



# Saint Christina's School Bulletin

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents,

This has been a lovely week in school and, as ever, the children have been really busy with all sorts of different activities and ventures. The general improvement in the weather has been a welcome addition to the overall experience and enabled more things to happen outside, including the class photos that were taken on Tuesday.

I am delighted to see a growing number of children taking on the Rubik Challenge and, word is, I may have a few who are close to achieving the solution in less than a minute, which is really impressive. Keep going on this – and if you have not yet taken on the challenge with your child, please dust off the solution that we circulated (it's pretty child friendly down to Year 2), get a cube and go for it. It's really good brain gym and good for developing a pattern of thinking that will only be an asset to your child, whilst being a good lesson around, "yes you can, if you put your mind to it!"

We are very excited for Year 3 and 4 who will go on their first residential trip next week. For some this will be their first time away from home, so it's a big step for them personally whilst being a wonderful opportunity to swing, climb, race, and generally do lots of things that look really fun that should have been on the curriculum when I was at school!

The road development seems to have paused again. There will be new markings in due course. These should establish a keep clear zone outside the front of the school. The build is getting quite exciting to look at. We think we will have the hand-over mid-June (was scheduled for late May but glass is in short supply, we understand) and will be looking forward to moving in ready for September. We do have a phase 2 which you will remember, would see the ground floor reorganised and which would upgrade the Reception area and the Hall, but costs have spiralled and we have taken the decision to hold fire on this phase until we can better see whether this is temporary or not and whilst we settle into our splendid new accommodation.

It has been lovely to hear the rehearsals for the School Production gain some momentum. The singing is already very impressive and I have no doubt that we are going to enjoy a really good performance of Matilda in late June. We are also looking forward to our celebration of First Holy Communion, for those Year 3 pupils who have gone forward for this. The celebration will be in two weeks and is a very significant milestone in their lives.

It remains a privilege to be part of a school and community that is so kind and joyful. I hope that you feel it too and that you all have a very pleasant weekend in the sun and fresh air.

Alastair Gloag  
**Headteacher**



## Year 3 and 4 Residential – Reminders for Parents

The children in Years 3 and 4 are looking forward to going on their residential trip next week.

Please arrive at school at normal time (8.40/8.50am) to the school hall on Monday morning. If your child usually gets the school bus, please liaise with the bus driver to ensure that there is space on the bus for their suitcase.

This is a reminder that they will need to bring a packed lunch on Monday. Please make sure that there are no nuts within the lunch and please pack it in a disposable bag that can be placed in their ruck-sac until they need it.

It looks as though the weather will be nice next week but please remember to pack plenty of layers just in case it changes!

If your child needs any medication during their time away, please remember to put it into a zip-lock plastic bag clearly labelled with your child's name with a clear set of instructions. This must be handed to Mr Artur first thing on Monday morning.

We are expected to return at 3.30pm on Wednesday. Ms Sephton will keep in touch with the school Office with an exact eta depending on traffic. If your child takes the school bus home, it would be best for you to arrange to collect them because we cannot guarantee that they will be back in time for the departure of the school bus. If your child has a club, they are very welcome to attend and you can collect them at 4.15pm, as normal.

## News from Year 6 – Karile's Baptism

Last week, on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April, Karile was baptised at the school Mass. The whole class prepared readings, prayers and hymns for this very special occasion and participated with great enthusiasm.

We were all delighted that Karile was not only baptised but was able to receive her First Holy Communion at the same time. It was great that the whole school was able to join this celebration, and we were very grateful to Sr Noella for all of her suggestions and advice concerning the Mass.

Fr Rudolf Loewenstein OP – Class teacher and celebrant



## Year 3 English

Year 3 have been busy learning all about writing formal and informal letters in English lessons over the last couple of weeks. They really enjoyed choosing a relative or friend to send an informal letter to and told them all about what they have been up to and what they are looking forward to this month. They addressed the envelopes and have now posted them. They are eagerly anticipating some replies!

Ms Sephton – Year 3 Class Teacher

Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup>  
May 2022

Dear Seb,

What have you been up to? We couldn't see each other as often as we used to because you moved to West Essex. Did you enjoy your Easter Holiday? We missed you!

We didn't get to talk to each other very much because weekends have been packed like Gerkins in a bottle over here! At the moment I'm reading 'The day I fell into a Fairytale' by Ben Miller which I keep forgetting at home so I have nothing to read at school! I've already read 'Murder most Unladylike' by Robin Stevens, 'Emil and the Detectives' by Erich Kästner, 'The Adventurers and the Cursed Castle' by Jemma Hatt and much more. During the Easter Holidays, I went skiing and I got the First Star Medal. After that I went to Paris to be a Tourist. We visited the Chateau

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

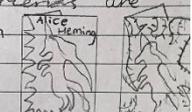
Dear Mr. Jack and Ms. Susan

How was your Easter holidays? I hope you are well. It was so nice of you to give us some of those Telly babies. Do you think we could meet up on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> May at Violet Hill? I hope in a couple of days we could make some cookies for you.

I have been reading the 'Dankiest Unicorn' book. I have also been watching 'Big Hero 6' the series. For the Easter Holiday I went to a tulip field it had a maze and it had a playground! I went to Turkey and Amsterdam. Turkey had lots of cats and I found one tiny baby kitten. Amsterdam is where I went to my dad's friend's house he was portugese his name was Tingo. He had a daughter called Sofia and a cat called Talia.

I am looking forward to my PGL class trip, I am also looking forward to my friend Seb giving me a book to borrow. I am also happy to say that on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May my friends are going to be receiving Holy Communion.

Write back soon from Layla



## The Stone Age in Year 2

Year 2's History topic for this term is the Stone Age, Bronze Age and Iron Age. They have been learning all about the Stone Age so far, becoming historians by looking at the Stone Age on the timeline and becoming archaeologists by exploring various Stone Age items such as fishing hooks, spears and jewellery.

This week, Year 2 learnt about the Stone Age diet. They became hunter-gathers themselves by hunting using 'spears' to catch animals such as giant elks, mammoths and woolly rhinos and they gathered cones which acted as foods such as berries, mushrooms and nuts. They had to be very careful not to eat the poisonous food. The children were shocked that the Stone Age people ate almost every part of the animal including the feet and brain and that people still eat these today!

Miss McQuillan – Year 2 Class Teacher



## Matilda, The Musical!

We are very excited about the start of rehearsals for our summer production, Matilda, The Musical!

Our Year 6 girls are busy learning lines, music and choreography.

I strongly believe that music is about collaboration and performance. With that in mind, this year the Orchestra, Year 5 Ukuleles and the String Ensemble will accompany singers during the show. The Junior Choir will vocally support Year 6 on certain musical numbers.



We cannot wait to show the KS2 parents our performance in June!

Mr Russell – Director of Music



## Year 5 Debating

Year 5 are reading Pig Heart Boy in class and this week we have been discussing the following questions:

*Should animals be used for medical research?*

*Should animals be used for human benefit?*

The girls worked in small groups to come up with many reasons for and against this notion. The class was then split into two groups to debate. Here are a few of the ideas that came up in the debate:

Yes
Human life has greater intrinsic value than animal life
Legislation protects all lab animals from cruelty or mistreatment
Millions of animals are killed for food every year - if anything, medical research is a more worthy death
Few animals feel any pain as they are killed before they have the chance to suffer

No
Animals have as much right to life as human beings
Strict controls have not prevented researchers from abusing animals - although such instances are rare
Deaths through research are absolutely unnecessary
When locked up they suffer tremendous stress. Can we know they don't feel pain?



I was very impressed with the girls' mature approach to the topic and to the debate.

Mrs Ellisdon – Year 5 Class Teacher

### Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 6 Cricket Fixture – home game</li> </ul>
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 3 &amp; 4 Residential Trip</li> </ul>

Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 5 Debate Competition at South Hampstead High School– 4pm-7pm</li> </ul>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>'Come Dine with Me' experience for auction winners</li> </ul>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mass led by Year 5</li> </ul>
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stay and Play for Nursery children and parents – 9.15am – 10.00am</li> </ul>
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Saint Rafaela Feast Day</li> <li>Year 5 &amp; 6 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupil to be 'Headteacher for the Day' (Quiz Night Auction Winner)</li> </ul>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First Holy Communion – Year 3</li> </ul>
W/C Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 5 &amp; 6 Residential Trip to Buxton</li> </ul>
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 5 &amp; 6 return</li> <li>Joan of Arc House Mass led by Year 3 &amp; 4</li> <li>SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR THE HALF TERM HOLIDAY</li> </ul>
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pupils and Staff return</li> <li>Year 6 Cycle Training – all week</li> </ul>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Story Sharing Session for Nursery children and parents – 9.15-10.00am</li> </ul>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 5/6 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mass led by Year 4</li> </ul>
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jubilee Celebrations – children may wear red, white &amp; blue clothing to School</li> </ul>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EYFS &amp; KS1 Sports Day – AM</li> <li>Mass led by Year 1</li> </ul>
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 5 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS2 Sports Day – PM</li> <li>NO MASS</li> </ul>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 6 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS2 Production for Year 3 &amp; 4 Parents – details to follow</li> </ul>
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS2 Production for Year 5 &amp; 6 Parents – details to follow</li> </ul>
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buddies Mass led by Year 6 &amp; Reception</li> </ul>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Class Change Over</li> <li>Year 6 Cricket Tournament – away game</li> </ul>

Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prize Giving – KS2</li> </ul>
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 6 Leavers' Mass</li> <li>• SCHOOL CLOSURES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAY – timings TBC</li> </ul>
<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff INSET</li> </ul>
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff INSET</li> <li>• Teacher/Parents Meetings – AM TBC</li> </ul>
<b>MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PUPILS RETURN – Children may wear summer uniform</b></li> </ul>

**ABOVE 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/>