



Saint Christina's

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

Bulletin

Friday 5th July 2024

Dear Parents,

We have made it to the end of a very busy term and year. May I thank you all for your constant and unwavering kindness and support for the staff and the children within our community. We could not do all the things that we do if it was not for all the things that so many of you offer and do, whether that is giving your time to support the school fair by running a stall, or coming into school to talk about an important cultural event. I remain traumatised by my conviction by an eminent barrister within our community, for not putting a book away in the right place in Nursery earlier this term, as part of an illustration of how the justice system works within our country! And, for the record, I remain contrite and won't do it again!

We end this year on a genuine high. The school is in good shape and the team as strong as it has ever been. It has been very sad to see the unintended impact of the Labour proposals around independent schools take two of our local pre-prep providers. They have been good friends to our School and we will miss our interactions with them. The encouraging news on this front, is that the incoming Chancellor appears to have indicated that whilst the policy will be an early priority for the Labour administration, nothing will be done until September 2025 and even then, there is strong pressure from groups including the ISC, which represents most independent schools, for the intricacies of the policy to be carefully thought through in terms of its implications particularly with regard to smaller settings.

I hope that many of you had the opportunity to attend the School production last week! If you did, I am sure that you agree with me that it was another stunning effort both in terms of the colourful and clever staging and props and the performances by the children in Years 3, 4, 5 and, of course 6. On Wednesday we were privileged to welcome Mr Clive Rickart into School as our guest of honour for Prize Giving. He spent the morning in School meeting the children and looking at the work they were doing before giving out the prizes in the afternoon. Mr Rickart visits a lot of Schools in his capacity as the CEO of the Society of Heads and I am delighted to tell you that he was extremely complimentary about your children and our School community. As part of the proceedings it was lovely to hear the outgoing Year 6 concluding proceedings with renditions of 'This is Me!' and 'Truly Scrumptious', a performance that was sustained through the Leavers' Mass on Thursday morning.

We are very proud of the achievements of all the children this year, but would particularly like to congratulate the Year 6 on their 11+ success this year. Our very best wishes go with them and all the children who are leaving us at the end of this academic year. We will miss you all.

May I also thank you personally, and on behalf of all the staff, for the lovely gifts that we have received from you as the term has come to a close. It means a great deal to us all. We are really fortunate to work in such a warm and supportive community. Thank you!

I do hope that you have a wonderful, exciting and relaxing summer, and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Yours sincerely,

Alastair Gloag
Headteacher

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY – VIEWING CARDS

Following Pret-a-Portrait's recent visit to take class photographs and whole school photo, a viewing card explaining how you can view and order pictures, will be sent home with pupils shortly.

Please ask your children to give it to you as soon as possible so you have the chance to order any pictures you would like at a discounted price before the Early Bird Deadline **12/07/2024**

If for any reason your viewing card doesn't make it to you in the next few days, please contact **Pret-a-Portrait** directly on 0800 021 7626 or customerservice@pret-a-portrait.net

First Mathematics Challenge

Each year the Mathematical Association organises the 'First Mathematics Challenge' for children in Years 3 and 4, although keen children in Year 2 may also take part if they are interested.

This year we had just over 40 children participate in the challenge. They enjoyed the problems for the most part, although I would have to say that the standard of questions was harder than usual...

Boundaries are fixed in advance for the competition, but we were happy to have four gold award winners: Ehwan, Harrison, Juliana and Sofi. Three of these children were in Year Four, and Sofi did very well as she is in Year Three.

Particular praise also goes to Matthew in Year Two, for not only gaining a silver award, but also being the highest scorer in Year Two.

One of the problems that the children had to solve went as follows:

A farmer has 20 cows, some chickens and no other animals.

The total number of chicken legs is equal to the number of cow legs.

How many animals are there altogether?

Children who did well this year can look forward to enjoying more success in other mathematics competitions next year!

Fr Rudolf - Teacher in charge of Mathematics

Year 1 STEM

Year 1 enjoyed a morning in the science room, exploring resources and completing different challenges and investigations in groups.

We investigated the impact of exercise on our heart rate by measuring our heart rate, completing a variety of different exercises for 30 seconds each and comparing our heart rate one we had finished. We investigated different materials to see if they were magnetic or not. We also used our magnets to make small cars drive.

We put our design skills to the test completing a variety of Lego building challenges, building roads, tunnels for trains, planes, towers to hold a book to read and much more. We also tested out different designs and shapes to build a tower, using marshmallows and cocktail sticks. We also designed a variety of marble runs.

We enjoyed building different electrical circuits, powering a fan (definitely needed in this weather) and a lightbulb. We also tested out some different types of switches.



Ms Higgins – Year 1 Teacher

Flat Stanley

Earlier in the year, Year 1 enjoyed reading and working on the story Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown. We then each decorated our own Stanleys and posted them to friends and family around the world. We even got some pictures of some of their adventures with our friends and families in Copenhagen, Bauska Castle and Rundale Palace in Riga, Latvia and one more locally in the UK.

There is one from a cinema in Riga (Latvia), one from a playground, one from Rundale Palace, one from a butterfly house in Rundale, one from Bauska Castle and one with a cannon in Bauska and one in England.

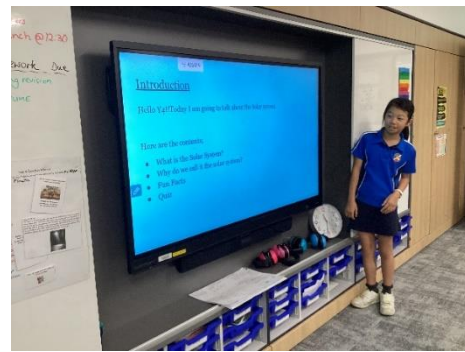
Ms Higgins – Year 1 Teacher





Year 4 Research Projects

Year 4 have thoroughly enjoyed developing their research skills throughout the year. This week was our final group of presentations. During the year the children have been researching about ancient civilisations, famous scientists and organisations and about amazing places all over the world!



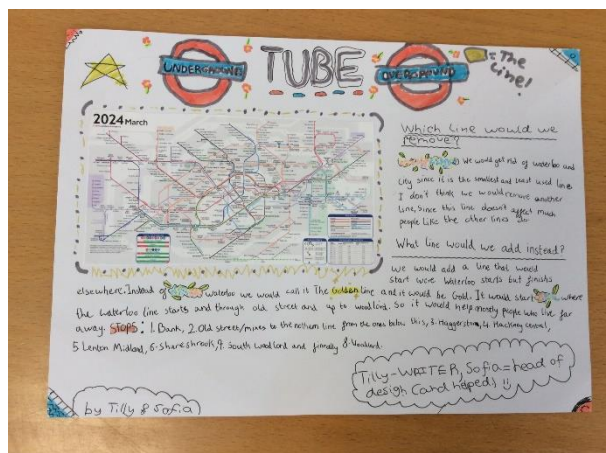
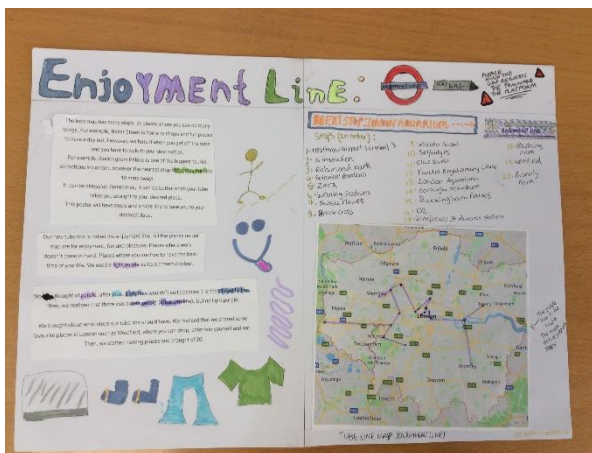
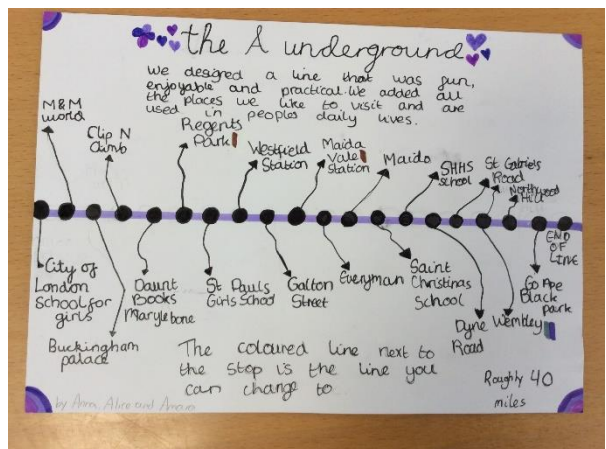
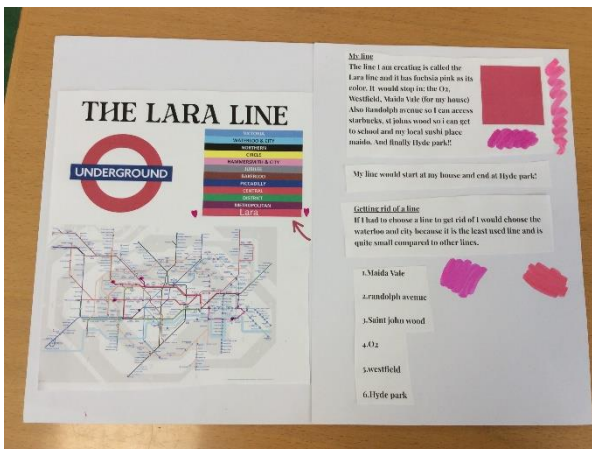
Intellectual Curiosity meets Geography and Design (in Year Six!)

As a project to finish off our Geography work this term, Year Six embarked on a project to design a new tube line for the London Underground. We considered the different places that might benefit from having an underground station, and how these places could all be linked together. We practised our mapping skills by superimposing our new tube lines on existing London Transport maps, or for the more adventurous we used Google Maps.

Many members of the class also practised their skills in persuasive writing as they justified the location and usage of these new stations and lines!

A few of us went further to suggest which existing lines should be eliminated and why.

The whole project was greatly enjoyed by the whole class – the pieces of work you see in the school newsletter illustrate just some of the ideas that we created.



Year Six Memories

1. I really enjoyed doing the residential trips especially PGL because we got to do loads of fun activities such as the buggy building or the archery. I also remember all the teachers who have helped us along the way. I have a very strange memory of Nursery. I remember having lunch in the classroom and the dinner ladies coming in as well. I also loved doing Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and learning all the lines and having really nice props. But most of all my favourite memory is making all my friends along the way! (Alice)
2. I have a lot of good memories at Saint Christina's, the residential trips were one of the top memories. Buxton was one of the best school trips I have been to, the year 4 trip to PGL was so fun (even though it was only 2 days).
3. The break times were very fun, we played tag and other games PE in year 1 - year 6 were so fun. Saint Christina's will always hold a lot of special memories. (Sofia)
4. My favourite memories of Saint Christina's are making so many friends throughout the years since Nursery. It was really fun to do all of the assemblies. I really liked the one of 'Aliens love underpants'. The natives were very enjoyable and I loved being the main star in year 2. I also found pleasure doing all of the sports matches as everyone was super supportive and friendly. I also really liked going on PGL doing the fun activities such as the giant swing. It was great to go to the Zoo in year 2 and in year 6 and seeing all of the animals and having the talks about animals. In year 5 I liked going to the Ragged school; we needed to write with our right hand and since I am left-handed, I got a punishment. I had the best time ever at St Christina's. It was enjoyable to be at this school; we did so many amazing activities at my time here. I am so grateful to be in this school I have so many memories here. (Allegra)
5. In Year 4 we were doing a rainforest tasting test and Rio (who left) tasted ginger! She took a massive bite not knowing that it was spicy and she started drinking a lot of water. It was quite funny in a way! As well as that I remember we had an Egyptian day in Year 4 and we got to engrave hieroglyphics into this weird type of paper. In Year 1 we had a teacher called Miss Brennan and she always had a prize box which had prizes we could take every Friday. In Year 4 I went to my first PGL at Liddington PGL centre and I shared a room with Marta, Rio and Lara. During this time a lot of funny things happened. (Eloise)
6. Saint Christina's has been incredible. Every minute here has been fun, exciting and I have learnt so much. I will miss this school and all of the teachers, pupils and most of all, my friends. I'm going to tell you my favourite memory of the 8 years I've spent here. It was visiting the Ragged School in Year 5. I remember going there and sitting down on chairs that were attached to desks. Then, a strict Victorian teacher came and 'taught us lessons'. We learnt maths by adding coins, and we even tried tricky tongue twisters to master dictation and clarity. It was so fun, especially when we got to write the Victorian alphabet using chalk. Honestly, I have so many other memories here and I will never forget them! (Gina)
7. In Y4 we tried tropical fruit from the Amazon Rainforest and Rio tried a BIG block of root ginger and put it all in her mouth and bit it (not knowing how spicy it was). Then she went all red and started going crazy because of how spicy it was and drank from her water bottle and had to refill it twice! Lara also tried avocado and found it disgusting! I tried cacao beans and hated it because of how bitter it was (Lara loved it I don't know how!) but then I tried grapefruit and loved it! It was such a fun day that day! (Marta)
8. Nursery: My favourite memory at Saint Christina's in Nursery was when the Easter bunny came and we had to clean the white footprints.

Reception: One of my favourite memories in Reception was tracing and learning my letters and numbers.

Halfway through Year 2 (I wasn't here in year 1 and half of year 2): I remember revisiting the school in November and most people remembered me. My favourite memory is when I was playing with my friends.

Year 3: I really enjoyed doing the two sacraments (Reconciliation and First Communion).

Year 4: My favourite memories were Rio eating the ginger, the giant swing with Marta and Miss Williamson, Elfie and last but not least Narnia.

Year 5: I really enjoyed PGL especially orienteering and the Victorian museum as these places were really fun and adventurous.

Year 6: This year I have enjoyed playing with my friends and buddies (Roe and Ralph in nursery). I also have enjoyed starring in the play of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (I was junkman, Baron Act 1 and Soldier 1 and

- 2). Finally, I enjoyed going on the MET trip. Overall Saint Christina's is a place I shall never forget as it has been so fun and interesting. (Claudia)
9. In Year 2 I joined, and everyone was so kind to me and Tilly had also joined and she was so kind to me and we became best friends. I also remember when I used to take the school bus with Lara and Eloise and it was so fun. I remember when Claudia joined (Well, she left and then came back) and everyone shouted "CLAUDIA!!!!!" Tilly and I were so confused because we didn't know who Claudia was. I remember when we made roman shields in Year 3 and went out in the cold to take photos. I Remember the school's 70 Year anniversary when we celebrated by going to Primrose Hill to take an all-school photo. I remember when Miss Williamson made custom Yearbooks for Year 4 and clay animals. I remember going to the ragged school museum and doing a Victorian play in Year 5. I will definitely remember everything in Year 6. Everything was amazing so I don't have a specific memory. (Amara)
10. In Year 4 I remember that we ate Egyptian food and some people ate ginger. In year 5 I remember when we made our Victorian hats in Art. In Year 6 I remember when we wore our Christmas jumpers and we each got one gift from the birthday bag. In year 4 I remember that Gina and I got a special part in the Musical in Matilda that we could pretend to be children acting to tease the other children. In year 6 I remember when we did sowing and I made a penguin. In year 5 I remember when we did PGL with last year's Y6 and we had a disco which was very fun. (Sarah)
11. I have had so many memories here at Saint Christina's and it would be so hard to pick my favourite. However, if I had to pick. I remember not when I first joined but just before. When my mum had a meeting with Mr Gloag. I was sitting on the sofa in the reception and my feet didn't even touch the ground. I remember looking through the door towards the school. I saw girls walking up the stairs in a straight line and I thought to myself "Wow they're like an army!". However, now I go to this school I know it's not true.) (Tilly-Rose)

12. My Top 10 Favourite Memories

10. Swimming in Year 5-

When we were in Year 5, we did swimming training which was really fun and on the last day we got to do whatever we wanted

9. Year 6 Sports Day-

I won three events and enjoyed myself at sports day

8. School Trip to the Zoo-

Towards the end of year 6 we went on a trip to the zoo where I made lots of jokes with my friends.

7. Making a Roman Shield-

In Year 3, while learning about the Romans, we made shields which I loved doing.

6. Ancient Egyptian Day-

In the middle of Year 4, we got to come to school dressed as Egyptians, and try out Egyptian food.

5. The Ragged School-

When we were learning about the Victorians in Year 5 we got to wear Victorian clothing, and we were taught in the same way Victorian children were.

4. Osmington Bay-

Our residence when we were in Year 5 was in Dorset, and we did so many fun activities, and we also got to go down to the beach sometimes.

3. Liddington-

When we were in year 4, we went to Liddington PGL centre, and did rock climbing, and other activities.

2. Chitty Chitty Bang Bang-

Chitty was the production we put on at the very end of Year 6. I just enjoyed all of it, the costumes, the rehearsals and the songs.

1. Buxton-

In May of 2024, we went on our final residential, to the Peak District. We went to all sorts of places, but my favourite was the Heights of Abraham, and the wildlife park

I have enjoyed my time here at St. Christina's, and have made so many memories that will stay with me forever. (Anna)

ICT

This year, over 7,000 young people from 43 countries shared their incredible digital creations with Coolest Projects. Year 5 and 6 created their projects that helped the environment, solved problems in their communities or were all about having fun!



Check out your child's project in their [online showcase gallery](https://online.coolestprojects.org/events/cp-2024/gallery)

<https://online.coolestprojects.org/events/cp-2024/gallery>

CODING HELPS US TO BE THINKERS!

Well, done to all the children who participated.

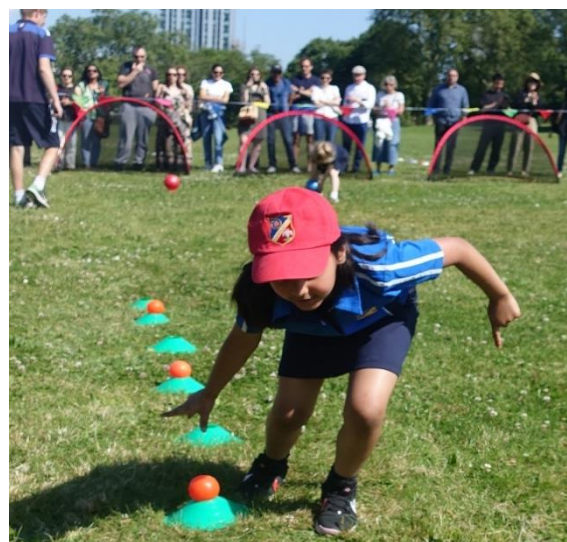
Many thanks

Ms Overing

PE Update

Last Friday, the sun shone for our EYFS and Key Stage 1 Sports Day, at Primrose Hill. Our youngest children displayed excellent efforts and racing skills, displaying all they have been practicing during their PE lessons this term. It was so lovely to see the children enjoying the morning and performing so well in all of the events.

The Year 6 class did a fantastic job organising and running the event, ensuring everything went smoothly. It was lovely to see so many parents come out to support their children. The overall winners were Saint Francis with a convincing victory. Below, you will find the overall results along with a selection of photographs capturing the day's memorable moments.





Our final cricket match of the year saw several of our Year 3 and 4 children take on St Christopher's. Both our teams demonstrated excellent effort, with one of our teams winning convincingly and the other suffering a narrow defeat. It was lovely to see so many children involved and enjoying playing cricket, many of them experiencing their first game. A standout performance came from Akari, who was awarded player of the game for her outstanding contributions both batting and bowling.



Last week the Year 5 and 6 classes enjoyed their Inter House cricket competition at Primrose Hill. There were some very close matches with some excellent cricket on show. Each house played each other and the total number of runs scored was calculated. Well, done to Saint Francis for winning the competition and a special mention must go to Allegra and Anna who were awarded star players. It has been so lovely to see all the Key Stage 1 and 2 children enjoying their cricket sessions and making fantastic progress this term.

Final Totals

Event	St Francis	St Joan of Arc	St Cecilia
Nursery	102	106	81
Reception	121	82	80
Year 1	94	119	134
Year 2	193	162	153
Total	510	469	448
	St Francis	St Joan of Arc	St Cecilia
Position	1st	2nd	3rd

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport



Congratulations to St Joan of Arc who were the overall winners of the KS2 talent show. A big thank you to all of the children who took part and to the younger children who were a fantastic audience. A final thank you must go to our judges for their hard work and for helping the event run smoothly.

Last week the Year 5 and 6 classes enjoyed their Inter House cricket competition at Primrose Hill. There were some very close matches with some excellent cricket on show. Each house played each other and the total number of runs scored was calculated. Well, done to Saint Francis for winning the competition and a special mention must go to Allegra and Anna who were awarded star players. It has been so lovely to see all the Key Stage 1 and 2 children enjoying their cricket sessions and making fantastic progress this term.

Mr Raveney - Director of Sport

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang!

Huge congratulations to Year 6 and the rest of KS2 for their spectacular performances last week. All the children worked hard throughout the term on the acting, songs and dances and it was lovely to see the whole production come together so beautifully. I would also like to extend another heartfelt thank you to all the staff and parents who contributed in so many ways. Here are a few highlights!





Mrs Bryant – Head of Music

Fr Terry's Food Bank

We would like to thank you so much for your support for Fr Terry's food bank this half term. We have collected a wonderful amount of food.

We looking forward to continuing to supporting this collection next half term.

Mr Burke and the Caritas Ambassadors

Saint Christina's Food Collection



Caritas Fundraiser

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who supported our Caritas Fundraiser on Friday 22nd June.

We raised over £400 and this money will be split equally between our sister school in Mumbai, The Passage homeless charity, the Ukrainian refugee centre at the O2 Centre on Finchley Road and Médecins Sans Frontières.

Thank you again.

The Caritas Ambassadors



Parents' Link Updates

Summer Fair in the sunshine!

Last week the sun came back, and so did the annual Summer Fair. We couldn't have asked for better weather and once again we had a fantastic turnout, with close to 380 people enjoying the day, and many new families enjoying a taste of the vibrant friendly community they are joining. Such a big event takes much planning, and many hands, so we want to acknowledge and thank everyone who contributed to its success; the Class Reps who helped spread information and gathered volunteers in the lead up, all the class groups who volunteered to staff the stands and games on the day, the Office Team who helped keep the comms going and the coffee flowing, and the staff who came along in their own time to be part of the Fair day. Thank you all. Congratulations too, to Diana in Yr3 who is the winner of the "Guess how many Clown Noses" competition. Diana correctly guessed 56, and has received a £20 Amazon Gift voucher.

Green Wall Project

It started as little side project, but we've been overwhelmed by the support for this upgrade of the playground environment. After some initial plant donations by the school and private parents, a further £390 was raised in all to help purchase seedlings to replant the green wall with. We now have 196 wonderful sponsored pots, the wall is looking full of life and colour, and there is £170 remaining in the pot to allow for further planting in Spring next year. An enormous thanks to everyone's generosity, and a huge thanks to the volunteers who rolled up their sleeves to weed, fill, plant, water in and label the pots. We even ran out of label maker!

The library redevelopment

The joy of reading is one of the greatest gifts we can pass to our children, and having a comfortable, dedicated and well stocked space in which to enjoy books at school is priceless. With this in mind Parents Link have been working closely with the school to start the revamp of our current library space. Many would have noticed the work to date displayed on the notice boards in the ground floor main corridor, and this represents of the vision of what the library will become. Not only will it be a revitalised space, but also revitalised book stocks. The Library project will continue on over the summer and into the new academic year, so stay tuned.

That's a wrap

It's been a busy school year, and the Parents Link Committee have been very busy too. This year on behalf of the wider parent community we have raised funds that have resulted in; *purchase of 20 Education iPads *new digital Chapel piano to honour the memory of Fr Terry *the Green Wall revitalisation *and commence of the schools' library redevelopment As is tradition the current Committee will be stepping down early in the new academic year to allow for fresh nominations and elections to the 6 roles. Please do think about whether you might want to nominate in the New Year, and if you have any questions about the roles, feel free to ask the existing members.

Thank you, the 2023-24 Parents Link Committee Masiel, Shakira, Capucine, Siobhan, Tiphaine and Yulia.



JUNIOR WESTMINSTER MILE

FREE FOR WESTMINSTER CLUBS AND SCHOOLS

**SATURDAY
21 SEPTEMBER 2024
TIME - 11:15**

Active Westminster invites schools and groups to bring their children and young people to run, jog, walk, or wheel one mile in the heart of the capital. Finishing in front of Buckingham Palace.

Register Here:




For more information, please contact the Active Westminster team at active@westminster.gov.uk

ACTIVE WESTMINSTER | City of Westminster

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

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 4 th 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/>