



Resilience and Communication

Our students in Year 6 attained excellent outcomes in their 11+ exams this year with 50% of them gaining either scholarships or the offer of a place at a Grammar school. This academic success is reflected across the school, as two thirds of our students are regularly getting standardised scores of over 115; this places them well above national expectations in maths and English. However, we also want our students to develop key values and personal qualities. Mrs Morton writes:

Our School Values this term have been **Resilience** and **Communication**. In assemblies, all children learnt about the definition of resilience, helped by some Year 6 students who wrote and acted out a scene about being resilient when things don't always go your way.

The scene ended with the message that learning to be resilient is important if you want to be successful. Students had discussions and completed follow up work in their classes.

Communication was our Value in the second half of this term. In an assembly led by Mrs Morton, children discussed the ways in which we communicate and how our body language also communicates a message.

Again, a group of Year 6 children helped everyone understand what communication is through role play. Back in our classes, we discussed the importance of communication in both written and verbal communication.

We all had a 'No-Pen' morning, which allowed us to focus on communicating effectively together as a class. Some classes used this opportunity to take part in role-play and hot seating; Year 5 worked together in a science dissolving investigation using communication skills to discuss their results. Finally our Year 5 and 6 students put many of these personal values and qualities to the test at their residential at PGL.

At St Christopher's, our ethos is that academic excellence goes hand in hand with personal development.

Mr Musetti - Mrs Morton – Miss Robertson

The Nursery

This term in Nursery, the main focus has been on Animals and Transport.

The children learnt to sing new songs relating to animals and created junk models to represent the transport they use to get to nursery.

They learnt about Chinese New Year and celebrated with some of the parents, and also had other parents come into read with them.

The nursery began to have more free flow between the outside and inside area, with the 7 areas of the EYFS now being available to the children outside as well. There was also a strong focus on learning phonics and mathematics, with two focused sessions covering both in the morning and afternoon.

Ms Tong

Reception

The children in Reception have been working super hard as they have learnt all about an

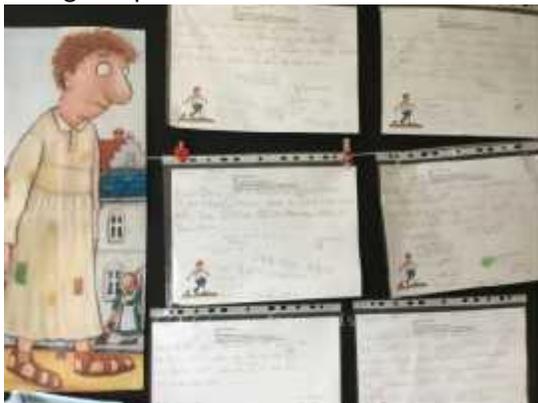


Author... Julia Donaldson! We learnt about her style of writing and listened to lots of stories that had animals, mini beasts, wizards, witches and strange looking creatures- creatures we have yet to see!

We began our 'Learning from Julia Donaldson' journey by having a go at making our own brooms inspired by the story 'Room on the Broom'. We had a go at re inventing the story by putting ourselves into the witches shoes and thought about who we would take on the broom and what we would hear, see and smell.



We then went to the land of the giants, where we met a very smart and friendly giant who shared all his clothes with the animals he met on his way home. We really felt sorry for him so we had a go at designing new clothes. We also had a go at retelling the story and writing our own versions too. That was hard work, but we didn't give up! We showed resilience!



In maths we have been counting in 2's, 5's and 10's. We have used lots of counting resources to do so. We have continued using number lines to calculate addition and subtraction sums as well as doubling and halving numbers. We tried

to use 'numicon' to calculate our number bonds to 10 and 20. We also had fun experimenting with length in our Chinese restaurant role play area. We used counters and rulers to measure the length of noodles, chopsticks and fortune cookies. That was super fun!

We also revised our knowledge of 2D and 3D shapes by making a dragon called Mushu and the Great Wall of China. We had a go at communicating our ideas with others in our group to create a long but strong wall using lots of building materials.

In art, we took inspiration from an artist called Kandinsky. We looked closely at how he created concentric circles using different colours. We had a go at this too. With a lot of practice we were able to create a few replicas using water colour and poster paint.



In science we have learnt all about plants and how they grow. We had a go at identifying the different parts of a flower and why plants needed roots, a stem, leaves and a flower to grow. Our half term holiday project was to plant a seed and watch it grow. All our plants are now growing so quickly in our exploration area! We can't wait to eat the beans and tomatoes and smell the flowers.

PGL Liddington

Year 5 and 6 went to PGL Liddington and it was an amazing experience. We had to work together to complete activities and challenges



like the giant swing, Jacob's Ladder and climbing. In all, we stayed there for 4 nights. The food was amazing and we got amazing desserts too. Our rooms were very fun because we got bunk beds and our own en-suite bathrooms. On the third day, we had a disco where we all danced and played fun games.

PGL was awesome!

ML and L



Year 1

Year 1 completed their topic about Dinosaurs with an exciting assembly for their families and the Lower School.

The children learned lots of interesting facts about Dinosaurs, but couldn't decide why the Dinosaurs became extinct. There was lots of lovely, enthusiastic singing and we had a lot of fun performing the assembly.



The Natural History Museum

Year 1 visited the Natural History Museum to learn more about Dinosaurs. We saw a huge skeleton of Sophie Stegosaurus. Fortunately she was a Herbivore so she didn't try to eat us. We did some very detailed sketches of the Stegosaurus. The T.Rex was very scary and we moved into the lunch room before he could eat us for his lunch!! We really enjoyed our visit.

Mrs Graham

Year 2

The Jewish Museum

Year 1 and 2 visited The Jewish Museum to learn some more about the Judaism. Our favourite part was being able to taste different foods associated with the Jewish Festivals.

Doughnuts for Hanukkah; Matzah and Parsley for the Spring Festival of Passover and Children's wine (grape juice) and apples and honey for Jewish New Year. We were really full up by the time we returned to school.

The Bank of England

Years 1 and 2 had a lovely trip to The Bank of England. They started to explore the museum with their clip board in hand. The challenge was to find the answers to the clues to earn a small reward. All children earned their reward as they worked well together to solve the clues.

At the end they had another challenge - to see if they could lift up the mightily heavy gold bar, some nearly managed but they couldn't lift it





out of the case - what a shame!
We had lunch with a few friendly pigeons, a lovely trip.

Miss Clarke



Year 3

We've studied so many different things in Year 3. In History, we learnt about the Anglo-Saxons and in Geography, we made iPad projects about houses and homes. We also studied Sikhism in RE. In Design and Technology, we had a really creative time making our own packaging using



different types of mathematical 'nets'. We also made shadow puppets and used them to make a play which we then filmed; they all had moving parts.

In Art Club, we used modelling clay to create characters from our class novel 'The Fire Maker's Daughter'.

Finally our trip to the Royal Academy of Arts was fantastically fun because we got to make lots of different unique sculptures.

By Amina, Calee and Ellie

Year 4

Spring Term in Year 4

We have had a very busy Spring Term in Year 4.

We have been on two school trips, one to The Royal Academy of Art and the other to The Barbican.

At The Royal Academy we looked at all of the sculptures by Phyllida Barlow, then we got paper and a graphite pencil and drew shapes, lines and armature of the sculptures. We used the drawings to give us ideas of how to build our own sculptures.

They were pretty ammmmaaaazzziinnnggg!!!!

At the Barbican we took part in the concert 'Folksong and Fantasy' The London Symphony Orchestra played The Hall of the Mountain King - which was our favourite, it was soooo goooooood!

We also performed in our class assembly on KENYA. After learning about the country, we shared facts and sang two songs in Swahili. It was a very enjoyable assembly for everyone, including us.

St Christopher's Got Talent was a fun day. We had some technical difficulties, but some acts were very funny, especially Year 5. We enjoyed the singing, dancing and gymnastics. We are already looking forward to the next one.

It has been a lovely term, hope the next one is too.



Written by the 'Fantastic Fifteen' (Year 4)



Year 5

This term Year 5 have continued working hard in preparation for their 11+ exams. They participated in an 11+ Mock exam, they all did their best and great results were achieved. This Mock was used as a practise and the results will inform us going forward to help us target areas which need more practice.

In Art and DT this term, we completed our Tudor house models which look fantastic! The children went to great lengths to make them look authentic, replicating the traditional Tudor design. We also researched Tudor pots, looking carefully at the shape and patterns. We then sketched our own versions and made our own using clay, finally painting it in realistic colours. Well done Year 5!

Great work this term.

Mrs Morton



Year 6

Well done to Year 6 who have worked hard on their 11+ exams this term and gained places at the following schools, amongst others:

- John Lyon School
- Haberdashers' Aske's Girls' School
- Notting Hill and Ealing
- St Margaret's School
- Michael's Grammar School
- Henrietta Barnett
- Dr Challoner's (High) Grammar School Hershel
- Grammar School
- St Alban's
- Aldenham
- Claire's Court
- St Helen's
- Islamia Girls School
- St Columba's College

A full complete list will be published in the summer.



Music

We have had a very musical half-term, starting with the Talent Competition. Then, on 4th March, all KS2 children attended a concert given by the London Symphony Orchestra in the Barbican Hall. We enjoyed the opportunity to see and hear a world class orchestra play Scandinavian/Icelandic music



and St Christopher's sang really well in the specially-written song.

On Thursday 7th March, all KS1 children attended a similar concert but this time based on a book called "The Great Blueness." We enjoyed participating in the jazzy song and loved the clever graphics which helped to describe the music.

On Friday 15th March, Reception made the long journey to St Luke's, Barbican to hear "Chimp and Zee and The Big Storm."

We got close up to the instrumentalists, had lots opportunities to sing, clap and make noises and Madison was even chosen to play the piano!

Mrs Pott



PE and Games

PE started this term by covering acrobatic gymnastics.

Reception and Year 1 learnt the five basic static positions; Year 3 and Year 4 had to learn to work in pairs and perform the 12 basic pairs positions.

In year 5 and year 6 the work was more focussed on independent learning because they had to choreograph a performance, choosing the time, the position and the music. The resulting performances were fantastic.

In competitive Games, the warmer weather has allowed us to move back to our playing fields in Harrow. Our students rotated between football, Netball, Hockey and Orienteering.

We also attended the annual netball tournament Reddiford School where **on points** our team came joint first.

ICT and ipads

Big changes came to St Christopher's this term.

We added another set of 17 iPads which will allow all teachers to have more freedom and time to include ICT resources in everyday class lessons. The school started using the iPad app "Showbie" for delivering lessons and digital assessment.

On the 5th February, we celebrated World Online Safety Day. Our children created posters to promote SMART rules and signed an online safety contract. Again, we would like to promote values as well as IT skill and ability.

School Secretary's Notices

Please be informed that children will be expected to wear full summer uniform in the Summer term. The boys' summer uniform consists of grey shorts, white short sleeved school shirt and regulation school socks. Girls' summer uniform is the regulation school summer dress which must be purchased from Harrow Outfitters and white regulation school socks without frills. Please ensure all uniforms are clearly labelled.



Please note all items of school uniforms can be purchased directly from Harrow Outfitters (020 8422 1045). Winter coats and sports cagoules can be purchased online at Beat School Uniforms (020 3362 2930). We plan to have a 2nd hand school uniform sale on the first day back at school, Wednesday 24th April however I'll email confirmation closer to the time.

If you pay for your milk directly to CoolMilk, please contact me **BEFORE** ordering/making payment for next term.

Please may I also respectfully remind parents that St Christopher's School & Nursery is a **mobile free zone**. Please finish your call before you enter the school/answer calls once you've left school premises.

School re-opens on Wednesday, 24th April, please be at school by 8.50am.

Hope you have a happy and safe Easter holiday.

Mrs Woodbridge

