



## Saint Christina's School Bulletin

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents,

As the Half Term comes to a close, we are delighted with the way that things have gone over the term. The weather is improving and the omnipresence of the pandemic is receding. Things are increasingly moving towards a place where we can do the things we want to do and the things that we have had to put on the back burner for a while.

I am so pleased that parents are now able to come to school events more easily. It is nice to see parents coming to support their sons and daughters when it is their turn to lead in Chapel on a Friday and it was particularly nice to see such a large gathering for First Holy Communion last Friday. We are still constrained by the building site, and I do not think that we will be able to be free of that now, before the end of term, following the delays around some of the materials that the construction required, but in every other sense, we are cracking on.

This week, Years 5 and 6 are on their residential trip in and around Derbyshire. They have been having a lovely time and I am sure that there will be a good spread of pictures and information about their time away in the next bulletin after Half Term. There has been a lot of industry in the lower years around preparation for the upcoming Sports Day. We are looking to welcome support from parents again this year, but I am also sure that there will be some star performances from some of our very youngest! It has also been a joy to welcome new members to our growing club of 'Cubers'. I am delighted to see how energetically Years 2 and 3 have taken up the challenge of learning the Cube and I think that we might – I am looking forward to a couple of demonstrations after Half Term – be up to 7 already. Well done and keep practising.



In assembly today we watched a short clip featuring Scrat from 'Ice Age'. If you are not familiar with Scrat, he is a squirrel and he is completely fixated by an acorn. He will do anything to get hold of the 'nut' (I know, run with me here) and to cling onto the nut, to the extent that he can cling so tightly that he ends up in all sorts of scrapes. So today, we have been thinking about our mind-set and how we can sometimes hold onto things that maybe we shouldn't. So, collectively as a school we are going to encourage each other, to 'let go of the nut' when we say we can't do something, or we are not the best at something, etc. We don't have to be the best, but can work hard to be the best we can be. We might find fractions hard at first, but we can crack them if we are patient and work at it – and let go of the nut.

You will know that we announced that Chloe Sumpter would be leaving us during Half Term and so it is with great sadness that this is her last day in school with all the children and staff. We want to thank her for all that she has done for our community. I am sure that you will agree that her quiet efficiency has been something that we can all depend on. It is a bittersweet moment, because we are delighted that Chloe has secured such a wonderful new role, but we are very sad to see her go. I am sure that you will join me in wishing her well in the future.

I hope that you have a fantastic Half Term break. We hope too that you are able to enjoy good weather and perhaps a Jubilee party or celebration, at some point. I look forward to seeing you all back in school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June, refreshed and ready to go again.

God bless,



**Headteacher**

## First Holy Communion

The weather couldn't dampen our spirits on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May when nine of the children in Year 3 received their First Holy Communion. It was charming to see the children uniformly dressed in white, eagerly awaiting to receive Jesus in their hearts. Since November, we have been preparing for this splendid day and it all unravelled itself in the most exquisite way. Many thanks to Fr Terry, our celebrant, Mr Pun for the wonderful music, Sr Noella for her massive 'behind the scene' contributions, all the staff who helped in any way or form, chef Sarbhal and his team for the scrumptious buffet and last but not the least the ten classmates who helped in the Eucharist by their readings and singing. May we continue to pray for our communicants that they always strengthen their union with Jesus in their journey of life.

Ms Fernandes



## Mathematics in Year 4

This week, a group of girls in Year 4 were puzzling out a mystery number square. They made informed guesses as to what it meant:

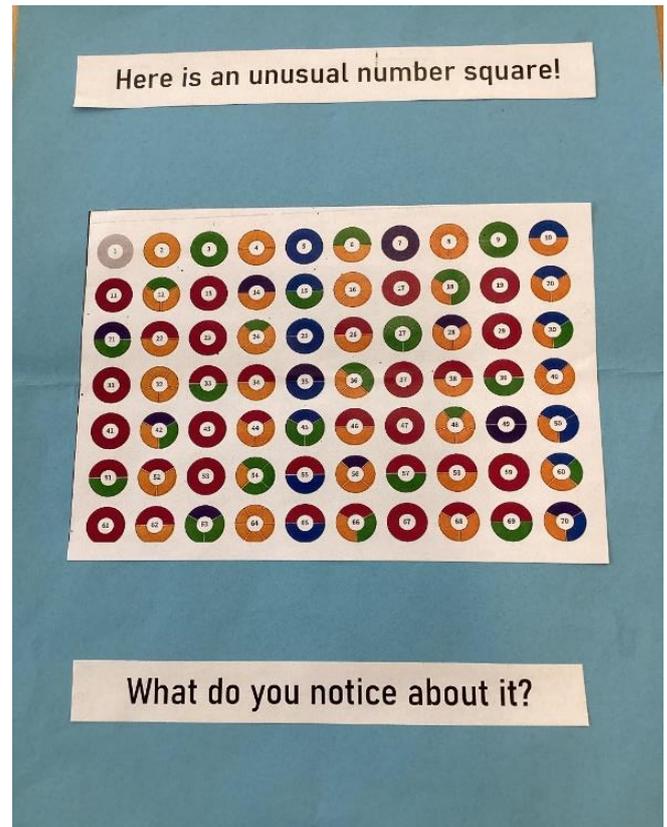
Here is what some of them thought of it:

1. If a number occurs in the three times table, it will have a green colour; five times table numbers also have blue; if a number is even it has the colour orange (Tilly-Rose, Sarah, Eloise, Gina, Rio and Sarah)
2. Sarah also spotted that numbers from the seven times table had a purple colour.
3. Claudia also explained how certain numbers came to have the colour combinations that they did: so 40 had three orange pieces and 1 blue because  $2 \times 2 \times 2 \times 5 = 40$ . Claudia also analysed other numbers too; so did Gina, Rio and Eloise.
4. Tilly-Rose and Sarah made sense of how you could combine different numbers.

It was great to see how well these girls in Year 4 responded to this challenge, as they were given no help whatsoever when presented with the number poster!

PS Eagle-eyed people will spot that this is actually a number rectangle rather than a square...!

Fr Rudolf  
Teacher in charge of mathematics.



## History and Geography meet in Year 4!

One of the delightful things about studying the history of a country is when you have an opportunity to enable children to realise just how much the history of a country is bound up with its geography. So, thanks to Miss Williamson's careful teaching of Ancient Egypt to Year Four, I have been able to discuss with Year Four about the geography of Ancient Egypt, and how the Nile played such an important part in the history of Ancient Egypt. One of the things we discussed in History was the idea that the River Nile was used for a variety of different reasons. Once we had the reasons in front of us (so to speak) we then used a 'diamond nine' activity to sort out our reasons in order of importance. The girls then justified what they were saying, thereby gaining a far greater understanding of the role of the River Nile for the Ancient Egyptians. All the members of Year Four were able to join in with this activity with enthusiasm and learn appropriately. It has been a pleasure working with Year Four this week.

Fr Rudolf Loewenstein

Year 6 Class Teacher

## Archaeologists in Reception

Reception have spent the past two weeks learning about different dinosaurs and working as archaeologists. We have learned about what carnivores, omnivores, and herbivores eat, and identified different dinosaurs in each category. We made our own fossils, dinosaur dioramas and large papier mache dinosaur eggs. We have written about our favourite dinosaurs including brachiosauruses, tyrannosaurus rexes and pterodactyls. We crafted some dinosaurs with moving part and dinosaur skeletons.

In addition to this, our reception caterpillars are now all in their cocoons, we are waiting for them to become beautiful butterflies very soon! Reception have been working hard at home, making lifecycles of different animals to present to their friends.



## PE Update

It has been another busy week and we have tried our best to avoid the rain. The children have spent most of their PE lessons this week working and preparing for the Sports Days, which take place on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> June (Nursery and KS1) and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June (KS2). A letter has been sent out with the timings and more information regarding the upcoming sports days, and we are so happy that this year parents will be able to come to spectate.

After half term, we have several cricket matches to look forward to and the year 6 finish the term with a tournament hosted by Devonshire House. The Year 4 and 5 netball club have been working hard in preparation for next year's matches and the Years 4, 5 and 6 teams will once again be entering the local schools league next year.

We have had a fun week with Nursery and KS1 practising the events for the upcoming sports day. The children have spent time this week working on the egg and spoon race, sack race, and the obstacle races this week.



Year 3 and 4 have also continued to work on their events for sports day this week with a focus on the shot put and the aim and throw events. We spent time developing and introducing the shot put and talking through the key technique, which the children began to get to grips with.



### Saint Christina's Upcoming fixtures/events

Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> June Year 5/6 Cricket v Sarum Hall (Away)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> June Year 5 Cricket v St Mary's (Away)

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> Year 6 Cricket v St Mary's (Away)

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July Year 6 Cricket Tournament (Away)

Mr Raveney

Director of Sport

## Reminders

Children attending homework club must be collected by 5.00pm. There is a late pick up charge of £40 for collections after 5.00pm.

## Dates for your diary

| Date                            | Event                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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>• <b>Mass led by Year 1 -AMENDED</b></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>• <b>Mass led by Year 4 - AMENDED</b></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 CLOSES 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/>