



Saint Christina's School Bulletin

Friday 27th November 2020

Dear Parents,

It's beginning to happen! It's creeping in! As I go around the School, tinsel is beginning to feature and the signal that Christmas is on the way has been sounded. The children have been working hard and we have seen some really stunning examples of outstanding achievement. We have been contacted by Poetry Together because of the overarching quality of the work that the staff have done with children right through the School with their recitations. I have also had the opportunity to give out a huge number of Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates for members of Key Stage 2 who have done well in the Primary Mathematics Challenge.

In addition to this, the children have achieved fantastic results in the Oxford University Bebras Coding Challenge that they have been entered into. We are delighted that so many children achieved merits and distinctions and that some of them will be invited to take part in the second round of the competition which, traditionally, puts them in a position where they might win the opportunity to visit the university for a third component. In the new year, we are looking forward to entering the girls into the UKMT Junior and Intermediate Maths Challenges. To give you an idea of what this means, the Junior Challenge is aimed at 7-14 year olds and the Intermediate 14-16 year olds. We are nothing if not ambitious, and it is a reflection of the level that the staff are getting the children to perform at, that we are able to do this.

This week we got a very rare letter from the Public Health people in the Borough who wanted to write to all schools and ask that we forward their letter to parents. As I understand it, there is a real problem with the virus within a number of schools and a strong sense amongst those in policy making roles, that some of that transmission is at the School gates. The premise is simple: the children are in bubbles but parents are not. The children want to play with each other and chase each other and parents want to speak, catch up and perhaps organise play dates etc. However, whilst children are in bubbles, parents are not and may in their own daily lives be infected. It has happened here. In addition, we have, as a School, had a reminder that we need to ask parents to maintain a safe spacing on the pavement. This particularly relates to the area around the main entrance. So I would urge you again, please will you help us by spacing out and not crowding around a particular point and particularly the entrance. May I also say just for now please don't bring food to share with others at the School gate. I understand that birthdays should be celebrated and I am as impatient as you to get past this period of tighter restrictions and lockdowns, but we need to hold tight for just a little longer and we do need to stay out of scrutiny by the authorities.

I really do appreciate your support in this matter and thank all of our School celebs for so wonderfully demonstrating their acting skills around the 'Hands', 'Face', 'Space' mantra.

God bless and have a great weekend.

Alastair Gloag
Headteacher

In Spanish lessons this week...

Nursery have started to learn colours in Spanish. It would be lovely if you could play these songs at home and ask your children find the colours around the house. They love these songs!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XpZv9i_0Q0g <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ujKFflscPew&safe=true>

In Reception we have a big challenge learning lots of body parts! If you play this song at home, children can try to repeat key words! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOg6y-Q59eM&safe=true>

In Year 3 we have been making chatter boxes to practise the questions ¿qué tal?/¿cómo estás? Inside, the girls had to draw emojis and write the feelings in Spanish. It would be fantastic if they could design a new chatter box at home and decorate it. If they need help with the vocabulary, they can listen to this song https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=So_YOBPseqU&safe=true

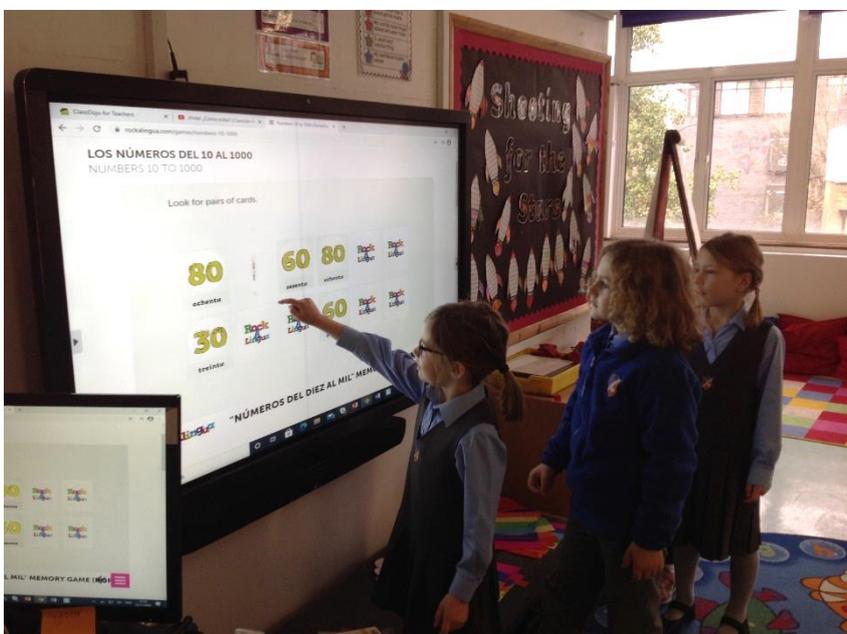
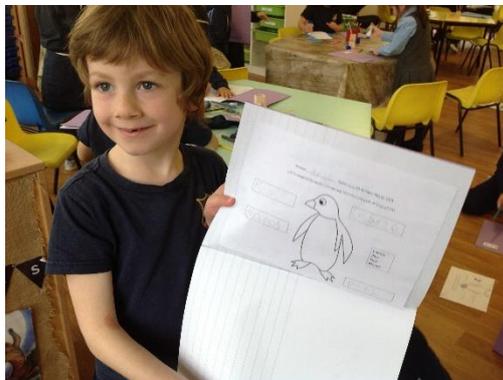
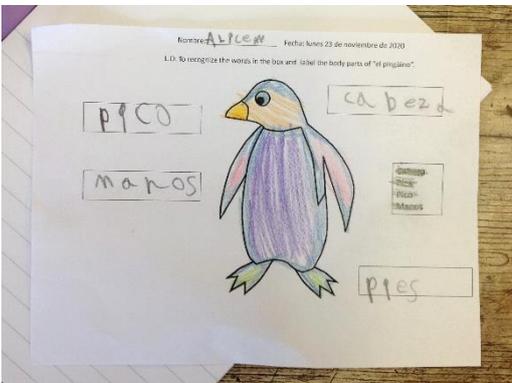
In Year 4 we have been making sentences about "animales en mi jardín". It would be wonderful if the girls could design a poster about their gardens or their favourite park and write about the animals you can see there!

In Year 2 we have been learning big numbers in Spanish! We have been counting in tens up to 100 and we even had a go at counting un hundreds up to 1000! Sing the big numbers at home using this link! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjD5gson8Eo&safe=true>

There was a birthday in Year 1, so we sang "cumpleaños feliz". Did you know that in Spain, when it is your birthday, you have your ears pulled as many times as years old you are! After singing happy birthday we practise the body parts and wrote some on our "pingüino"

We have all been learning some of the lyrics for "mi burrito sabanero", a Christmas. Here is the link so that you can practise it at home! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ogJSyom8pO8&safe=true>

Senora Tola Rego – Spanish Teacher



Key Stage 2 Digital Solo Concert 2020

The Music Department are very pleased to announce our first (recorded) event of this year - our Key Stage 2 Digital Solo Concert!

Pupils in Years 3-6 who take instrumental/vocal lessons at school have been working incredibly hard this term and these recordings beautifully capture a 'moment in time' of their learning so far.

The Digital Concert is available now on Google Classroom - please log into the Google Classroom using your Key Stage 2 child's login details.

You will find the concert available under the heading: **KS2 Digital Solo Concert 2020** - it is quite a large video file, so please allow time for it to load!

I hope you enjoy watching and listening!

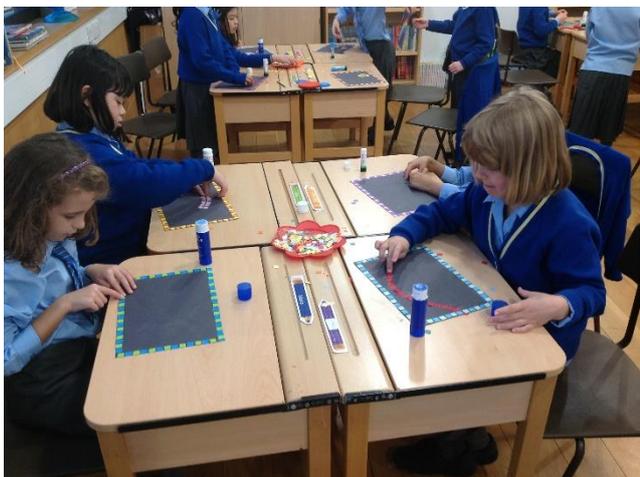
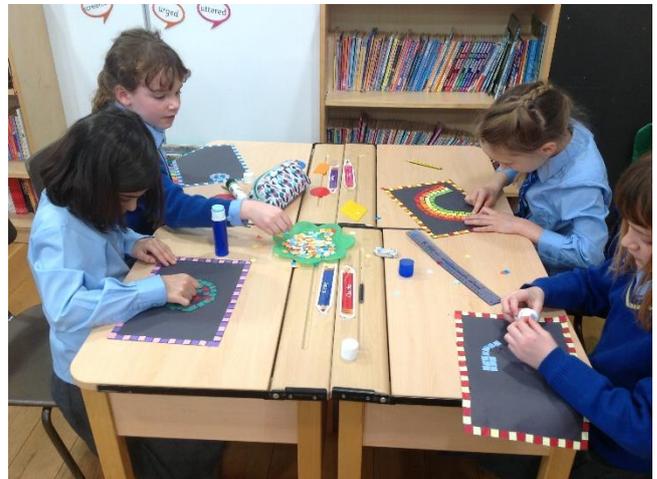
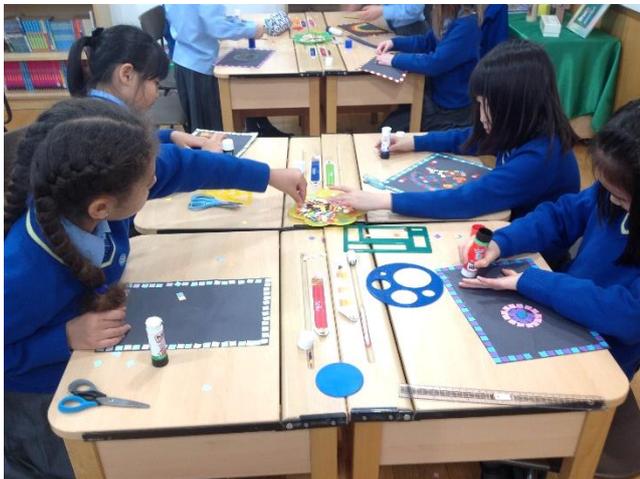


Mr Rhodes – Director of Music

Year 3 Art

In their Art lessons, Year 3 have been learning all about Roman mosaics. They found out that wealthy Romans decorated the floors of the main rooms in their houses with mosaics which were made up of tiny coloured stones. They are now designing and making their own mosaics using small coloured paper squares.

Ms Sephton – Year 3 Teacher



Year 5 Mass

Last Friday, the children all dressed in their own clothes for Friendship Friday and donated money to the Kidscape Anti-Bullying Charity. Thank you so much for your donations. To celebrate Friendship Friday, the Year 5 girls presented a beautiful class Mass about Friendship. They asked the children in Years 1-6 to create a friendship chain with their names on.

The Year 5 girls joined it together to make one big friendship chain, representing our friendship as a community across year groups. Thank you very much to Ms Fernandes for leading the girls with this Mass.

Mrs Ellisdon – Year 5 Class Teacher



Learning in Year 1

Year 1 have been very busy this week! We have been practising our nativity on the school stage. We have been searching for similarities and differences with our classmates and learning about how we are all special in different ways. We have been continuing to learn about penguins and their habitats, even making our own penguins!

As we started learning about Advent and how we prepare for Christmas, we have been thinking about how Mary might have felt at this time.

Miss Higgins – Year 1 Class Teacher



Be a rainbow in someone else's cloud!

Last week was Anti-Bullying Week and the Year 2 children looked specifically at kindness and positivity.

Every day for the week the children received a slip of paper which had one of their peer's names on it. They wrote something kind about their peer and at the end of the week the children all received 6 kindness strips. This put a smile on everyone's face and they loved creating our rainbow clouds with the idea that if someone is feeling upset or down, we can all be a rainbow in someone else's cloud.

Miss McQuillan – Year 2 Class Teacher



A Digital Christmas at Saint Christina's

We wouldn't be properly celebrating the season of Advent and the run-up to Christmas if we didn't have the opportunity to enjoy a fantastic array of musical Christmas celebrations here at Saint Christina's! To that end, and with adherence to current guidelines, we are pressing ahead with rehearsals and preparations for our annual Key Stage 2 Carol Service, our Year 1 and Year 2 Christmas Plays, and of course our Early Years Christmas Nativity.

Each performance will be recorded during the school day, before being released onto your children's Google Classrooms for you all to enjoy at the end of this term. Whilst we are currently unable to see the Hall and Chapel bustling with festive cheer and appreciative audiences, we hope to share the joy of the season through this digital format. I am incredibly proud of the children and the energy and enthusiasm with which they have been learning their lines and songs, all the while keeping that festive spirit alive throughout our school community.

I look forward to being able to share all of these wonderful musical events and performances with you!

Mr Rhodes – Director of Music



Saint Christina's Charity Cook Book

The Saint Christina's charity cookbook is on sale now and we're delighted to be donating all profits from the sale of the book and accompanying merchandise to Magic Breakfast - a charity providing healthy school breakfasts to children at risk of hunger in disadvantaged areas of the UK. <https://www.magicbreakfast.com/>

Books, priced at £12 and containing nearly 50 recipes & pictures contributed by the school community can be purchased via the PTA website at: <https://bit.ly/2JjLUtO>

Also for sale are school branded children's and adult aprons and spatulas engraved with 'I'm a St Christina's Cooking Whizz!' Stocks are limited so early purchase is recommended!

Thank you for your support. The PL Committee

Friendship Friday

Last Friday, we had a non-uniform day to raise money for Kidscape Anti-Bullying Charity. Due to your fantastic support we raised a grand total of £227.95! Thank you for your generosity.



Key Dates

Date	Event
Tuesday 1 st December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Virtual Open Morning for Prospective Parents
Thursday 3 rd December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 6 ISEB Exams in school
Friday 4 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 6 ISEB Exams in school
Thursday 10 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Last day of after school clubsChristmas Lunch and Class Parties – Children may wear a Christmas Jumper to school.
Friday 11 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">SCHOOL CLOSSES AT 12 NOON FOR THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
Tuesday 15 th December	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 6 Mock Exams
Monday 4 th January 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Staff INSET
Tuesday 5 th January	<ul style="list-style-type: none">CHILDREN RETURN