



ST CATHERINE'S PREP NEWSLETTER

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

15 OCTOBER 2021

TAKE A PEEK!

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A NOTE FROM MRS MCPHERSON HEADMISTRESS

As this first half term draws to a close, Prep is a very happy place. This week the Harvest Assembly was an especially lovely way to celebrate our busy six weeks: the girls were delightful and it was a great pleasure to be gathered together as a school community once again.

I would like to draw your attention to St Catherine's new School Mission Statement, which governors, staff and pupils have been discussing, as part of a recent review. Prep girls have shown real thoughtfulness and insight, meaning that school values are alive and well. This has been evident in the way they have engaged with the statement - for example, in Reception, with a great wall display. In their friendships and goals, and in the way they each belong to our thriving community, the girls embody the values of St Catherine's. The new statement is also shared with you within the magazine today, and I hope you enjoy this ambitious, confident and creative description of all we do, and stand for, here at School.

I look forward to seeing you at events and celebrations during the second part of term.

With best wishes,
Mrs McPherson

A NOTE FROM MRS MARSH HEAD OF PREP

Welcome to the first newsletter of this new academic year.

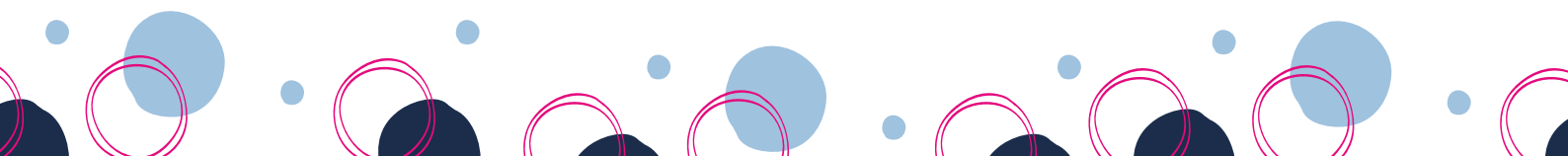
It's been a busy half term already and I am sure you will be delighted to see what all the girls in Prep have been up to in the last few weeks.

It has been wonderful, at last, to be able to welcome you back on to site and I hope you enjoyed our Harvest Assembly which is the first time we have gathered all of Prep together with parents in a very long time.

We have a busy few weeks ahead as we approach Christmas with Wellbeing Week, entrance exams and various trips, talks and visits.

May I wish you a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you back safely at school on Monday, 1 November.

With best wishes,
Mrs Marsh



NEWS & REMINDERS

Calendar Dates

Please note that the full Autumn term calendar may be accessed on the Clarion portal. For your convenience, we have included a selection of upcoming dates below:

- **Half Term 18 - 29 October 2021**
- Tue 2 Nov 2021 FOSC Committee Meeting 19:30 - 20:30
- Tue 2 Nov 2021 Year 6 Visit to Senior School 15:00 - 18:00
- Wed 3 Nov 2021 Year 5 Strawberry Hill House Trip
- Fri 5 Nov 2021 Reception - Y2 Autumn Walk - Radnor Gardens (morning only)
- Fri 12 Nov 2021 FOSC Disco 17:00 - 19:30
- Mon 15 Nov - Fri 19 Nov 2021 Year 6 Practice Assessments (in class)
- Mon 22 Nov 2021 Reception - Y2 Trip to St James' Church
- Tue 25 Nov 2021 Year 4 Residential Trip Parent Info Meet 16:00 - 16:30
- Tue 30 Nov 2021 FOSC Committee Meeting 19:30 - 20:30
- Wed 1 Dec 2021 FOSC Wreath Making 18:30 - 20:30
- Fri 3 Dec 2021 Breakfast Club Christmas Party 07:30 - 08:30
- Fri 3 Dec 2021 Entrance Exam for current Year 6 pupils (in class)
- **Tue 7 Dec 2021 Years 3-6 early hometime at 13:00 ahead of Carol Service**
- Tue 7 Dec 2021 Years 3-6 Carol Service 18:00 - 19:00
- Wed 8 Dec 2021 Reception - Year 2 Christmas Nativity Assembly 09:00 - 09:45
- Fri 10 Dec 2021 Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Lunch
- Fri 10 Dec 2021 Pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty' (during school day)
- Fri 10 Dec 2021 House Quiz (during school day)
- Sun 12 Dec 2021 FOSC Christmas Fair 12:00 - 15:00
- Mon 13 Dec 2021 School Council Film Night Fundraiser 16:00 - 17:00
- **Wed 15 Dec 2021 End of Term (Reception pickup at 12:10; Years 1-2 pickup at 12:15; Years 3-6 pickup at 12.20pm)**

We are looking forward to Year 6's visit to the Senior School on Tuesday, 2 November. Please see the email to Year 6 parents for more details.

Oliver! Photos

We were fortunate to have some beautiful candid photos taken of the Oliver! dress rehearsal that took place in the Summer Term, which may be accessed using the link below.

They may not show all of the pupils but we hope they will give you a flavour of the production.

<https://gfaces.photoshelter.com/gallery/St-Catherines-Oliver-2021/G000072mMYqefEaA>

If any parent would like to purchase a high resolution copy of any of these pictures, please contact the photographer Rob Haines via email at robhaines.1@icloud.com

The image prices are:

- 1 image £5
- 3 images £10
- 5 images £15
- 10 images £20

For more than 10 images, please contact Rob Haines at the email address above.

Scholastic Book Club

The new Scholastic Book Club leaflet has been sent home with all Prep pupils. Please visit <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, which the school may use to purchase additional books for the library. The deadline for orders is Sunday 28 November 2021.

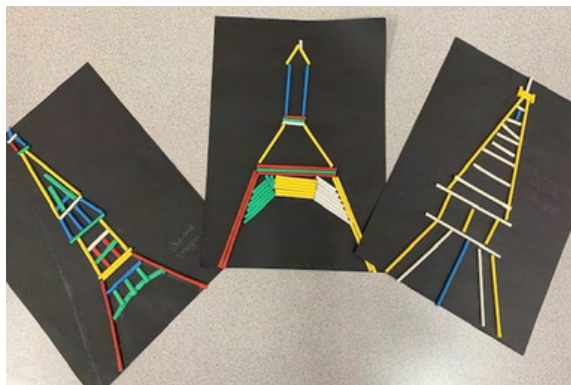


PREP LANGUAGES WEEK



Languages Week

During the week beginning 27 September, we celebrated languages week at St. Catherine's. The girls in Prep enjoyed a variety of activities, from playing 'Loto' in their Maths lessons to building Eiffel Towers using different materials. The older groups took part in a story telling workshop, where they had to actively participate using their French vocabulary. This successful week ended with a fantastic 'World Cuisine Competition' and charity sale, which raised £400 for the Hello Yellow mental health charity. Well done to all Prep girls for this extremely successful week.



HARVEST FESTIVAL



Harvest

It was wonderful to see the girls give such an uplifting Harvest Assembly this week with beautiful poems, hymns and song. Accompanied by parents it was a fantastic occasion of thanks and celebration. An overwhelming amount of donations will be delivered to the Vineyard's food bank over half term, for which we are certain they will be gratefully received.

SCHOOL MISSION



Our value of 'Community'

In Prep, we have been thinking this half term about our new School vision and values, in particular the value of 'Community'. We talked in class about what makes us unique and how, though we are all different, we all fit together in one large community. Every girl and member of staff was then invited to represent themselves on a puzzle piece. These individual pieces were then fitted together to create a giant jigsaw of the Prep community as a simultaneous celebration of both our differences and our togetherness.

School Mission

We are inspired by St Catherine of Siena, who said 'Be who God wants you to be, and you will set the world on fire', to form young women of confidence and compassion, ready for service and leadership in the world. We fulfil our mission through these values:

Community: a place of cheerfulness, dignity and tolerance, where all are welcome

Faith: a Christ-centred school with time for reflection; a culture of gratitude and friendship

Courage: with self-knowledge, resilience and integrity, and a readiness for challenge

Scholarship: where gifts are developed through curiosity, imagination and ambition

Service: commitment to others, to stewardship, and to justice and hope for all

PREP MATHS DAY

Maths Day

On 5 October, the girls in Prep had a fantastic day in which they celebrated Maths. All year groups from Reception to Year 6 attended workshops focused on problem solving activities. The girls thoroughly enjoyed their workshops showing good reasoning and applying skills. In addition, a t-shirt design competition was launched for that day and it was great to see how creative the girls were in making their beautiful t-shirts. What a memorable day!



SCHOOL TRIPS



Year 6 Junior Citizen

Year 6 went on a trip to Hampton Wick Cricket Club in Bushy Park to take part in the Junior Citizen Scheme - working in partnership with Transport for London, the London Fire Brigade, the Port of London Water Authority, the London Ambulance Service, the Royal Parks and the Metropolitan Police.

Working in teams, the pupils visited multiple scenarios to have a hands-on opportunity to learn how to look after themselves and others around them in various real-life scenarios. One of the favourite activities of the day was pretending to be a detective at a traffic collision scene and trying to work out who was at fault between a car and a bicycle. The biker was injured and the pupils had to find clues to what caused the collision. In the end, it was decided that it was the car's fault, but the cyclist did not help themselves by not wearing a helmet, nor having a roadworthy bike.

Other activities included stranger danger, where a lady approached the girls to ask for help in finding her daughter. It turned out to be a police officer just acting! Other skills learned were how to be safe in and around the water thanks to the RNLI, what to do if there is a fire, basic first aid and how to use 999, as well as using public transport safely. A special thanks to all the service members involved. Year 6 had a fabulous time!



SCHOOL TRIPS

Year 4 Richmond Theatre



Year 4 were exposed to the yuckiest and slimiest bits of history when they went to see "Horrible Histories" live at Richmond theatre. They enjoyed learning about the way Britain has changed over the last 2000 years and the different ways the country has been impacted by invaders.

Early Years Out & About

Early Years pupils have enjoyed lots of lovely outings this half term.

Posting a Letter

In Reception, we learned about sending a letter in the post. We wrote a card, put it in an envelope, wrote on the address and stuck on a stamp. Then we walked around the corner to post it in a red post box.

Fire Station Visit

We went to visit Twickenham Fire Station and learned all about how firefighters work to help people and keep us safe. We got to sit in the Fire Engine and afterwards we went to the park for our snack and a play.



SCHOOL TRIPS

Year 5 Hampton Court Palace



As part of their learning about the Tudors, this week the girls in Year 5 went to Hampton Court Palace. They enjoyed investigating the Tudor kitchens, learned about the foods cooked at the palace and the roles of the people working and living there. They also explored Henry VIII's apartments following a trail map filled with key objects to find and challenges.

