felicity. What a fantastic achievement!

We look forward to all of our wonderful fundraising events and we thank you so much for your wonderful support in advance. Any donations at any time would be greatly appreciated.

More information on the CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal can be found here:

<https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Ukraine-crisis>

Mr Burke, Emily and Adriana (Charity Prefects)

Mathematics at Saint Christina's

As you will all know, Tuesday 8th March is International Women's Day. I thought it might be interesting for you to try out this quiz, all about famous female mathematicians – although I am not sure that any of these people will star in the forthcoming Parents' Link Quiz Night!

1. *Who was the Ancient Greek mathematician who also did significant work on conic sections?*
2. *Who was (literally) the only girl at the time to study at the Ecole Polytechnique, towards the end of the 18th Century?*
3. *Who is regarded as being the world's first computer programmer?*
4. *Which Russian mathematician undertook significant work on the rings of Saturn?*
5. *Whom did Albert Einstein regard as 'the most significant mathematical genius thus far produced since the higher education of women began'?*
6. *What links Dorothy Vaughn and Katherine Johnson?*
7. *Who made the following quote: (NB: Not everyone will necessarily agree with it, but if you want to succeed in Mathematics then it might be worth considering!) 'Figuring out what you want comes from failing, and then trying again. It comes from questioning everything, falling in love, fighting the power, living without limits. It doesn't come from getting straight A's, playing by the rules, and listening obediently.'*
8. *Which Iranian mathematician won the Fields Medal (the most prestigious award in Mathematics) and was known to sometimes have quite original ways of showing her workings out?*
9. *Professor Jo Boaler hails from England and is a professor of what aspect of Mathematics at Stanford University?*
10. *Mae Carol Jemison is famous for many things – can you recall just what those things are?*
11. *Who was last year's president of the Mathematical Association of Great Britain?*

Fr Rudolf Loewenstein – Teacher in charge of Mathematics

Alien Invasion in Key Stage 1

In a shocking development, Key Stage 1 discovered that we had been visited by suspected aliens on Tuesday.

Mr Burke alerted the classes to the spaceship being in the playground before playtime and when both classes rushed downstairs to see it with their own eyes, the only thing that remained was, what appeared to be, a rocket!

Year 1 and 2 knew that they needed to investigate and set upon building their own rockets to try and reach the spaceship. Using plastic bottles, white vinegar, bicarbonate of soda and an array of other materials, they made their rockets and went out into the playground for blast off! Some rockets flew quite high, but not high enough to go into space. Both classes are going back to the drawing board to try and think of another way to get to into space.

More news when we have it.

Mr Burke – Head of KS1



PE Update

It was so lovely to resume our fixtures this week, with the Year 5 girls playing against Devonshire House to start us off. They played fantastically, winning their Devonshire House fixture!

The Year 3 and 4 Netball club are continuing to make promising progress and we enjoyed a very close match in last week's netball club. The children have been working on passing the ball powerfully from the sidelines and back line when the ball goes out of play. The group have also enjoyed working on their shooting skills, which has resulted in great improvements.



The Reception and Year 1 groups have continued to work through their ball skills unit with some excellent performances in football and netball. This week the focus has been on shooting and it has been lovely to see the children shooting with more power and greater accuracy.



The Year 2 classes have worked very well during their first couple of gymnastics sessions. This week the children explored different ways of travelling and were introduced to a variety of different jumps, which they then tried to perform on low and high pieces of apparatus with great success.



The Year 5 group have continued to impress during their tag rugby sessions. In their lesson last week we played a mini tournament before finishing with a 8 v 8 match which was played at a fast pace, and the whole class threw themselves into the match. The group demonstrated an excellent understanding of the game. There were some stand out performances from Cassidy for her brilliant diving try, and Sienna L, Audrey and Frida for some excellent running with the ball whilst avoiding being tackled.



This week the Key Stage 2 classes have had their first week of cross-country at Primrose Hill Park. The children were introduced to the course and we discussed pacing and saving some energy for a sprint to finish the race. The Year 3 and 4 classes completed a 1500m course and the Year 5 and 6 a 2000m course. There were some impressive performances during the practice week from Alex, Alice and Aoife (Year 3), Gina and Anna from Year 4, and Charlotte and Helen from Year 6.

During next weeks longer PE lesson the children will take part in the Inter House cross country competition where they will score points depending on which position they come, as well as scoring bonus points for improving their times. I look forward to updating you about this in next week's bulletin.





The Year 5 Netball team put in an excellent performance against Devonshire House. The A team produced an excellent performance and won 3-1. The children played brilliantly as a team and all players were awarded player of the game. The B team narrowly lost in a very close encounter with some excellent performances from Lottie in GK and Christina in GA who scored some excellent long-range shots. A full report from Christina and Sienna L will be in next week's bulletin.

Well done to all the Year 5 girls who participated and represented the school so well.



On Monday next week, we travel to Sarum Hall for a Year 5 and 6 football match, which I know the children are most looking forward to.

I have been so impressed by the children's efforts and determination so far this term and it was extremely difficult for me to pick only 7 children from each year group to represent the school.

Mr Raveney – Director of Sport

Free Music Concert

Our peripatetic string teacher, Mr Puzey, will be performing in a concert at 6.00pm on Saturday 12th March in St Michael's Church, Highgate.

It starts at 6.00pm, lasts about an hour and they will be playing music for clarinet, viola and piano by Max Bruch, Mozart, Louise Farrenc and Mendelssohn.

Please feel free to go along!

Saint Christina's School Covid Testing Summary

What to do if your child is unwell:

If your child is displaying any of the **three main covid symptoms**:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste – this means they have noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or that things smell or taste different to normal

You need to arrange for a **PCR test**.

If your child is unwell with symptoms other than those above, examples below:

- headache
- sore throat
- aches and pains
- runny nose

You should arrange for your child to have an **LFD test**. Please note that this is not an exhaustive list and we recommend that your child takes an LFD if they are unwell in any way.

Other times when we recommend that your child take a test:

- 1) **If your child has been identified as a close contact (for example if someone in their class has tested positive) – 7 days of LFDs (to be taken in the morning before coming to school).**

When to isolate

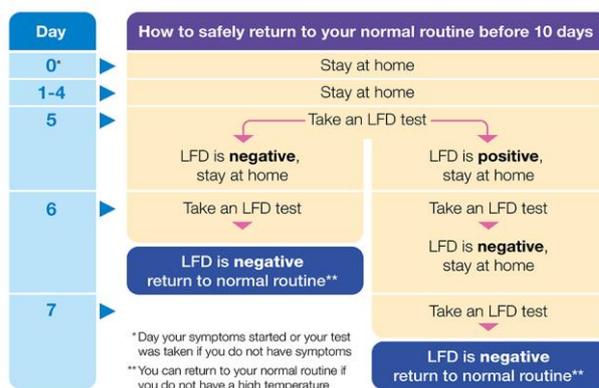
If your child has any or the three main symptoms listed above, they must isolate pending the result of their PCR.

If your child tests positive on an LFD or PCR then they must follow government guidelines and isolate for up to ten days.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Please note confirmatory PCRs are not required following a positive LFD.

The ten day isolation period can be reduced following two negative LFDs taken on day 5 and the morning of day 6 (the tests must be 24 hours apart). Until such a time that 2 negative LFD tests have been taken 24 hours apart from each other (the first on the morning of the 5th day) your child must continue to isolate for up to ten days.



Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 14 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Week • Pi Day • Year 5 & 6 Football Fixture – away game
Wednesday 16 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 4 Charity Book Sale for CAFOD Appeal
Thursday 17 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prospective Parents Open Morning
Friday 18 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Workshops • Year 6 Mass • Parents' Link Quiz Night – PM
W/C Monday 21 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parent/Teacher Meetings via Google Classroom– further details to follow
Monday 21 st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Head from St Mary's Ascot visiting
Tuesday 22 nd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coffee Morning / Art Exhibition for Reception parents in the School Hall – timings TBC
Thursday 24 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 2 Sponsored Talent Show for CAFOD Appeal • Year 5 Bring and Buy Sale for CAFOD Appeal
Friday 25 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 Mass • Mini Movie Night for EYFS – TBC • Deadline to bring non-perishable food into school for Fr Terry's Food Bank
Monday 28 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery Sponsored Walk for CAFOD Appeal • Year 3 Sponsored Times Table Test for CAFOD Appeal
Tuesday 29 th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Passion Play Performance to Year 6 parents – 11.00am • School closes for Easter Holiday – Please see collection timings below: <p style="text-align: center;">11.50 – Year 6 Class</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12:00 – Nursery & Reception Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12.10 – Year 1 to Year 3 Classes</p> <p style="text-align: center;">12.15 – Year 4 and Year 5</p>
Tuesday 19 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff INSET
Wednesday 20th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children return – Children to wear Summer Uniform
Thursday 21 st April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 & 4 Residential Trip Meeting for Parents via Zoom – 4.00pm
Friday 22 nd April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole School Mass led by Staff

Monday 25 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs begin • Year 5 & 6 Football Fixture – away game
Tuesday 26 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TFL Safety and Citizenship Presentation to Year 6
Wednesday 27 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete visit
Wednesday 27 th & Thursday 28 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Junior Mathematics Challenge
Friday 29 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass led by Year 6
Monday 2 nd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED
Tuesday 3 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Photographs – AM • Year 5 & 6 Residential Trip Meeting for parents via Zoom via 4.00pm
Friday 6 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass led by Year 2
Monday 9 th to Wednesday 11 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 3 & 4 Residential Trip
Wednesday 11 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 5 & 6 Debate competition – 4pm-7pm • Year 5 & 6 Cricket Fixture – away game
Friday 13 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass led by Year 5
Wednesday 18 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Saint Rafaela Feast Day • Year 5 & 6 Cricket Fixture – away game
Friday 20 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Holy Communion – Year 3
W/C Monday 23 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 5 & 6 Residential Trip to Buxton
Friday 27 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 5 & 6 return • Joan of Arc House Mass led by Year 3 & 4 • SCHOOL CLOSES FOR THE HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Monday 6 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pupils and Staff return • Year 6 Cycle Training – all week
Wednesday 8 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Cricket Fixture – away game
Friday 10 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mass led by Year 4
Friday 17 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EYFS & KS1 Sports Day – AM TBC
Friday 24 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KS2 Sports Day – PM TBC
Monday 27 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Cricket Fixture – away game
Wednesday 29 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 5 Cricket Fixture – away game

Friday 1 st July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buddies Mass led by Year 6 & Reception
Monday 4 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Class Change Over
Thursday 7 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prize Giving – KS2
Friday 8 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 6 Leavers' Mass • SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAY – timings TBC
Autumn Term 2022	
Thursday 1 st & Friday 2 nd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff INSET
MONDAY 5th SEPTEMBER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PUPILS RETURN

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

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