



ST. STEPHEN'S JUNIOR SCHOOL

*We Model What We Value*



## School News December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an incredibly busy and long term 2, filled with lots of hard work and festivities for our pupils!

We started the term with a super assembly by the school council to focus on ensuring we have a number of Eco initiatives in the school, including a greater focus on sustainable travel (see below). Thank you to our Year 5 and Year 6 classes who have performed their assemblies this term, focusing on key themes such as Kindness and Inclusion – it is fabulous to see all the children take part and speak so confidently! We have hosted some wonderful community events such as our fireworks display, Christmas Fair, Community lunch for our older residents, along with our Christingle celebration, a performing arts showcase to the school topped off with a Christmas performance from the lower school (yet to be seen at the time of writing).

We have had a significant amount of illness across the school for staff and pupils this term, which is always a challenge to manage in terms of disruption to children's usual routines. We are wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas break and look forward to seeing you in term 3.

*Laura Cutts and Sarah Heaney Headteachers*



### COMMUNITY

In our TLC's this term we created winter gift bags for the local homeless charity "Catching lives". Children worked in pairs to create bags containing a winter message of kindness, a home-made craft item along with a hot chocolate sachet and a biscuit.

We have already received messages of thanks from Catching Lives who have let us know that their clients have really enjoyed reading the touching messages and it has made a real difference to their day. Well done team SSJS and Mr May for organising.



### Road Safety and Parking



As a school we are aware of the ongoing challenges around parking and safety at drop off and collection times. We have met with local councillors to discuss and raise the issue as we know it has a detrimental impact to parents, children and residents. We ask that all parents park responsibly and consider the impact that they are having on children's safety along with the members of the local community.

As part of a proactive measure we are updating our school travel plan so that we are able to engage in a more constructive dialogue with KCC around potential changes and ensure that we are doing as much as possible to mitigate the current situation. As a way forwards throughout the rest of the academic year we will be looking at implementing walk to school on Wednesday, scoot and ride to school, education around road safety as well as working closely with local police and traffic enforcement officers who will be attending regularly.

Kent  
County  
Council



Next term Miss Marmedova will be introducing the school Readathon which starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> of January!



Maths meeting!

Thank you very much to some of our resident maths specialists, Mrs Browne and Mrs Lim, for organising the lower school Maths workshop for parents and children. We were really impressed with the turnout and the enthusiasm for maths learning at SSJS!

# Year 3



Year 3 have been so busy this term with multiple activities including arts and craft. They've also been baking and cooking. Finishing off with a well deserved trip to the panto.





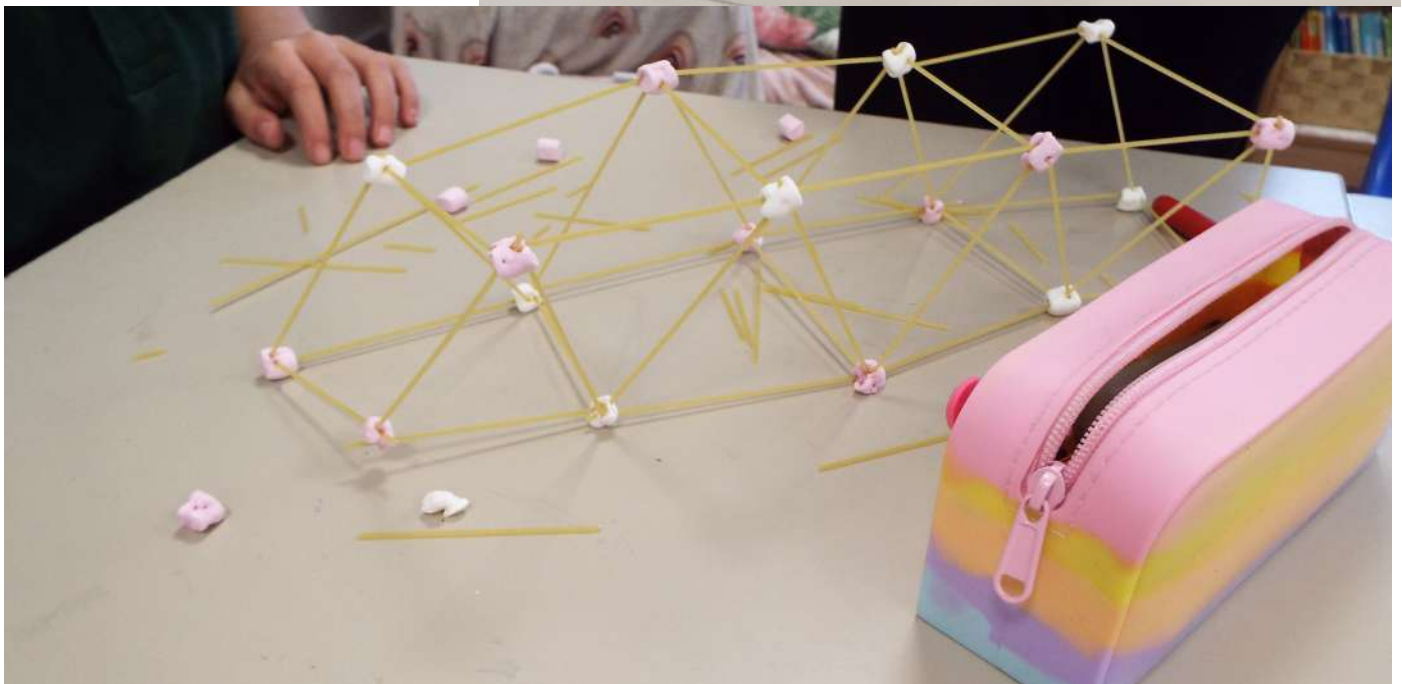
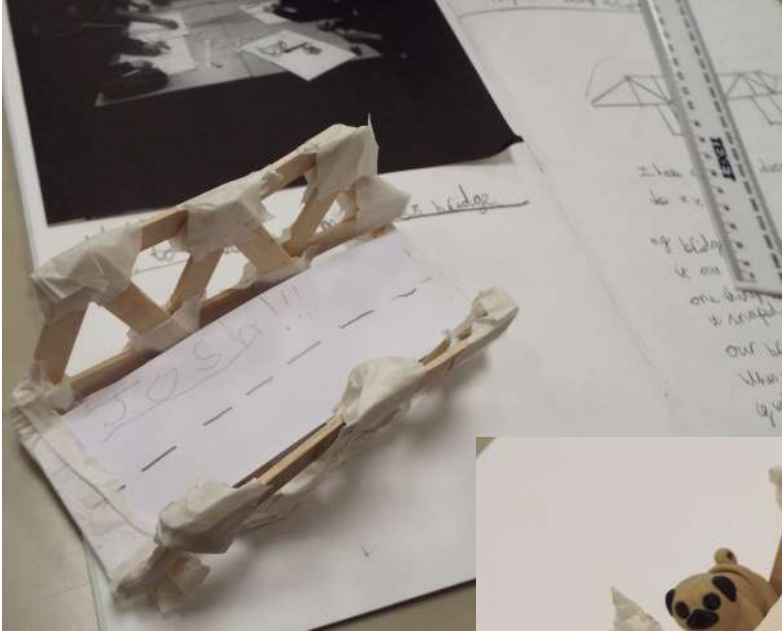
Year 4 have shown commitment, dedication and perseverance throughout the rehearsals for our winter production. We are very proud of them and the children are excited to share their hard work with you.



# Year 5

★ ★ ★ GOOD WORK ★ ★ ★

In Tree Frog class, we learnt about different types of bridges- arch, beam and truss. We found out why triangles are considered to be the strongest shape and used this knowledge in our work. We first made bridges out of spaghetti and marshmallows and then learnt how to use a hacksaw to create a bridge out of wooden lollypop sticks.



The role of women in WW2



Lots of women worked in hospitals to help injured troops



Women worked in factories to make medicine, weapons and lots of other stuff.



Women worked as land girls during WW2. This was so men wouldn't starve.

Not the role of women in WW2



Women were not allowed to fight in the war. They were allowed to join the royal forces.



Again, women couldn't work in the war. But they made the weapons they used.



Men flew planes but women couldn't.

JOIN  
THE  
LAND  
ARMY!

Fantastic (u)

Some excellent History work from Ivy showing the role of women in WW2. We analysed sources and made our own propaganda posters.

Writing from Drita - we are writing a narrative inspired by 'A Christmas Carol'.

p The church bell echoed in the distance. It  
sp was like a wailing banshee waiting to  
q c be heard. Scrooge breathed deep and  
p prepared for the worst. In the blink  
mw of Scrooge's teary eye, a ice like  
q breeze fluttered around the room and  
the dim candle blew out. The air trembled  
creeeeeeeeer the door slowly opened  
as the ~~AAA~~ ghostly man in chains wanted  
to pull him to the hell where he belonged.  
It was ~~Fernando~~ <sup>marley</sup> ROBERTO (his old friend)  
his face was lifeless and pale.

This is amazing!