



SAINT CHRISTINA'S BULLETIN

Friday 22nd May 2026



Where Kindness Meets Ambition



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Dear Parents,

Last Friday, we gathered for our First Holy Communion Mass, as six of our Year 3 children received the sacrament for the first time. It is one of those occasions in the school year that always feels special. There is the Mass itself, of course, but also the journey towards it: the lessons, the questions, and the anticipation of receiving the Eucharist for the first time. I still remember mine to this day.

I was proud of the way they approached the sacrament, and it was lovely to see them supported by their families, friends, and the wider school community, including our beloved Handmaids. My sincere thanks go to all those who helped prepare the children so thoughtfully, and to everyone who came to support them.

This week, Year 5 and Year 6 have been in the Peak District for their residential school journey. These trips have long held an important place in prep school life and they often become some of the best memories children carry forward with them. For some, this will have been their first experience of being away from home, and there is a great deal of learning in that.

The children have had to organise themselves, work with one another, cope with tiredness, try new activities, and manage the normal ups and downs that come with being away together. Some will have found much of the week straightforward, and others will have had moments that stretched them. That is part of the value of weeks like this.

Children need the right kind of age-appropriate challenge. They need safe experiences that ask a little more of them than the familiar school day. They need moments where they realise they can cope and keep going, and they also need to learn that independence does not mean doing everything alone. It includes knowing when to ask for help, and when to be patient with the people around them.

A strong education reaches beyond academic learning, and trips like this give children a different kind of test. They have to make decisions, manage themselves, try new things, and think about the people around them. This week will have given Year 5 and Year 6 plenty of those moments.

They will return with plenty of stories and will no doubt be looking forward to their favourite takeaway tonight. More importantly, they will return having practised independence, friendship and perseverance in an unfamiliar setting, with all the messiness and humour that comes with it.

I am grateful to the colleagues who accompanied them. Residential trips ask a great deal of the adults involved, and we thank them for giving the children such an important experience.

Well done to Year 5 and Year 6. We look forward to welcoming them back and hearing all about it.

Wishing you all a great half term when it comes.

Best,

Damien Walshe
Headteacher



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SAINT CHRISTINA'S
PREP SCHOOL

SUMMER FAIR

Tropicana

SATURDAY 4TH JULY
12-4PM

CHILDREN £12.50 	ADULTS £7.50 	FAMILY OF 4 £35 	NEW STARTERS ARE FREE 	UNDER 3s ARE FREE
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ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:

- BALLOON ARTIST
- ARCHERY
- BOUNCY CASTLE
- BAR & FOOD
- NEARLY NEW UNIFORM SALE

TICKETS ON SALE VIA
www.pta-events.co.uk/saint-christinas



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Year 2 Art - UK Shaped Biscuits

After several weeks of learning about UK History and Geography, the children in Year 2 concluded their topic by baking the most scrumptious UK-shaped butter biscuits! Before cooking, they learnt about hygiene and kitchen safety, then carefully decorated their delicious biscuits before enjoying eating them together. The children had a wonderful time celebrating all they had learnt in such a tasty way!

Ms Bretones - Head of Art and DT





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Nursery - Maps, Pirates and Treasure Hunts

Nursery have become increasingly interested in maps, so this week we have been making our own and ageing them with tea and coffee, which they thoroughly enjoyed. This quickly developed into making binoculars and monoculars, before the children began creating eye patches, pirate hats and setting off on pirate adventures outside. The role play continued to grow throughout the week, with Nursery turning the outdoor area into a pirate boat and searching for treasure. After a class vote, they have decided that they would like to make their own treasure from salt dough after half term. It has been a lovely week of child-led ideas, which we have been able to extend and develop through their play.

Ms Randle - Head of EYFS and Nursery Class Teacher



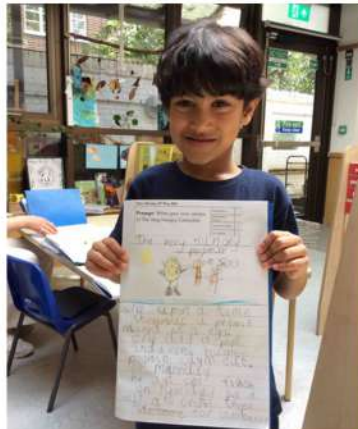


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Talk for Write in Reception: The Very Hungry Caterpillar

This half term in Talk for Write, Reception has been learning the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. At the beginning of the term, we read the story together as a class just as our real classroom caterpillars arrived, which made the learning even more exciting. During the imitation stage of Talk for Write, the children created a class story map and actions to help retell the story from memory. We then moved on to the innovation stage, where the children helped create a new class version called 'The Very Speedy Snail', about a snail who zoomed faster and faster each day before becoming too tired. Finally, in the independent application stage, the children created their own imaginative versions of the story, with titles including 'The Very Hungry Dinosaur', 'The Very Silly Tadpole' and 'The Very Bouncy Fairy'. The children enjoyed creating their own story maps before using their special story words to write their stories independently. As the children's Talk for Write journey unfolded, so did the life cycle of our classroom caterpillars. This week, the butterflies finally emerged from their chrysalises and we have begun carefully setting them free, bringing our learning to life in a very special way.

Ms Williams - Reception Class Teacher





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Year 1 Buddy Trip to London Zoo

Year 1 and Year 4 had a wonderful time on our buddy trip to the zoo! We loved spending the day together in the sunshine, exploring all the different animals and sharing a very exciting lunch beside the penguins. One of the biggest highlights was getting such a close look at the gorillas, which was an unforgettable experience for everyone.

We also loved visiting the reptile house and spotting snakes, lizards and other fascinating creatures from around the world. The trip brought our learning about animals and habitats to life and gave us a chance to appreciate the incredible diversity of God's world. Most of all, we loved making special memories with our buddies and representing the school so beautifully throughout the day!

Ms Higgins & Ms Khalique - Year 1 Class Teachers





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Year 2

Year 2 have had a fantastic week in Art, while also completing their learning all about the United Kingdom. To celebrate the end of this topic, the children took part in a fun and creative baking activity where they baked cookies in the shape of the UK. The children carefully decorated their cookies to represent different parts of the United Kingdom, using a variety of icing colours and toppings to add detail and creativity. They enjoyed discussing the countries, flags, and landmarks they have learned about throughout the topic while designing their biscuits. It was wonderful to see the children working so enthusiastically, showing excellent teamwork, imagination, and pride in their work. This activity was a lovely way to bring together everything the children have learned about the UK in a hands-on and memorable experience. The finished cookies looked amazing, and the children were very excited to share and celebrate their creations. Year 2 should be extremely proud of all their hard work and effort this week in every subject!

Ms Rock - Teaching & Learning Assistant





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Year 3 Holy Communion

Congratulations to the six children in Year 3 who received their First Holy Communion last Friday! This special sacrament marks an important step in their journey of faith as they experienced Jesus in the Eucharist for the very first time. We are so proud of their preparation, reverence and joy on this memorable day. We would also like to acknowledge the other children in Year 3 who supported and celebrated alongside their friends, showing kindness, encouragement and friendship throughout this special occasion. Thank you to our families and school community for your prayers and support. May God continue to bless these children as they grow in faith, love, and friendship with Christ.

Ms Fernandes - Year 3 RE Teacher





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Year 4

This week in Year 4, we explored the Communion of Saints in RE, learning about Mary as Mother of the Church and Queen of Heaven and creating our own artwork inspired by these roles. In History, we brought learning to life by acting out the Battles of Stamford Bridge and Hastings to understand how the Viking era ended. In Maths, we finished our shape unit by studying polygons and symmetry before beginning statistics, focusing on interpreting graphs. In English, we completed a comprehension on teachers, revised prepositions and wrote detailed character descriptions. In PSHE, we took part in a Vote for Schools discussion about safety rules, and we ended the week with a wonderful trip to the zoo with our Year 1 buddies - Year 4 were fantastic role models, and highlights included the capybaras, penguins and tigers!

Ms Farquhar - Year 4 Class Teacher





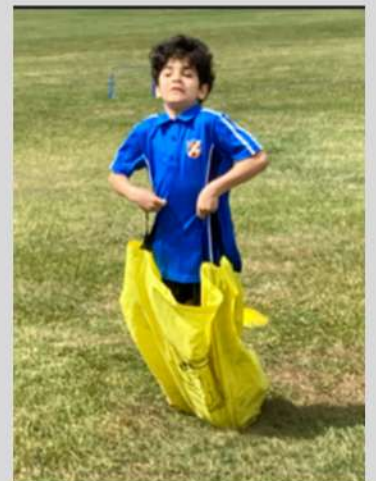
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Sport Update

Year 4 boys enjoyed a cricket match against Trevor Roberts on Friday last week, which for many was their first game. They put in a great performance, showing some accurate bowling and strong fielding. However, their batting let them down as they struggled to get the bat on the ball with any power, resulting in a loss despite their best efforts. They played with excellent spirit throughout the match. Star player Nao impressed with some great bowling and hit a few boundaries when batting.



Year 3 and 4 enjoyed their PE lesson at the park this week, practising for their upcoming Sports Day on Friday 12th June. This session focused on the hurdles, sack race, aim and throw, rounders ball throw, and sprint races. The children enjoyed the competitive elements and spent time refining their techniques in preparation for the big day. After half term, we will continue to work on the other events for Sports Day.





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The younger classes this week have spent time working on the obstacle race and have enjoyed going over hurdles, under parachutes, and around a variety of different obstacles. They have also enjoyed their cricket lessons with Year 1 and 2, working hard on their batting skills.



Date	Against	Team/Yr	Venue	Time
Wednesday 3 rd June	Southbank Tournament	Y3/4 Football (Boys)	Away	10.00 - 15.30
Friday 5 th June	St Mary's Tournament	Y5/6 Cricket (Girls)	Away	12.00 - 15.30
Monday 8 th June	Ivy House	Y5/6 Cricket (Mixed)	Home	15.50 - 16.30
Monday 15 th June	Trevor Roberts	Y5/6 Cricket (Mixed)	Home	15.30 - 16.30

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport



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Music Update

Brass taster lessons

Mr Thomas gave some free brass taster lessons this week, which went very well, and he will be contacting the parents of those children in the next few days. We will offer further taster lessons after half term, so if your child would like to try a brass instrument please get in touch. Parents of children in Years 2, 3 and 4 who expressed an interest should have received an email but feel free to contact me if you would like your child to have this opportunity.

Music Exams

Congratulations to Dena Rose in Year 5, who passed Grade 1 Singing recently. Well done!

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 9th June, 9.00am – Music assembly (for KS1 and any children in KS2 who did not get an opportunity to perform in the Spring term)

Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd July, 6.00pm – Summer Production: "A-la-la-la-la-laddin"

Music Lessons

If you are interested in lessons for your child for the next academic year, you can find information and the application form [here](#). If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at ebryant@saintchristinas.org.uk

Mrs Bryant - Director of Music



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NOTICES and REMINDERS

Nut Free School

We have a number of children 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.

Emailing scommms@saintchristinas.org.uk

Please do not send emails to the scommms@saintchristinas.org.uk email address, as this inbox is not monitored. Instead, kindly direct your emails to office@saintchristinas.org.uk or the relevant class teacher.

Online Safety – New Government Guidance: Screen Time for Under-Fives

The government has this week published its first evidence-backed screen time guidance for children under five, recommending no more than one hour of screen time per day and avoiding screens alone for under-tuos. The guidance suggests watching together where possible, avoiding fast-paced content, and trying simple "screen swaps" — a story or a game instead. It also notes that not all screen time is the same; watching with an engaged adult is linked to better outcomes than solo use, and that time limits should not apply in the same way for assistive technologies supporting children with SEND.

You can read the full guidance here: <https://beststartinlife.gov.uk/screen-time-under-5s/>

At Saint Christina's, we will continue to support children in developing healthy relationships with technology through our Digital Wellbeing provision as part of PSHE. If you would like to revisit the themes raised in the guidance at home, a digital recording of our recent parent talk, Parenting in the Digital Age, is available here: [Parenting in the Digital Age](#)



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Dates for your diary

Friday 22nd May
SCHOOL CLOSSES AT USUAL TIME FOR HALF -TERM

Monday 1st June
CHILDREN RETURN

Monday 1st June

- Children return
- Year 6 Cycle Training (All week)

Wednesday 3rd June

- Nursery Forest School
- Year 3/4 Football Tournament (Away)

Friday 5th June

- Year 5/6 Cricket (Away)
- Year 4 Mass

Monday 8th June

- Year 5/6 Cricket (Home)

Tuesday 9th June

- Music Assembly (Details to follow)

Wednesday 10th June

- Nursery Forest School



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Friday 12th June

- KS2 Sports Day

Monday 15th June

- Year 5/6 Cricket (Home)

Wednesday 17th June

- Nursery Forest School

Friday 19th June

- EYFS & KS1 Sports Day

Monday 22nd June

- Last Week of Clubs

Tuesday 23rd June

- Class Photos (Details to Follow)

Wednesday 24th June

- Nursery Forest School
- Reception Trip (Details to follow)

Friday 26th June

- Nursery Trip (Details to follow)



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Tuesday 30th June

- KS2 Production Dress Rehearsal

Wednesday 1st July

- Nursery Forest School
- KS2 Production - Years 3 & 4 Parents (Details to follow)

Thursday 2nd July

- KS2 Production - Year 5 & 6 Parents (Details to follow)

Friday 3rd July

- Buddies Mass

Saturday 4th July

- Summer Fair

Monday 6th July

- Class Change over & new starters from YR to Y6 visiting

Tuesday 7th July

- KS2 Prize Giving (Details to follow)

Wednesday 8th July

- Year 6 Leavers' Mass



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Wednesday 8th July
SCHOOL CLOSURES AT MIDDAY FOR SUMMER HOLIDAYS

Thursday 3rd September
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/>