

ST CATHERINE'S PREP NEWSLETTER

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

22 MAY 2020

TAKE A PEEK!

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A NOTE FROM MRS MCPHERSON HEADMISTRESS

It has been very good to see that Prep girls are doing so well with their lessons and Google Meets, and joining in with the online activities. In particular, the France Chez Nous theme for Year 6 last week looked terrific fun, complete with French food, boules and Eiffel tower building. Well done girls on your great creative work!

As you know this is a busy time now that St Catherine's is getting ready for the gradual easing of lockdown and the staggered reopening of the School. It has been very useful to hear from so many parents about this, and we will continue to consult with you, and with staff, as we make plans. As I write this today, the June 1 start date has not been confirmed; however, I can assure you that we have excellent and detailed guidance about how to prepare the site and we are well underway. I will advise parents over the half term.

With very best wishes for a relaxing break,
Mrs McPherson

A NOTE FROM MRS MARSH HEAD OF PREP

What a few weeks it has been! Lots of new skills and experiences have greeted us and we have moved from our usual version of education to learning remotely. The girls have been a huge credit and inspiration, taking on board new ideas and rising to the challenges and opportunities, embracing online clubs, streamed assemblies and Google meets, and even presenting their own ideas using the tools in Google Classroom to everyone's advantage.

Not being able to travel did not prevent a hugely successful 'week' in France chez nous and a chance, modified, to explore the challenges that PGL would have presented.

We now pause for a breath, at half term, while we continue to prepare for the possible phased return of some year groups on 1 June.

On behalf of all the Prep staff I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a restful half term.

Sarah Marsh
Head of Prep

REMINDERS

School Council

The new members of the school Council have been meeting to discuss ideas for the Prep school and have produced some excellent ideas. The members have brought some wonderful quotes to our meetings to resonate with the current times, such as: stay strong and be brave; stop worrying and start thinking; and, as we strive we can thrive. Other ideas include a class happiness board and a reverse mufti day where the girls all wear uniform while learning from home! Well done to Anya, Hettie, Eva, Ennaya, Florence, Jasalba, Maia and Hannah for their work.

Remote Learning

During this period of government lockdown, our Google Classrooms and Meets have proved very successful and our small group tutorials are very effective. Our Learning Support lessons have continued in the same way and many of the girls have even learned how to present their own work and lesson ideas. Purple Mash, with our younger pupils, is providing excellent support, activities and a show case for work. Mrs Marsh has been able to stream assemblies, and School Council meetings have continued online, as well. We are justly proud of how the girls are adapting to the new ways of working, and of our staff for their enthusiasm and ingenuity in these interesting times.



During this time of remote learning, if your daughter is unwell or unable to attend her remote learning sessions, please email absence@stcatherineschool.co.uk before 8.30am.
Thank you.

Stars School Travel Plan – Going for Gold Accreditation

We have been working hard on our Transport for London STARS Plan and have submitted our application for Gold Accreditation. STARS – Sustainable Travel: Active, Responsible, Safe – is an accreditation scheme for schools, nurseries and colleges to inspire young Londoners to travel sustainably, actively, responsibly and safely. In doing this, STARS empowers children and improves the safety and wellbeing of the whole community. It also encourages active travel behaviour and improves the environment around the school. We will keep you updated on our application and in the meantime, you can find out more about the programme at the STARS website.

PREP REMOTE LEARNING

NURSERY

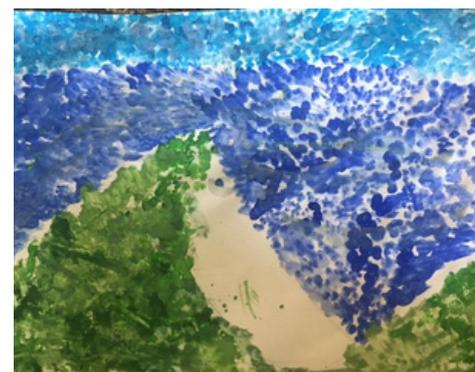


YEAR 1

Year 1 pupils hard at work identifying parts of a plant, learning about coins, and number bonds to 10.



YEAR 2



Lovely pointillism that Year 2 completed in an art lesson. The work belongs to Mary, Sasha, Sophie, Amna and Kiara.

PREP REMOTE LEARNING

YEAR 3



Year 3 has been busy with their Food & Nutrition creations and turning egg boxes into pneumatic-powered monsters!



PREP REMOTE LEARNING

YEAR 4

Baking, reading, PE, illuminated letters from history lessons and artwork inspired by Sonia Delaunay have kept Year 4 busy learning from home.



PREP REMOTE LEARNING

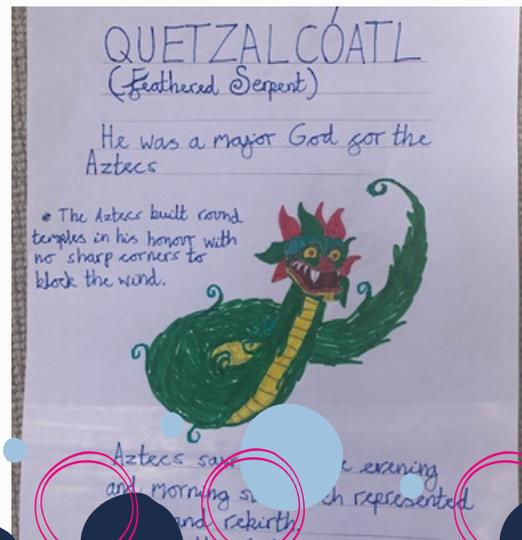
YEAR 4



Edie and her brother made Rainbow Ribbons to support the NHS. They placed them outside their house, and £91.63 was raised within 24hrs. Since then, lots more Rainbow Ribbons have been made and more money has been raised. An unexpected bonus was that they had visits from so many of the class who walked, scooted and cycled over in support. A very well done to all!

PREP REMOTE LEARNING

YEAR 5



Y5 PGL AT HOME



Year 5 has been having a swell of a time, keeping virtual PGL going with lots of common activities:

- A smashing egg drop, which hopefully didn't land on the floor.
- Discovering our environment's beauty by creating some masterpieces out of leaves, flowers, stones and many other types of nature at hand.
- We had fun at the raft building session, which tested our patience, but rewarded us with beautiful outcomes at the end.
- The den building had to be our favourite, especially as some of our family members were there with us. It was a great way to have a lovely camp out (or in).
- The racecourses were also a blast. It was a great way to introduce some competition in the mix and test our creativity to build our raceways. Overall, we never wanted it to end!

Thank you to Miss Goodhew who made all of this happen behind the scenes and thank you to our family and the school, who have been continually supporting us through all odds. Despite the unexpected change of plans, Year 5 had an amazing time! By Daniela and Tia

It was fun to move around and set up the obstacle course.
- Milly -

It was fun sleeping in a different place in my house which I normally don't do.
- Simi -

It was fun having to do trial and error especially when the egg broke.
- Saanvi -

It was nice having a fun distraction from what was going on.
- Tia -

PREP REMOTE LEARNING

YEAR 6



Virtual
France
Trip



The Year 6 girls were sadly unable to travel to France this year, but this did not stop them from throwing themselves into all things "Francais" during our French activity week! The girls also enjoyed re-enacting the Tour de France, a French-themed treasure hunt, and plenty of opportunities to learn new vocabulary. We hope that the girls had a fun week and we commend them all for their effort and participation!



PREP REMOTE LEARNING

VIRTUAL CUBS

At Cubs last week, we celebrated the fact that 11 out of the 12 people who have walked on the moon were scouts. The cubs could only use two pieces of paper, two toilet roll tubes, a yoghurt pot and an egg box. They had to paint it to show that it was about Cubs and NASA.

