



# Saint Christina's School Bulletin

## Easter Bulletin 2022

Dear Parents,

We have finally made it to the end of the term and as you have received my end of term letter separately to the bulletin, I will spare you a long missive here.

Suffice to say, the community we have here is very special. The staff have worked so very hard this term and the children are thriving. It has been a pleasure to read through the reports of all the children and to see the progress that they are making.

Thank you, once again, for all your support and for the daily kind words that you share with us. We hope that you have a very pleasant Easter and look forward to seeing you back in School on 20<sup>th</sup> April.

Alastair Gloag  
**Headteacher**

### **HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND A HOLY EASTER**

All the Sisters, Sr Margaret, Noella , Anne and Jo would like to wish our staff, parents and students, a happy Easter holiday.

We hope that it will be restful and enjoyable. We will also be remembering you in our prayers at the very special time of Easter when we celebrate how much God loves us.

We will miss you all but look forward to seeing you before too long. Blessings.

### **United Kingdom Linguistics Olympiad**

Every year, children in Years 4 to 6 participate in the annual United Kingdom Linguistics Olympiad.

Awards are given to the top 33% of children participating – this year, 26 out of the 46 children from Saint Christina's gained awards, a stunning 57% of our children!

The three languages where our girls tried their linguistic skills were Swedish, Buhid and Italian.

17 of our children gained Bronze awards, and 9 of our children gained Silver awards.

We are very proud of how well our girls performed!

Fr Rudolf – Organiser of UKLO at Saint Christina's

## Year 6 Class Mass

On Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March, Year 6 presented the Mass on the theme of St Joseph, whose feast was actually held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> March.

They read, sang, acted and played well. The St Joseph hymn, which Sr Noella had found for us, was sung beautifully. They were accompanied really well by Charlotte, who had transposed the music herself so that she could play it on the cello; they all acted the Gospel very convincingly, and I am sure that the children watching it got a much better picture of what was happening as a result.

I am very pleased with the girls for working so hard at their Class Mass!

Fr Rudolf – Year 6 Class Teacher and celebrating priest.



## Rubik's Cube Challenge

Georgia in Year 6 took on Mr Gloag's Rubik's cube challenge and taught herself how to solve the Rubik's cube during the lockdowns. She is able to solve it in less than a minute and has now been challenged by Mr Gloag to teach some of the children in Y3 how to solve it.

Georgia had her first session with the children on Monday, where she taught them the algorithm that they will need in order to solve it.

### Algorithm to solve Rubik's Cube

1. R: Rotate the right layer clockwise.
2. R': Rotate the right layer anti-clockwise.
3. L: Rotate the left layer clockwise.
4. L': Rotate the left layer anti-clockwise.
5. U: Rotate the top layer clockwise.
6. U': Rotate the top layer anti-clockwise.
7. F: Rotate the front layer clockwise.



Over the next few weeks this group of children will work together to learn how to solve the Rubik's cube. We can't wait to see how they get on!

Mrs Ellisdon – Head of KS2

## Mathematics at Saint Christina's

### Good News!

Earlier on this term, Lilly qualified to take part in the Primary Mathematics Challenge Bonus Round, along with just under 2,000 other children in the country. She did very well, receiving a Gold award, which placed her among the top 400 primary children in the country. All of her hard work is certainly paying off!

### Brain Corner

Not everyone may yet be aware of it, but there is now a 'Brain Corner' on the top corridor, where a maths challenge or puzzle is posted every few weeks. The first puzzle invited children to work out the combination to a safe, with the quickest safe crackers turning out to be Hugo and Juliana, both in Year 3. Other safe crackers included Alexander, Edda, Layla, Seb, Han Ya and Sophie – all from Year 3!

Next term there will be a new puzzle on the board – will Year 3 remain the puzzle solving champions, or is another class going to beat them to it?

### World Mathematics Day

This year, Saint Christina's took part in World Mathematics Day (Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> March) by registering for a free trial on Mathletics. The children then participated in a number of different mathematics challenges, races and games, sometimes competing against children in countries as distant as South Africa, India and Australia. Questions also ranged from the simplest (what is  $2 + 1$ ?) up to volume calculations and other related problems. The event did a lot for the children's arithmetic practice and pretty well everyone participating enjoyed themselves.

Fr Rudolf Loewenstein – Teacher in charge of Mathematics

### Reception Coffee Morning & Art Exhibition

Reception would like to thank everyone for the wonderful support we received for our fundraiser this week. It was very exciting to finally be able to welcome parents and carers into our school and to show off some of the projects we have been working on!

We were proud to display portraits and clay animals completed with our Year 6 buddies. We challenged parents to guess which animals we drew using our clues and made some wonderful foil animal sculptures! Congratulations to the two winners of our silent auction - the Tisseau family and the Dargham family - who will each receive one of the collages made by Reception!



We thank everyone for their generosity and are delighted to announce that we raised a grand total of £380 to support the CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal!

Miss Higgins & Miss Nunes – Reception Class Teachers





## Year 5 Fundraiser

The children in Year 5 really enjoyed organising their fundraising event to raise money for Ukraine. They collected a number of items from home including books, games, coats and hair bands all of which were in good condition. They also hand crafted a lot of Easter decorations, jewellery and artwork.

Each class had the opportunity to visit the Year 5 sale, and the Year 5 children were brilliant hosts. They helped the younger children to count their money and even helped children choose things for their younger siblings. We were delighted to raise a whopping £690 as a class! Thank you so much to everyone for your donations and support.

Mrs Ellidson – Year 5 Class Teacher





## Ukraine Fundraising Appeal

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported our CAFOD Ukraine Humanitarian fundraising appeal so far.

It has been fantastic to be able to visit each class during their fundraising events. In the past two weeks, Year 4 and 5 have both turned their classrooms into exciting shops full of self-authored books, toys, bracelets and everything else we could have dreamt of!

Reception hosted an awesome art fair showcasing their wonderful work. Year 1 danced the afternoon away and Year 2 put on a spectacular talent show.

Not only that, but we have been inspired by several individual fundraising events taking place outside of school, including the homemade packaging and selling of sweets, and a sponsored ballet performance!



**The total amount raised is an amazing  
£5,222!**

Not only that, but this term we have collected 150kg for Fr Terry's Food Bank.

We cannot thank you enough for your support. Everything you do to support these causes will make a huge difference.

Mr Burke – Head of KS1

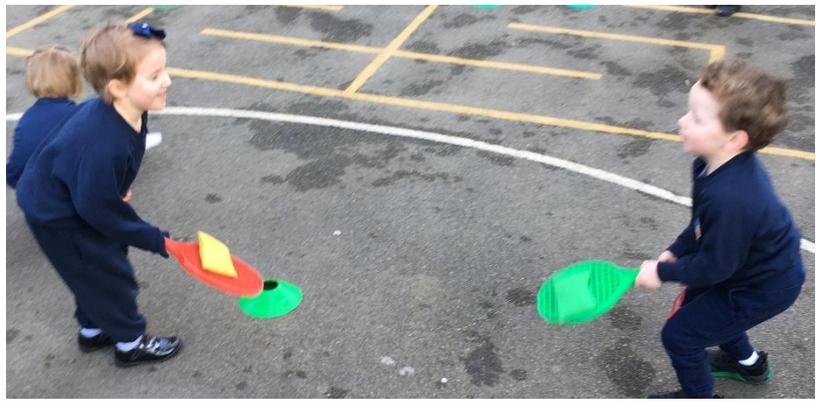
## PE Update

It has been another busy week with some fantastic sporting efforts. The Year 3 class completed their inter house cross-country and more details about the results can be found below.

The Year 4 team thoroughly enjoyed their netball tournament hosted by Pembridge Hall and performed brilliantly throughout the afternoon.

Year 5 and 6 combined on Thursday to enjoy their double PE lesson, where they played a mini football tournament. It has been so lovely to see them progress this term offsite, and I am looking forward to continuing to see football grow throughout the school in the coming years.

The younger classes have enjoyed working on a variety of co-ordination and spatial awareness activities this week to consolidate the skills they have been introduced to this term. The children tried to complete a variety of tasks involving bean bags, hoops, balls and tennis rackets. It has been lovely to see how they have developed their aiming, throwing and catching skills over the last term.



I am excited to inform you that we have a top athlete visiting Saint Christina's on Wednesday 27th April. The athlete will be coming into school for the afternoon and delivering some fitness sessions with each class, aimed at inspiring and encouraging children to become more active. The athlete will then lead a whole school assembly and answer any questions the children may have. The children will be bringing home sponsorship forms this week, and there is also an option to fundraise online by visiting: [www.sportsforschools.org](http://www.sportsforschools.org) and clicking on the button "Set up a Fundraiser Page". A large proportion of the money raised will be used to contribute towards sports equipment and resources for the school.

The Key Stage 2 Inter House cross-country this year has been extremely competitive. The classes have had some very close and excellent races. It is not only the children who have won the races who should be proud, but those who have shown great determination and resilience to complete the challenging course. The pupils have worked extremely hard and it has been pleasing to see the number of pupils who improved on their time from the previous week, which resulted in additional bonus points for their houses. The overall results from the competition can be seen below. Well done to St Cecilia house who were the overall Inter House Cross-country winners.



## Overall KS2 Inter House Cross Country Results

Year/House	St Francis	St Cecilia	St Joan of Arc
Year 6	91	43	51
Year 4	65	99	96
Year 5	33	65	65
Year 3	111	123	61
	St Francis	St Cecilia	St Joan of Arc
Totals	<b>300</b>	<b>330</b>	<b>273</b>
	2nd	1st	3rd

Year	Winner/s	House
Year 3	Alice (7.09) Alex (7.44)	St Francis
Year 4	Anna (7.28)	St Francis
Year 5	Amelia (11.15)	St Joan of Arc
Year 6	Charlotte (9.42)	St Joan of Arc

## Inter House Cross Country Race Winners



## Inter House Cross Country Most Improved Time

Year	Most improved time	House
Year 3	Sebastian	St Cecilia
Year 4	Tilly Rose	St Francis
Year 5	Alice	St Cecilia
Year 6	Karile	St Joan of Arc



On Wednesday last week the Year 4 netball team enjoyed a fantastic netball tournament, playing 6 games during the afternoon. The sun was shining and the girls worked fantastically throughout. They played some excellent netball during their group games, winning their first two matches against Pembridge Hall and Francis Holland, before narrowly losing their next two matches. They had two more very close games and lost both by a single goal, which resulted in the team finishing in 8th place.

A special mention must go to Allegra for some brilliant shooting during the afternoon. Well done to the whole team; Alice, Anna, Amara, Rio, Sophia, Marta, Allegra, Eloise, and Gina, for representing the school so well. I could not be prouder of the team's effort and commitment throughout the afternoon. For future events we spoke about being a little more aggressive when trying to grab the ball, and talked about making it as hard as possible for the opposition to score by stretching to block the shooters. A huge thank you must go to Ms Anita for her help during the afternoon.

Mr Raveney – Director of Sport



## Mathematics in the World around Us

So much of what we learn about Mathematics seems (once we are grown up, that is!) to be obvious, but that doesn't mean to say that everything is as obvious to children as it is to us.

With that in mind, I'd like to write a short quiz for the newsletter which you could try out on your children. It's not written with the aim of catching anyone out, but rather to bring to mind the fact that units of measure are important...ask any scientist about this...!

And for any incorrect or glaringly 'I don't know' answers, at least it will provide you with a chance to discuss the whys and wherefore of units:

1. In what units would you measure the capacity of a can of drink?
2. Roughly how long is your average car? A bus?
3. How long would it take to walk to school? Cycle to school?
4. How much does a packet of biscuits weigh?
5. How much does your dog/cat/guinea pig/gerbil/canary weigh?
6. How far is it from your house/flat to school/church/the tube station?

For those of you who have more curious children, you might like to have them investigate any of the following:

1. How many sausages would you need to stretch from home to school?
2. How many pencils would equal the height of the Shard?
3. How old would you be if you were one million minutes old?
4. How many pieces of bread would you eat during a year/ your lifetime?
5. How many peas are in a packet of frozen peas? (Can you find any short cuts for working this out?)
6. How fast do you run? Does this change for long distance running?
7. How much coffee/tea/fizzy drinks/water do you drink in a day/week/year?

As you can see from the above, this is just one area where Maths plays more of a part than you'd have thought...

Fr Rudolf – Teacher in charge of Mathematics

## Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff INSET</li></ul>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Children return – Children to wear Summer Uniform</b></li></ul>
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 3 &amp; 4 Residential Trip Meeting for Parents via Zoom – 4.00pm</li></ul>
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Whole School Mass led by Staff</li></ul>
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clubs begin</li><li>• Year 5 &amp; 6 Football Fixture – away game</li></ul>
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• TFL Safety and Citizenship Presentation to Year 6</li></ul>

Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athlete visit</li> </ul>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junior Mathematics Challenge</li> </ul>
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass led by Year 6</li> </ul>
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BANK HOLIDAY – SCHOOL CLOSED</li> </ul>
Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Class Photographs – AM</li> <li>• Year 5 &amp; 6 Residential Trip Meeting for parents via Zoom via 4.00pm</li> </ul>
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass led by Year 2</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 &amp; 6 Debate competition – 4pm-7pm</li> <li>• Year 5 &amp; 6 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mass led by Year 5</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>
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>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 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>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EYFS &amp; KS1 Sports Day – AM TBC</li> </ul>
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KS2 Sports Day – PM TBC</li> </ul>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 6 Cricket Fixture – away game</li> </ul>
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 5 Cricket Fixture – away game</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> </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 CLOSES FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAY – timings TBC</li> </ul>
<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>	
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> & Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff INSET</li> </ul>
<b>MONDAY 5<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>PUPILS RETURN</b></li> </ul>

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

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