



Saint Christina's

Pre-Prep and Prep School
for boys & girls aged 3-11

Bulletin

Friday 26th April 2024

Dear Parents,

We never have anything other than busy weeks at Saint Christina's, but the addition of the long-awaited Section 48 Inspection into the mix has added a little 'je ne sais quoi' into the overall mix.

As you might expect, the children have been amazing. They have taken the slightly different things that they might have normally expected – inspectors observing their lessons with clipboards, etc – in their stride and risen to the occasion. I cannot express how proud I am of staff and grateful I am to the sisters, as well as the children. We really are blessed to have such a wonderful, caring and dedicated group of people both within the Convent and classes, working within our community. Just to see my teaching colleagues all trooping into School *en masse* as the sun was still thinking about getting out of bed, says so much about their dedication and commitment to the School and your children. Inspections are always very draining, because you never really know what the inspectors will want to focus on, but I am confident that the team here has done a good job. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Whilst I am not able to say what the outcome is at this time – we will have to wait for two weeks – I would like to take this opportunity to thank the very many of you who completed the parent survey and who have contributed such strong and sincere support for all we do here. I have been deeply moved by the comments that were submitted - such a beautiful expression of the nature of our community.

I am always amazed at how something so full-on and intrusive as an Inspection, can be layered over the very many activities that are inevitably planned for a week, but somehow we manage it! Mr Hirst has starred in the community this week, with his amazing run in the London Marathon, and the children have been so busy with all their learning and the various academic projects, clubs and activities that they engage in. In addition to all of this, Mr MacInnes and Mrs Bryant are already conducting rehearsals for our summer production of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang, and separately, preparations for the Y5-6 Residential have been finalised. So much to enjoy and look forward to!

Just a note about Term Dates for next year. Please be careful when you search the internet for any information that what you find is indeed relevant to the right year – the internet seems to be very good at presenting past data over current. It is better to use the News and Dates section of our website which has the correct schedule for next year on it, I have also asked Ms Michelle to attach a PDF version of our term dates for next year for you, so that you have an easy reference to print out and pin up in your home, should you wish to do so.

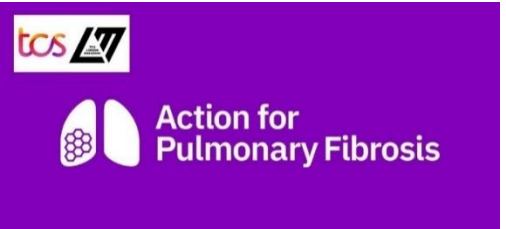
I have been assured that the weather is going to get warmer, but in the meantime, enjoy the light and the more frequent glimpses of blue in the sky – I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Alastair Gloag
Headteacher

TCS London Marathon

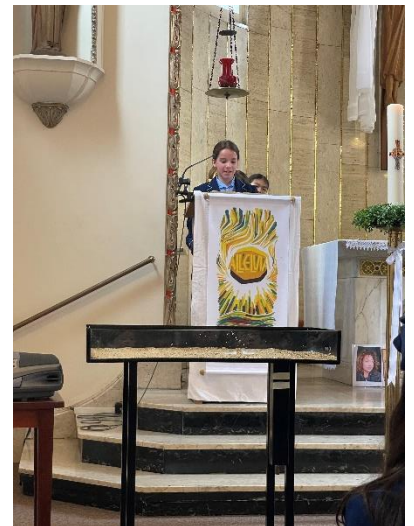
I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the entire Saint Christina's community for your tremendous support of my London Marathon effort. I am deeply grateful for your positivity, well wishes, in-person cheers, and your generous donations to Action for Pulmonary Fibrosis, a charity close to my heart. I had an incredibly special day, exceeding my expectations of its significance. Thanks to your amazing support, we have raised over £3,600, a sum that fills me with happiness and gratitude. I cannot thank you all enough.

<https://2024tcslondonmarathon.enthuse.com/pf/simon-hirst>



Mr Hirst

Year Six Mass for St George



On Wednesday afternoon, Year Six presented Mass for the feast of St George. They recalled how he is the patron saint of England, and how he was a martyr. They took much delight in presenting a photo of the one member of our school named after St George – namely, Miss Georgia!

They read everything beautifully and the girls who sang solos performed very well too. I was very proud of how well organised the girls were, especially because they had had less time than usual to prepare everything.

Fr Rudolf - Y6 teacher and celebrant

Year 1

In maths, Year 1 have been learning to tell the time to the hour and half hour. We have been reading clocks, using small clocks to tell the time and making our own clocks with moving hands to practise!



In English, Year 1 have been acting out traditional tales and writing their own ending to the story of Jack and the Beanstalk.

Ms Higgins – Year 1 Teacher

Mathematics – It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

Here is a simple challenge that can be tackled at a variety of different levels...

Give your child the numbers 1, 2 and 3 – and then ask what the biggest number is that can be made from these numbers. Many children will reply 123, but some will say '321'. Straightaway, you are dealing with place value.

The next step is to tell children that they may use whatever signs they want too... They will come up with sums such as $32+1$, and others might think of calculating 31×2 ... Other children might use brackets: e.g. $3 + (2 \times 1)$ and see if this can affect their calculations.

And then we have indices: children may also suggest calculating 13^2 , or even 21^3 ...

If nothing else, this challenge can have children not only practising their skills in arithmetic, but also using their imagination or creativity to come up with novel solutions and expressions.

And you do not have to be tied to using just the numbers 1, 2 and 3 – I have often used the numbers 2, 3 and 4 to very good effect and have been amazed at all the different results that Year Six have come up with!

Fr Rudolf - Teacher in charge of Mathematics

KS2 Collective Worship – The Stations of the Cross (From Last Term)

To show our love to Jesus, we are going to follow Him on His final journey on the road to Calvary. Jesus is our friend. He died for us. Let us carry His cross with Him.

The Stations of the Cross is a Lenten devotion which helps us to reflect prayerfully on Jesus' final steps on the way to his crucifixion and death. It marks 14 different stages of Christ's Passion from the moment he was condemned to death, to receiving the Cross and then the events on the walk to his crucifixion. Every child took part in our final Collective Worship of the term and contributed to our overall reflection. We started the worship by singing 'Our God is a Good God' and we sat in one big circle.

Each year group took it in turns to pray the Stations of the Cross, moving our way around the circle. As we thought about each station, we imagined ourselves walking with Jesus on his journey. Reflecting on Jesus' journey lead us to pray for all kinds of suffering in the world, and in our own hearts.

It was fantastic to have every child involved in such a special Collective Worship.

Mrs Ellisdon - Head of KS2



PE Update

It has been a busy start to the summer term and has been lovely to see how many children have signed up for the sporting clubs in the summer term. On this note, there are still some places available for the Fencing clubs on Wednesday morning and afternoon run by Little Musketeers.

It was lovely to present the certificates from the Inter House Cross country in assembly last week. Certificates were awarded to the winning boy and girl from each class. Additionally children who made the biggest improvements in their time during the cross-country sessions also received certificates. Well done to Saint Francis who were the overall winners this year.

Year 3 have made a great start to their intensive swimming sessions with the focus this week being on developing their swimming techniques in front crawl and backstroke. The children have represented the school so well and are making some encouraging progress already. They will continue next week developing their swimming and learning some important water safety and lifesaving skills.



On Monday, the Year 5 and 6 girls had their final football matches against St Marys. The girls played fantastically well drawing one game and winning 3 matches. A special well done must go to the star players, Beatrix who made several excellent saves, Alice B for some brilliant shooting and Edda for her all-round excellent play. Next week we have our final football match welcoming Trevor Roberts on Monday.



The Key Stage 1 classes have started their cricket lessons this week with a focus on fielding and catching. As well as this the preparations for the upcoming sports Days has also begun with children this week practising their over arm throw using bean bags and javelins.

Upcoming Fixtures

Date	Opposition	Year group	Time
Monday 29th April	Trevor Roberts	Year 4/5 Football Boys	16.00-17.00
Wednesday 9th May	St Margaret's	Year 6 A and B Year 5 A Cricket	15.30-16.30
Monday 13th May	St Marys	Year 5/6 Cricket	16.00-17.00
Wednesday 5th June	Sarum Hall	Year 3 athletics	10.45-12.40
Friday 7th June	St Marys	Year 6 Cricket tournament	12.00-15.30

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport

MESSAGE FOR FILM MAKING AND DRAMA CLUB PARENTS:

Following Mr Duncan's correspondence with you, a reminder that Mr Duncan be going on tour with a Shakespeare Production from 13th May until 2nd September which means he will not be able to continue with his Film Making and Drama Clubs for the summer term.

The last lesson for Film Making Club will be MONDAY 29th APRIL

The last lesson for Drama Club will be FRIDAY 10th MAY

Fr Terry's Food Bank

We believe, at St Christina's, that we are called to serve those around us throughout the year.

We were so touched by your generosity towards Fr Terry's Food Bank last half term and we will continue to collect non-perishable food to celebrate his legacy.

All donations will be distributed to the homeless and local families in need. We would be delighted if you would support us with this initiative – even the smallest donation can make a big difference.

If you would like to donate any non-perishable goods to this cause, please ask your child to leave their donation on the designated tables underneath the stairs next to the Arts Hall. We kindly ask that all donations for this half term are brought into school by Friday 24th May.

Thank you for your support with this cause.

Mr Burke, Kao and Tilly-Rose (Year 6 Charity Prefects)

Saint Christina's Food Collection



Let's Make A Difference
JOIN us in collecting
Canned and Non-Perishable
Food Items.

Suggested items: Pasta, Sauces, Rice, Beans, Soup, Canned vegetables and fruit, Mac and cheese, Cereal and Boxed Meals

Catholic Social Teaching at Saint Christina's

Catholic Social Teaching is an expression of the Catholic faith, which touches on many aspects of life. Writings by Popes and Catholic leaders show how the Catholic faith can guide our response to different issues.

There are 7 principles of Catholic Social Teaching, we are called to uphold them.

- **Sharing God's world, protecting the poor** - How do pupils share at home and at school? What are the kinds of things that are shared? Should everyone get exactly the same? Should some people get more? Why? For example, families with more children might need more resources, or someone with a disability might need extra help.
- **Human Dignity** - 'What makes me special?' 'What makes people special?' 'How should we treat each other?'
- **Caring for Creation** - How do I show respect for Creation? The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation. We are called to respect this gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us.
- **The Common Good** - What is 'true community'? The common good is reached when we work together to improve the wellbeing of people in our society and the wider world.
- **Solidarity** - Who are our leaders? How do we stand with others? How did Jesus show service and justice?
- **Family, Community and Participation** - This means all people have the right to participate in society and to seek the common good, which means the good for all.



- **Dignity of Workers** - All people work in some way because work is more than making a living, it's participating. Therefore, jobs and pay should be fair for everyone.

We will be looking at each of these principals throughout the academic year. The principal we will be focussing on this half term is Dignity of the Worker.

The Church has long been a supporter of the right of people to work. Work is more than simply being able to earn money. It is about being able to support oneself, and one's family. It is about finding a role and place within society, finding fulfilment and a sense of purpose and worth. It is also about people being paid a just wage and having adequate facilities to do the work they are tasked with, which is why the Church supports both the Living Wage and Fair-Trade movements.

Mr Burke and the Caritas Ambassadors

"Follow the Rainbow is one of the most thoughtfully managed and calm childcare solutions I have come across to date!" Parent

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STARTING THIS
SUMMER!

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5.0 ★★★★★
100+ Reviews

Ages
4 to 11

Fun



Creative



Engaging



Mondays to Fridays

9.30AM to 3.30PM

Early Drop-off at 9.00AM

**at St Christina's
Prep School**

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Kids Yoga



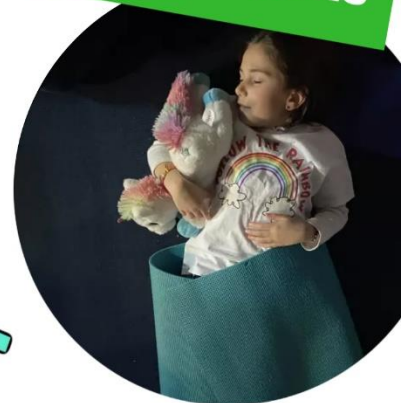
Mindfulness



Arts & Crafts



Meditations



Literacy, Maths & PE activities



FUN-FILLED DAYS



AT RAINBOW CAMP!

"Jess is a delight and incredibly committed. There were some wonderfully calm and creative days at camp (plus a lot of fun!) under her team's care and the venue is perfect. Would 100% recommend to all." Parent

FREE T-SHIRT or BAG



10% Siblings and recommendations discounts and Tax free childcare information
All props & yoga mats included

REMINDERS / HEALTH & SAFETY

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We have a number of pupils 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.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

Please do not send your child into school with any medication on their person. Medication can only be administered by qualified personnel. The only medication that we can administer, therefore, is prescribed medication e.g. Antibiotics, Inhalers, EpiPen's. Children should not be sent into school with any other type of medication e.g. Cold and Flu medicines / Calpol / Lozenges etc. If your child is unwell and in need of medication, they should remain at home until they feel better.

If your child does have any medication, please contact Miss Georgia, and she will ask you to fill in the relevant forms and keep the medication safely in the School Office. Thank you for your co-operation.

Late collection of children

If a parent enrolls one child into a club and needs to put another in Homework club, they will be charged a fee of £15 for the second child. Additionally, children who are collected late at the end of the school day or after a club will be sent to Homework Club and parents will be charged accordingly. Homework Club runs from Monday to Thursday from 3.30-5.00pm and costs £15 per session. A late fee of £50 will be charged if children are collected after 5.00pm.

Items left in the front office

Please ensure that your child has everything they need for the school day before they arrive in the morning: e.g. snacks / PE Kit. Items are regularly being left in the office by parents and carers throughout the day and, whilst they will do everything they can to help you, this causes disruption not only to the office staff but also to the children, Class Teachers and TAs who have to come to the office to collect the items. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

Sunday Mass

Just a reminder to everyone, you are all invited to join Sunday Mass, which is held in the Chapel at 10.00am

Safety around drop-off

A polite reminder – if you are dropping your child off for breakfast club or a morning music lesson, **your child must be supervised until the doors open at 8am and under no circumstances left unattended.**

Dates for your diary

Monday 29 th April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 4 and 5 Football FixtureLAST FILM MAKING CLUB
Friday 3 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 5 Mass – 2:45pm
Tuesday 7 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Hearing and Vision Tests
Wednesday 8 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 6A and B, Year 5A Cricket FixtureYear 5 and Year 6 Parent Residential Meeting
Thursday 9 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">EYFS and KS1 singing celebration – 9.15am assembly (details to follow)
Friday 10 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Year 4 MassLAST DRAMA CLUB

Wednesday 15 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 Coffee Morning – 9.00am in the Arts Hall Year 1 Science trip
Friday 17 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First Holy Communion – Year 3
W/C Monday 20 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 & 6 Residential
Tuesday 21 st May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 3 English trip
Thursday 23 rd May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents' Link Quiz Night
Friday 24 th May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5 & 6 return St Joan of Arc Mass SCHOOL CLOSSES AT THE USUAL TIME FOR THE HALF-TERM HOLIDAY
HALF-TERM HOLIDAY – MONDAY 27th TO FRIDAY 31st MAY (INCLUSIVE)	
Monday 3 rd June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PUPILS AND STAFF RETURN Year 6 Cycle Training – all week
Wednesday 5 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Coffee Morning – 9.00am in the Arts Hall
Friday 7 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Cricket Tournament Year 1 Mass – 2.45pm
Thursday 13 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS2 Sports Day – pm (details to follow)
Friday 14 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 2 Mass – 2.45pm
W/C Monday 17 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LAST WEEK OF CLUBS
Tuesday 18 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whole School Photo and Class Photos
Thursday 20 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EYFS trip
Friday 21 st June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EYFS & KS1 Sports Day – am (details to follow)
Wednesday 26 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS2 Production for Year 3 & 4 Parents
Thursday 27 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS2 Production for Year 5 & 6 Parents
Friday 28 th June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nursery & Year 6 Buddies Mass – 2.45pm
Monday 1 st July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class Change over afternoon
Wednesday 3 rd July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> KS2 Prize-Giving – pm
Thursday 4 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 6 Leavers' Mass – 10.45am SCHOOL CLOSSES AT MIDDAY FOR THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Friday 5 th July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STAFF INSET
SUMMER HOLIDAYS – MONDAY 8th JULY TO TUESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER (INCLUSIVE)	
Monday 2 nd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STAFF INSET
Tuesday 3 rd September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> STAFF INSET Parents/Teacher Meetings in school

	9.30am – Reception Classes 10.00am – Year 1 & 2 Classes 10.30am – Year 3 & 4 Classes 11.00am – Year 5 & 6 Classes
Wednesday 4th September	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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/>