

ST CATHERINE'S PREP NEWSLETTER

"Be who God wants you to be, and you will set the world on fire." St Catherine of Siena

31 JANUARY 2020

TAKE A PEEK!

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A NOTE FROM MRS MCPHERSON HEADMISTRESS

I hope that 2020 has started well for you and your families. It certainly seems that Prep girls have made a great start to the Spring term – even while the weather remains firmly wintry.

I was delighted to hear about the Year 6 retreat and the opportunity the girls had, in our warm and welcoming Chaplaincy room, to pray, reflect and enjoy each other's company. Our programme of retreats – which ends with a very popular residential experience for the Sixth Form – is an important part of the School's ethos and tradition, and there are further plans to open up retreat sessions for younger girls.

It was also a pleasure to welcome guests into Prep and Early Years for another successful Welcome Morning, when visitors enjoyed seeing the School in action. Our new Prep Prospectus was distributed; this booklet captures the colour and atmosphere of St Catherine's very well. If you would like a copy to pass on to an interested friend, do please collect one from the school Reception.

I look forward to seeing you at events this term, including the FOSC disco and the Shrove Tuesday drinks reception.

With best wishes,
Mrs McPherson

A NOTE FROM MRS MARSH HEAD OF PREP

Happy New Year and welcome to 2020! I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and New Year break.

The girls have certainly returned refreshed and reinvigorated and are approaching all the Prep School opportunities with enthusiasm.

Our Year 6 girls have now completed their Entrance Assessments and all of our year groups have some super trips and visits lined up for this term. KS2 girls will benefit from our Retreat afternoons in the Chaplaincy this term and rugby taster sessions from Harlequins for Years 5 and 6. KS2 and EYFS are looking forward to their trips out and drama workshop.

Our Welcome Morning for prospective parents was well attended and you will see from our dates sheet, that has been sent to you, that we have a busy term ahead. I look forward to seeing you at many of these events.

Kind regards,

Mrs Marsh

Spring Term

- Thu 30 Jan, 1.30-2.00pm - N-Y6 'How am I Feeling?' Assembly
- Thu 30 Jan, 5.00-5.45pm - Y3 Parent Info Meeting for PACCAR
- Tues 4 Feb, All Day - Y2 Katie Morag Day
- Tues 4 Feb, 8.30-9.00am - KS2 Music Assembly
- Tues 4 Feb, 9.15-10.45am - Prep Welcome morning
- Tues 4 Feb, 2.20 - 3.30 pm - Y2 Food and Nutrition Taster Session
- Tues 4 Feb, 1.30-2.00 pm Year 5 Retreat - Chaplaincy
- Thur 6 Feb, 1.30-3.30pm - Y3 & 4 Resilience Training
- Thur 6 Feb, 4-5pm - Parent Twilight Resilience Training
- Fri 7 Feb, Mufti Day in aid of Grief Encounter
- Fri 7 Feb, 10.00am-4.00pm - Y3-6 ISA Cross Country at Sherfield School
- Fri 7 Feb, 1.30-3.00pm - EYFS Perform Workshop
- Fri 7 Feb, 5.00-7.00pm, FOSSC Disco
- Mon 10 Feb (all week) Y2-5 Half Year Assessment Week
- Mon 10 Feb Prep School Council Voting
- Tues 11 Feb, 8.40-9.00am - Y3 Internet Safety Assembly
- Tues 11 Feb 9.00-10.30am Y5 Interhouse Hockey
- Wed 12 Feb, All Day - Y2 & Y3 National Gallery Trip
- Thur 13 Feb 6.15pm - Richmond Borough Swim Heats - Pools on the Park
- Fri 14 Feb, 7.30am - Breakfast Club Valentine's Day Special
- Half Term: Mon 17 Feb - Fri 21 Feb
- Holiday Club: Mon 17 Feb - Fri 21 Feb



ST CATHERINE'S HOLIDAY CLUB

For Nursery to Year 6, our popular holiday provision will be running this **February half term**

7.45 am - 5.00pm £230 for five days
Core Session (8.30am to 3.30pm) £190 for five days
Single days available

Come along and bring a friend for arts and crafts, trampolining, games, sport, cookery, swimming and lots more activities!

[Click Here to Book](#)



ST CATHERINE'S SCHOOL
TWICKENHAM

Reminder

**BREAKFAST CLUB WILL
BE CHANGING FROM
CASH PAYMENT TO
TERMLY INVOICING
AFTER HALF TERM**



SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB

BY ALISON JONES, PREP LIBRARIAN

This term's Scholastic Book Club is up and running!

Go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/st-catherines-tw1> to browse the latest books and order online.

For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 25p in Scholastic Rewards. Please place your order online by January 31st, 2020.



NURSERY

Kiena: for having a happy time with her new friends in Nursery.

YEAR 1

Aimee L: for focussed work in Maths and ICT.

YEAR 2

Sasha: for making a super effort in all of our lessons this week

HATS AND GLOVES REMINDER!

A reminder that any hats and gloves brought to school need to be navy blue.



There will be a Prayer Group meeting at St James's Church, 3.00 – 3.25 pm on Thursdays. All are welcome.

VISIT TO MILESTONES MUSEUM

BY ANYA L, YEAR 6

THE DAILY PROPHET

www.thedailyprophet.com - Written by Anya

Since 1968

ST CATHERINE'S BLAST FROM THE PAST AT MILESTONES MUSEUM!

My class, St Catherine's Year 6, went to Milestones museum to learn about the Victorian Era.

On Wednesday the 15th January 2020, we went to Milestones Basingstoke, England to learn about the Victorians, so we could enhance our learning of our current History topic.

We left at 9:00 AM and the journey took about an hour. When we arrived we were welcomed by two workers who escorted us to our room, and we went through the health and safety procedure for the Steelworks exhibit.

We were introduced to our guide at Milestones for the day. Firstly, she told us what steel was used for - the main use was machines because the industrial revolution was in that time frame, also the most popular use of transportation was steam trains so steel was also used for that. The difference of how people shaped steel back then compared it to how people do it now is that they used to heat metal up so it softened and then they hammered it down into a cold to make machines and trains. Now, we melt steel until it becomes a liquid and pour it

into a mould to create parts of transportation and other things.

Next, we were taken to a Victorian school and then the teacher we had at the Steelworks, turned into a Dean at the School. We all had to tie aprons on before we entered and then we had to sit in rows with our hands behind straight backs. We then were given chalkboards and pencils and had to write letters of the alphabet and then we had to learn a poem and recite it in a minute. Then we were given an abacus each and we had sums to complete.

We had lunch after that and we got to explore around a little bit. Overall, I really enjoyed going to the museum and I think it was extremely beneficial for my learning, as I feel I have a better understanding of what life was like in the Era. I would like to thank the teachers who took us there and the bus driver who took us there and back. It was a pleasant experience and I would recommend it to anyone who wants to enhance their learning about the Victorians.

YEAR 3 VISIT TO RICHMOND MUSEUM

BY DIANA GARRETT, YEAR 3 TEACHER

As part of our Geography local area study, Year 3 visited Richmond Museum. They travelled on the 33 bus from just outside the school into Richmond. The girls really enjoyed spotting local landmarks along the way such as Marble Hill House and the River Thames. At the museum, the class took part in a workshop where they handled different artefacts from the Tudor, Roman, Victorian and WW2 eras.

Many of the items were not familiar and the girls were encouraged to examine them carefully, study the materials they were made from, and theorise as to their use in past times. We then had a little time to look around the local displays. We saw a scale model of the now demolished Richmond Palace, which gave the area its name, and was the inspiration behind Hampton Court Palace.



SIENA SCHOLARSHIP - YEARS 3-6

With the girls' high standards and personal skills and qualities in mind, Mrs McPherson is pleased to announce a new all-rounder scholarship opportunity for deserving pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6). This new scholarship mirrors the Siena Scholarships available in the Senior School.

Pupils currently in Year 2 may apply for this scholarship and we will be pleased to accept applications from current pupils and from new pupils seeking to enter St Catherine's Year 3 in September 2020. Applicants will be asked to submit recent school reports and any other relevant details about academic and/or extra-curricular performance; in addition, a Head's reference will be requested.

Those awarded the scholarship will receive a 25% reduction of tuition fees for each year, from Year 3 to Year 6. Scholarship will be awarded by the end of the Spring Term, to begin in the Autumn term, 2020. The deadline for applications for this scholarship is Monday, 24 February 2020.

For further details,
please contact admissions@stcatherineschool.co.uk

NUTRITIONIST VISIT

BY SARAH MARSH, HEAD OF PREP

Amanda, the nutritionist from our catering company Ch & Co, presented an engaging assembly to the Prep girls. She amazed us with some foodie facts including that beetroot can help you exercise for longer!

After the presentation, the Food Committee had some time to discuss various aspects of catering at St. Catherine's with her. We all felt very well informed about making sensible food choices after her visit and will be checking that we eat our five portions a day of fruit and vegetables, and eating more beetroot!



CAKE BAKE!

BY SARAH MARSH, HEAD OF PREP

Key stage 1 presented a wonderful cake bake break time treat for the Prep girls. Their efforts were quickly snapped up and an amazing £112.60 was raised towards our Prep charities of Momentum and ARC, a great fundraiser to start the year with.



FOOD & NUTRITION



"Year 5 made bread rolls and produced some lovely shapes" Mrs Smyth

SITE SECURITY

The safety of all those in our community is our highest priority, and, as you would expect, we have careful procedures in place for any visitors coming onto the school site. If any parents are visiting, please would you make sure to sign in at Reception, who will telephone the member of staff you are visiting to come and meet you. Please bear in mind that, due to safeguarding regulations, unless a parent has received a DBS clearance through St. Catherine's, they will need to be escorted. Please note that these requirements do not apply for evening events when we have other arrangements in place. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Miss Amy Wallace
Deputy Head

INTERNET SAFETY

On Tuesday evening our parents enjoyed an informative presentation from Mark Spiller, a CEOPS and NSPCC presenter, regarding social media and internet safety. We all came away much the wiser regarding strategies for safe use and understanding of various websites and Apps that are available.

Mark will also be giving presentations to our Year 5 and 6 this week to support the girls' learning and understanding and staying safe online.

Mrs Sarah Marsh
Head of Prep

YEAR 6 RETREAT

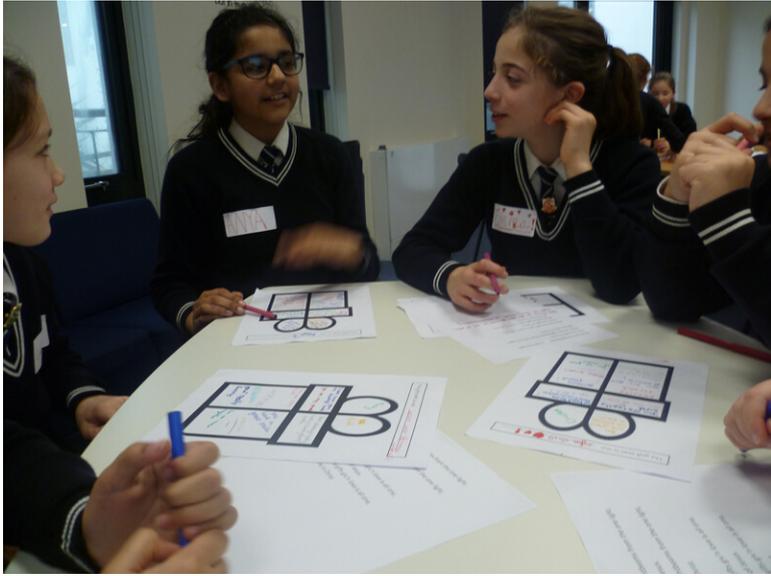
BY MARY RYAN, SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

Day retreats have been a well-established part of the Senior School programme for a number of years. This year, with our new Chaplaincy space, as well as a Chaplain, the School has begun to extend the experience of a retreat to the Prep Department.

Year 6 were the first to experience their afternoon retreat and, earlier this month came to the Chaplaincy to spend an afternoon reflecting on the theme of 'Gifts'. We began by sharing our own gifts and every pupil was asked to write down the gifts they saw in other members of their class. The girls really enjoyed seeing how their peers valued their qualities. We then considered that gifts can often be hidden – we can sometimes focus on appearance and fail to see the gifts inside others.

Finally, we prepared a short prayer to finish the afternoon and Year 6 pupils helped to write prayers thanking God for the gifts we have, as well as the gifts others share with us.

It was a very successful afternoon and a wonderful opportunity to get to know our Year 6 pupils a little better.



YEAR 6 START RUGBY WITH HARLEQUINS

Year 6 pupils have started their rugby lessons this half-term with Harlequins RFC and have been performing brilliantly! They have been developing basic skills such as running into space, passing backwards and carrying the ball forward. Whilst still getting used to the 'muddiness' of the sport, they are making great progress, and it is clear they are developing their confidence and enjoyment for the game. Coach Kirsty commented on their willingness to get involved and excellent dodging skills. They will be continuing with their lessons until half-term, with Year 5 starting after the half term break.

YEAR 5 NETBALL MATCH VS NEWLAND HOUSE

On Wednesday 15 January, Year 5 A & B teams were up against Newland House in their first netball fixture of the year.

Both teams played with great strength, confidence and skill. The A team were not able to prevent Newland House's top shooter and lost 10-4. The B team were dominant and excellent in defence, however, struggled to fully execute their scoring opportunities and drew 2-2.

Lucy F (A team) and Isla C (B team) were both voted Girl of the Game.

PE FIXTURES

A list of the upcoming fixtures and events this term:

5 February - Y5/6 A & B Football Match vs. Jack and Jill @ Sunbury Cricket Club (2:15pm - 3:15pm)

7 February - ISA Cross Country @ Sherfield (10am - 4pm)

11 February - Y5 Interhouse Hockey Competition (9am - 10:30am)

13 February - Richmond Borough Swimming Heats @ Pools on the Park (6:15pm)

3 March - Year 6 A Netball Match vs. Newland House @ Newland House (3pm - 4pm)

4 March - Y5/6 A & B Football Match vs. Newland House @ Newland House School (4pm - 5pm)

11 March - Richmond Borough Swimming Finals @ Pools on the Park (2pm)

24 March - Y6 Football Match vs. St Mary's C of E (4pm - 5pm)

25 March - Y5 Football Match vs. St Mary's C of E (4pm - 5pm)

31 March - Y6 Interhouse Hockey Competition (1:30pm - 3pm)

PREP SPORTS

SPRING TERM SPORTS CAPTAINS

We have selected 6 new sports captains for the Spring Term and we are delighted with how mature, responsible, organised and enthusiastic they have started in their new roles! They are:

Samantha W L (Year 4)

Ava M (Year 4)

Tia H (Year 5)

Hannah N (Year 5)

Lucy H (Year 6)

Caroline W (Year 6)

We would also like to thank the outgoing sports captains for their exceptional help during the Autumn Term.



YEAR 4-6 BOUNCE-A-THON!

On Tuesday 21st January, Year 4, 5 and 6 took part in the Bounce-a-thon! An activity aiming to raise money for our Prep charities through non-stop trampoline bouncing. All pupils were excellent and showed off some brilliant trampoline skills. The atmosphere was electric, especially when Emma T hit 40 swivel hips in a row! Well done to all involved as they achieved their goal of one hour of trampolining.

KEEP UP TO DATE WITH ALL OF OUR SPORTS NEWS!

A reminder that parents can access our Prep PE Google Site to view all upcoming fixtures, results and extra-curricular clubs list. It is updated daily:

<https://sites.google.com/stcatherineschool.co.uk/stcatherinesprepschoolpe/home>