



Saint Christina's

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

## Bulletin

### Friday 13th December 2024

Dear Parents,

What a wonderful term we have had! I am so proud of what the children and staff have achieved! Everyone, without exception, has worked so very hard. One of the very beautiful things about our community, is seen in the attitude that every child has towards their learning. They may not have every subject as their number one favourite, but they apply themselves with so much sincerity, nevertheless. The 'try, try and try again' mantra is something that is truly lived out in the lives of every one of the children.

It has been a genuine privilege to be your Headteacher for the last 6+ years - and hugely rewarding. The very best season!

May I thank you all for your kind words and unstinting support through difficult times as well as when the sun has been shining. It is absolutely lovely to look back over the past six years and consider the path we have walked together, and the beautiful community that has emerged. I love the way in which the children have embraced the golden thread and the sincere kindness that they all radiate. It is so important to achieve the very best we can in our learning, but it is even more important to become the very best person we can be. And we can have our cake and eat it! The children can be absolute academic superstars and beautiful people.

This week has been super special. We have been treated to wonderful Nativities from the EYFS and Key Stage 1 children, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, and a brilliant Key Stage 2 Carol Service on Thursday evening. This morning, my final assembly was hijacked by the whole School and I have been treated to some of the most wonderful songs, poems and gifts – things I will treasure for ever.

You have been so kind. Please accept my heartfelt thanks for all the very lovely cards and generous gifts that I have received. It was not easy, way back in March, to make the decision to leave, and now it comes to the moment, it is even harder. I will miss you all very much. Thank you so much for everything. But I am not the only one who is leaving. There are a number of families, for whom new pastures call, and we wish you all the very best too. And remember, as you journey through life, you will not go wrong if you follow your feet and use your heart for your compass.

Goodbye, and God Bless you.

Yours sincerely,

Alastair Gloag  
Headteacher

## 500 Word Competition

I am very pleased to announce that several entries for the BBC word competition have been chosen by the judges to go through to the second round of judging. There were tens of thousands of entries and only around 5,000 go through for the second round of judging by the Reading Agency. we are extremely proud!

Congratulations to the following children!

- 'The time traveller's star' by Altea Y5
- 'The Forest' by Annabelle Y3
- 'THE HAUNTED HOUSE!' by Annecy Y3
- 'Maggy and Jim go on a terrific adventure to save the planet' by Conor Y3
- 'The Unusual Dog' by Celini Y3
- 'The Boy Who Wanted To Steal The Moon' by Adrian Y2

**Mrs Ellisdon - Head of English**

## Key Stage 1 Nativity – Straw and Order



On Thursday, our Key Stage 1 children treated us to a wonderfully heart-warming performance of their nativity, *Straw & Order*. They truly brought the story to life with their enthusiasm, creativity, and lots of humour!

From wise men to dancing sheep, every child played their part brilliantly, and it was clear how much effort they had put into learning their lines, songs, and dances. It was such a joy to watch their hard work pay off on stage.

A huge thank you to all the parents for your support—whether it was helping with costumes, encouraging line practice at home, or simply being such an appreciative audience on the day. Your encouragement and involvement make such a difference, and we're so grateful.

Merry Christmas!

**Mr Burke and Miss Higgins**



## Kazakhstan Exhibition

We have been very fortunate to display a wildlife photo exhibition from Kazakhstan at school this week. Nuriddin's family, in Year 6, generously allowed us to showcase their collection of 15 high-quality, professional colour photographs. The photos feature a variety of beautiful animals and bird's native to Kazakhstan.

In addition, Nuriddin gave a presentation about the nature and wildlife of Kazakhstan, which he shared with the rest of the class



Mrs Ellisdon - Year 6 Class Teacher

## Yoga Club

Recently in yoga club, we have been working on breathing techniques, partner poses and balancing challenges.

The children have made fabulous progress and have all earned a certificate for completing their first yoga club. Well done to my little yogis!

Miss Edina – Yoga Teacher







## Cooking Club

In the last few weeks in cooking club, the children have been learning about food from around the world and how food is linked to celebrations. We are very proud of our little chefs!

**Miss Edina and Miss Gloria**





## Year 2's ART AND D&T PROJECTS

This term, the Year 2 children have been hard at work designing and crafting Tudor houses out of cereal boxes. It was a challenging project that required creativity, perseverance, and teamwork, but the results speak for themselves! The finished houses are outstanding.



To wrap up the term, we also explored the art of Piet Mondrian, learning about his iconic use of lines and primary colours.

Inspired by his pioneering and unique style, the children created beautiful Christmas tree baubles and trees. What a fantastic way to celebrate the season with art and creativity!

## Year 3 Tackles the Roman Sandal Challenge!

This term, Year 3 took on their most difficult challenge yet: designing and making Roman sandals.

With determination and hard work, the children rose to the occasion and successfully completed their sandals in time. Some even had the confidence to model their creations for the rest of the group! A big well done to Year 3 for their perseverance!

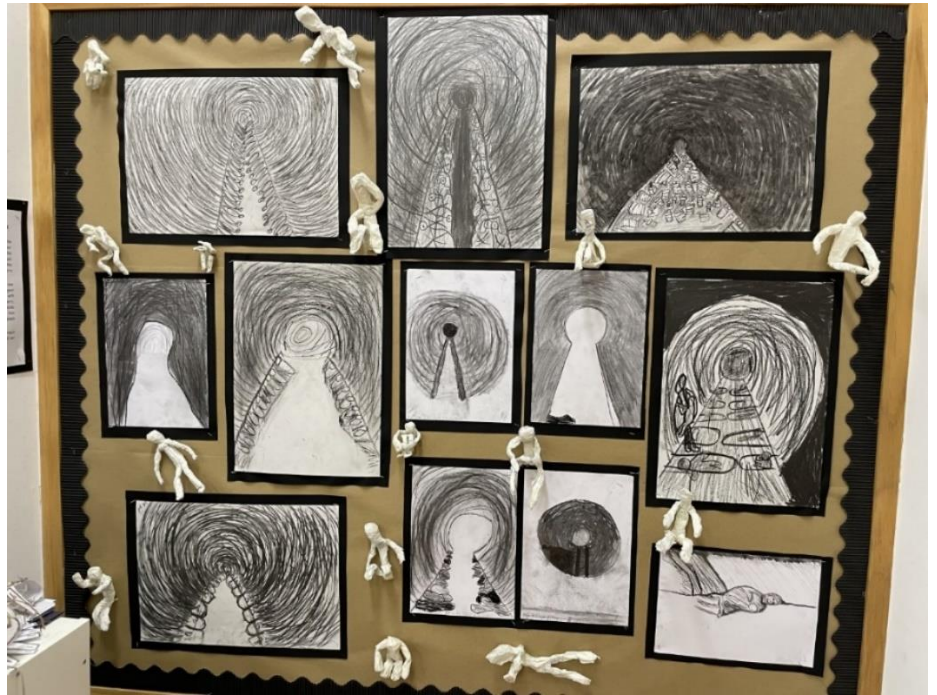




## Year 6's Creative Journey Through WWII

This term, Year 6 immersed themselves in learning about World War II, and their art and D&T projects were thoughtfully linked to this significant topic. The children created propaganda posters, ration cards, and model Anderson shelters, bringing history to life with their creativity and hard work.

To conclude the term, we studied the powerful works of Henry Moore, focusing on his dramatic and dark depictions of the Blitz. Inspired by his art, the children replicated paintings of the London Underground crowded with people during the bombings, as well as small yet profoundly moving sculptures of human figures. Though simple in form, these sculptures beautifully convey emotions of worry, sadness, and hopelessness.



I couldn't be prouder of the effort and dedication Year 6 has shown this term. Well done, Year 6!



## Year 5 and Year 6 Pen Pal Project: Making Friends the Old-Fashioned Way!

We are excited to announce that our Year 5 and Year 6 children have embarked on a wonderful new initiative: the Pen Pal Project. This project is all about making friends the old-fashioned way—through handwritten letters!



Our children will be writing letters in Spanish to a group of students from Sant Gabriel School in Barcelona, and in return, they'll receive replies in English. This exchange is a fantastic opportunity to practice our second languages, develop social skills, and learn about different cultures and traditions.

We're looking forward to seeing the friendships and learning flourish through this meaningful and enriching experience!

**Ms Bretones – Art and Spanish Teacher**

## Charity

I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the families at Saint Christina's for your truly wonderful support towards all of our charitable initiatives so far this year.

Firstly, the success of the Macmillan Coffee Morning was truly heart-warming as we raised over £1350 for the Macmillan Cancer Trust. Your generosity will have directly impacted the lives of those affected by cancer, providing vital support and care during their journey.



On Friendship Friday, we were delighted to raise over £700 for Kidscape. Kidscape works directly with children and families experiencing bullying across the UK, providing workshops, practical support, and professional training to challenge and prevent bullying. Your contributions will have made a real difference in their efforts.

Throughout the term, we collected a substantial amount of food for Father Terry's Food Bank. Thank you for your continuous contributions. These contributions make a real difference to the lives of people in our community.

We collected a record number of Boxes of Love for the patients at St John's Hospice. We dropped these off on Thursday and it was wonderful to meet the staff. They explained the huge impact these have on the patients.

Lastly, through our fundraising on Christmas Jumper Day and the donations towards our artwork and school-made mince pies, we made a meaningful impact by raising over £350 for Crisis, the homeless charity.

Thank you to the Charity Prefects and Caritas Ambassadors for all of their wonderful drive, enthusiasm and passion this term and thank you again so much again for all of your incredible support.

**Mr Burke**



## Year 5 Science: Electric Cars in Action!

This week, Year 5 had a fantastic time designing and building electric cars as part of their Science lessons. They've been exploring the concept of forces and applying their knowledge to create functional vehicles. The students examined the role of friction and how it affects the movement of the cars, while also learning about pulleys and the way batteries generate power. Although the project required some perseverance, every student successfully built a moving car! Well done, Year 5, for your hard work and creativity!



**Mr Hirst – Science Teacher**

## PE Update

We have had a fantastic term of Sport with some great results in the matches against other school, very well attended sports clubs and fantastic attitudes from all of the children during their PE lessons. I very much look forward to seeing the children further progress and enjoy a variety of sports next term including cross country, gymnastics, tag rugby, swimming and more football and netball.

Year 4 enjoyed their first fixture on Monday against a strong Sarum Hall team. We were a little nervous to begin with and lost the first quarter 6-1. The girls grew in confidence and their performance clearly improved during the rest of the match with many opportunities to score and some excellent marking. The score ended up being 8-2 to Sarum Hall but the girl's efforts cannot be faulted. Well done to Ava and Isabella who were awarded star players for the game.

### Upcoming fixtures

| Date                   | Opposition           | Team                     | Time        |
|------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Monday 20th January    | St Marys<br>Away     | Yr5A and B Netball Girls | 16.00-17.00 |
| Wednesday 22nd January | Sarum Hall<br>Away   | Yr3 Netball whole class  | 11.00-12.00 |
| Wednesday 22nd January | Sarum Hall<br>Away   | Yr5A and B Girls Netball | 16.00-17.00 |
| Monday 27th January    | Ivy House<br>Home    | Yr3 and 4 Netball Mixed  | 15.30-16.30 |
| Monday 3rd February    | Village Prep<br>Away | Yr5 and 6 team Netball   | 16.00-17.00 |



|                        |                    |                                  |             |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Wednesday 5th February | St Margaret's Away | Yr6 A and Year 5 A Girls Netball | 15.15-16.15 |
| Monday 10th February   | Ivy House Home     | Yr5 and 6 Football Mixed         | 15.30-16.30 |

**Mr Raveney - Director of Sport**

## Inter House Christmas Decoration Competition

Thank you to all the children who have entered the annual House Christmas decoration competition. The House captains and I have been very impressed with the number on entries and the quality of the decorations produced. There are some very impressive and imaginative entries and selecting the winners this year was extremely challenging.

Points were awarded for every entry and a variety of different teachers chose their favourite EYFS, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 creations. Well done to Saint Cecilia for handing in the most decorations. Congratulations must go to the overall winners Christiana (EYFS), Juliet (Key Stage 1) and Fabio (Key Stage 2) who were awarded 30 House points for their houses.



EYFS



Key Stage 1



Key Stage 2

Well done to Saint who were the over winners of the competition, the full results can be seen below.

|              | Saint Cecilia   | Saint Francis   | Saint Joan of Arc |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Total points | 99              | 87              | 72                |
| Position     | 1 <sup>st</sup> | 2 <sup>nd</sup> | 3 <sup>rd</sup>   |



Mr Raveney - Director of Sport



## KS2 Carol Learning Competition

Our Carol Service on Thursday has been the focus of much practice over the last few weeks. KS2 were asked to learn the words of five carols, with several verses each, in addition to the songs they have learnt with their classes ready for the service. To encourage them to work on memorising little and often, in different places, they were set a challenge – to send in a picture of them learning their words in an interesting place. You can see below a selection of the photo entries! Finalists selected then had to recite or sing a whole carol to me.

Congratulations and well done to everyone who entered, and especially to the winners:

1<sup>st</sup> prize: Philippe (year 5) and Noah (year 3)

2<sup>nd</sup> prize: Norah (year 5)

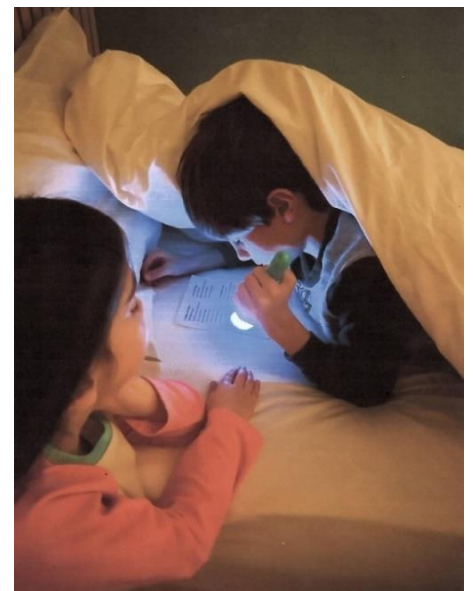
3<sup>rd</sup> prize: Pia (year 5)

Runners up: Cecilia (year 4), Imad (year 4), Fabio (year 5) and Emily (year 3)

**Mrs Bryant – Director of Music**







## NOTICES and REMINDERS

**PARENT PARKING AT PICK-UP and DROP-OFF:** The School has received a number of complaints from residents about their driveways and gates being blocked by members of our community. In our mind we might think that we will only be a few minutes, but the reality is, residents should be able to expect access to and from their properties whenever they need it. In one instance, someone who has had medical need has been delayed by a car that has been parked inconsiderately.

Please be aware that enforcement on the Terrace is increasingly vigilant and please park safely and with consideration for our neighbours within areas where stopping is permitted.



### 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.

### Sunday Mass

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

## Dates for your diary

| CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – MONDAY 16 <sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2024 TO MONDAY 6 <sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2025 (INCLUSIVE) |   |
|--|---|
| Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Staff INSET</li></ul>   |
| <b>Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Children return</b></li></ul>  |
| Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> January   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 6 A and B Mixed Netball fixture (Away)</li></ul>   |
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Baptism of the Lord Mass led by Staff – 2.45pm</li></ul>  |
| <b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Clubs to start this week</b></li><li>• Year 5 and 6 Mixed Football Fixture (Home)</li></ul>  |
| Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nutritionist Workshop</li></ul>   |
| Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nursery &amp; Reception Parent Coffee Morning with Mr Walshe and Ms Randle – 9.00-9.45am in the Arts Hall</li><li>• Year 4 Mass – 2.45pm</li></ul>  |
| Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Heritage Week</li><li>• Year 5 A and B Girls Netball Fixture (Away)</li></ul>   |
| Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 1 and 2 Parent Coffee Morning with Mr Walshe and Mr Burke – 9.00-9.45am in the Arts Hall</li><li>• Year 3 Netball Fixture (Home)</li><li>• Year 5 A and B Girls Netball Fixture (Away)</li></ul> |
| Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Year 3 and 4 Parent Coffee Morning with Mr Walshe and Mr Hirst – 9.00-9.45am in the Arts Hall</li><li>• International Mass led by Year 2 – 2.45pm</li></ul>   |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| W/C Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 4 Swimming (for 2 weeks)</li> <li>• Year 3 and 4 Mix Netball Fixture (Home)</li> </ul>  |
| Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> January       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 5 and 6 Parent Coffee Morning with Mr Walshe and Mrs Ellisdon – 9.00-9.45am in the Arts Hall</li> </ul>                       |
| Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> January          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 6 Mass – 2.45pm</li> </ul>  |
| Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> February          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 5 and 6 Netball Fixture (Away)</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parent/Child Learning Reviews – Reception to Year 6</b></li> <li>• Year 6 A and Yar 5 A Girls Netball Fixture (Away)</li> </ul> |
| <b>Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Parent/Child Learning Reviews – Reception to Year 6</b></li> </ul>  |
| Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Mass (House Competition)</li> </ul>   |

**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/>