



Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 4th February 2022

Dear Parents,

On Wednesday afternoon I joined the Prep School to watch a French Play which was performed by two actors, one of whom played many parts ranging from a young girl to a grandmother. The whole gag was that an English boy, Kieran, was trying to learn French, fairly unsuccessfully, in his nice English home when suddenly he finds that he lives in an entirely French world. His mother, a devotee of charity shops, no longer speaks English - but French and his Rice Krispies have now turned into an exotic French cereal. Cleverly, he has to enlist the support of his audience in order to cope with this desperate situation. Fortunately, thanks to the good offices of Mme Loyer and Mme Williams, our boys were able to assist. I was so impressed at the boys' wide range of vocabulary and their natural pronunciation. Without them Kieran would have been in a real *contretemps*!

Talking of fine performances, I watched our Forms 5 and 6 in action against The Batt School, Witney, on the football pitch on Wednesday. It was a real joy to see the ball being passed so effectively from side to side and, having seen so many football matches where two teams follow the ball round like flocks of birds, it was extremely inspiring. In fact, the first two goals scored by our team were text book goals of great beauty. It was lovely to see so many parents out watching, particularly on such an idyllic afternoon. The sun looked ravishing on the towers of Merton and Magdalen Colleges and the boys seemed to be so happy sprinting around the fields that I was reminded of Wordsworth's incomparable lines found in one of his greatest works, the Prelude: "Bliss was it in that dawn to be alive, But to be young was very heaven!"

I am delighted to announce that we have four new Cardinal Scholars. A Cardinal Scholarship is awarded to a boy in Form 2 whom we think will be a leading light academically. He will be expected to lead by example and take part in various extra activities, indeed Mr Richards took the Cardinal Scholars to the Christ Church Picture Gallery last week for a private tour, which was much enjoyed. All of Form 2 took their scholarship tests last week and after careful marking and detailed discussion, the following boys have been awarded scholarships:

Albert, Armaan, Hugo and Patrick. Very many congratulations to them.

It was a pleasure to have Dr Ralph Townsend preaching to us in the Cathedral this morning. Dr Townsend is the former Headmaster of Winchester College, one of England's greatest schools, to which we have sent a steady stream of boys, including two outstanding musicians over the past couple of years. He was considered to be one of the most significant Headmasters of his day and it was clear from the engagement that he immediately made with the pupils that his influence stemmed, as much as anything, from the warmth of his personality and his understanding of how young minds work. Dr Townsend set the boys some crossword clues including "Encourages football team" five letters... the answer being Spurs! Having put the boys through their paces intellectually, he went on to say that though they must continue to use their brains, the boys should also look around them and see that they are part of a community and that a school like ours was a place in which they could enjoy the love of rational thought and academic endeavour within the context of a supportive community of friends and teachers. Amen to that!

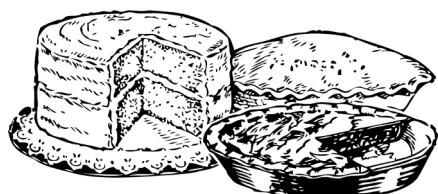
Mr Murray
Headmaster

Hilary 2022

Monday 7th - Sunday 13th February

MONDAY 7	
2.30	U13 v d'Overbroecks (Home)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Teddy Soccer Club (Reception, Forms 1 & 2) (WWH)
4.10 - 5.00	After School Ancient Greek Club (Forms 7 & 8)
TUESDAY 8	
11.25 - 12.45	School Play rehearsal (Forms 5 - 8)
2.45	U8 and U9 v Chandlings (Away)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Teddy Tennis Club (Reception, Forms 1 & 2) (WWH)
WEDNESDAY 9	
9.00	HPV Immunisations (Form 8)
2.30	U11 v The Manor Prep School (Home)
2.30	U10 v The Manor Prep School (Home)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
THURSDAY 10	
	CC: Not required for Evensong
5.00 - 6.30	CC: Rehearsal (Chapter Parlour)
FRIDAY 11	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, speaker The Revd James Mosher, Assistant Chaplain, St Edward's School, Oxford
	CC: IN
SATURDAY 12	
	CC: Choir Training Event
SUNDAY 13	
	<i>Septuagesima</i>
	<i>University Fifth Week</i>

The Pudding Competition



Please could boys in **Sayers** bring their puddings on Monday, in a named container.
Thank you. ADM



The Pudding Competition



Please follow the link below for individual entry information:

[The Platinum Pudding Competition | A Recipe Fit for The Queen - Fortnum & Mason \(fortnumandmason.com\)](http://fortnumandmason.com)

To celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee next term, we are launching a CCCS Pudding Competition alongside the National Platinum Pudding Competition being run by Fortnum and Mason.

The boys in each of the three houses, plus Pre-Prep, are invited to produce a favourite pudding and bring it into school. The puddings will be judged by staff and Mr Kilby. A winner will be chosen from each house and one from Pre-Prep; the winning puddings will be made after Easter, on the day we have our celebration. ADM

In order that all boys are able to take part, we will be holding the judging on the following Mondays. So, please can the puddings (nut free) be brought into school on:

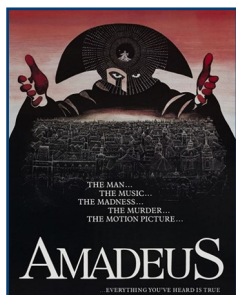
Carroll, Monday 31st January - Sayers, Monday 7th February

Pre-Prep, Monday 14th February - Wolsey, Monday 28th February

Desert Island News

A good time was had by all in the early evening of Monday as the silver screen was once again slung up between the palm trees and the projector whirled into action.

Mr Watson bookended the evening with a bit of launch-and-landing, not on the island but the Moon. Sequences from Apollo 13 and then the real Apollo 11 landing footage, part of which is used in First Man gave the boys a feeling for quite what an astonishing venture the whole thing was – and how well it has been captured on screens large and small.



Jon gave us a splendid animation from The Mummy III in which a terracotta army comes to life in order to combat 'goody' soldiers highly reminiscent of Ezekiel 37.1-10 (as I am sure you will all know... just saying... used to teach RS!) This contrasted starkly with Florian's choice of Mozart humiliating Salieri by improvising in front of the emperor, two and a half minutes of musical joy from the marvellous Amadeus. The tone changed again for Felix's well-known example of classroom control from Star Wars, all centring on a line every good teacher has in his/her repertoire for the odd doubting pupil: "I find your lack of faith disturbing"!



Then we had comedy: two lovely Marx Brothers clips from Hugo, both centring on the less well known Harpo, initially running rings round a popcorn vendor with whom he has fallen out and then helping the card players in a saloon by cutting the pack. Or not. We finished (bar the Moon landing) with Adam's favourite: The Secret Garden (theatrical trailer) a blaze of rich colour, intricate detail and striking cinematography.

Thanks as ever to all who attended and keep your eyes posted for next term's visit. PW

CCCS School Barber



Men's Haircuts - £17.50, Children Under 16 - £13.50, Over 60s - £13.50,

Students - £15.00, Clipper Cut - £10.00, Beard Trim - £5.00.



Call Andrea on **07748 105192** to book an appointment.

French News

Have you heard about 'La Galette des Rois'? In France, it is customary to eat une galette des rois at school, and with your family and friends throughout January, to celebrate the Epiphany.

It is very popular as small porcelain charms are hidden in the cakes. If you find the charm in your slice of cake, you are King for a day - and lucky for a year!

We celebrated this tradition on the last day of January. The youngest children didn't go under tables to distribute the cakes randomly but our 10 Kings wore their crowns all afternoon.

We hope they were good Kings at home too... AEW and SL



The World's Gone French

On Wednesday, the ONATTI Theatre Company came to CCCS to perform a play - half in English and half in French!

The boys in Prep school really enjoyed the performance 'The World's Gone French' and showed off their linguistic skills.

They all followed the story easily and had a great time! SL

Music News

Hilary is a term when Form 8 musicians are busy with auditions to their senior schools, but in the younger year-groups we focus particularly on informal performances at this time of year. We will soon have our Pre-Prep Concert on 15th March and the Forms 3 and 4 Concert on 22 March, but when we meet in lessons there are lots of relaxed Class Concerts happening too.

These are wonderful opportunities for boys to bring along the music they're studying and try it out in front of their friends. There is constructive criticism, lots of applause, and we even embrace our mistakes. (How much do we learn when we play something flawlessly? How does getting something wrong help us to understand our instrument and our piece better? When we make a mistake, it always has something to teach us.) In the very best sense of the word, I hope that performance to others might become 'ordinary'... a natural part of musicianship and nothing to fear.

Many thanks to the boys for playing with such spirit this term; it's been joyous to hear them! SB



Football News



On Wednesday Forms 5 and 6 welcomed The Batt School for two 7 v 7 football fixtures.

The Form 6 game was a very cagey affair with two equal sides cancelling each other out for the first half, and for most of the second half. Both teams looked to play some good football and worked the ball wide, and from back to front, on many occasions without really creating too many clear-cut goal scoring opportunities.



The game really came to life in the final ten minutes. Will S scored the stand-out goal of the game with a screamer, hit first time from outside the box, that curled and dipped into the top left corner. This led The Batt to press for an equaliser which they deservedly achieved, five minutes from Time.

A fantastic reaction from CCCS saw us retake the lead less than a minute later through a cleverly taken finish from Peter. Ed drilled home a third goal to secure a very impressive victory.



The Form 5 game was also closely contested, with some talented boys on both sides, The game went back and forth, until CCCS used the wide areas, on the right, producing two beautiful crosses which were both converted, for a 2-0 lead.

Chances were created for both sides, with our defence holding firm. Just before half time we managed another goal to give us a 3-0 lead.



A goal just after the half time break, allowed Mr D to experiment with boys in different playing positions, which was an interesting exercise. This did allow both Splendour and Hugo to score their first goals for the School.

The teams continued to play attacking football and both teams scored three goals before the final whistle, giving our Form 5 boys a well-deserved 7-3 victory.

Thursday afternoon saw our U9 side travel to Witney to play The Batt School. We knew this would be a tough fixture with all of The Batt

School's boys playing regularly for local teams, and two of them being already signed to professional clubs.

On a tight, uneven pitch we knew we would have to dig in and battle hard to stay in the game, doing this very well in the first half, restricting The Batt School to long range shots only; two of which found the back of the net along with the ball being bundled over the line from a corner. At 3-0 down we spoke about how we could move the ball faster when in possession, trying to exploit space in wide areas.

The second half started very well and we definitely improved in the areas we had hoped to. Unfortunately, as we tired towards the end of the second half The Batt School took full advantage and ended the game 7-0 victors. PD

Scholars News

On Saturday the scholars (Year 8 and Cardinal) were given a tour of the Christ Church Picture Gallery by the curator, Jacqueline Thalmann. Christ Church is fortunate in having this precious collection of Old Masters and drawings - surprisingly unvisited by many of our community. Among other paintings, we of course looked at Annibale Carracci's The Butcher's Shop, an unusual and enigmatic painting which once belonged to Charles I and (rather pleasingly) spent some of its life in the college kitchen. We also considered van Dyck's The Continence of Scipio, which depicts the great general nobly returning a captive woman back to her fiancé. NR

Charity News



Dear Nicola,
This is to thank Christ Church Cathedral School for your extraordinarily generous donation to A Rocha International. I understand that Susanna Naylor worked at the school. So we receive your gift in honour of her, and join you in continuing to mourn her loss.

Thank you again so much.

Simon Stuart
Executive Director
A Rocha International



Christ Church Cathedral School, Oxford

Day School for Boys 3 - 13 & Girls 3 - 5

Flexi-Boarding for Boys 8 - 13



OPEN MORNING

Tuesday 8 March 2022

9.30 - 11.30 am

To register contact: registrar@cccs.org.uk

www.cccs.org.uk 01865 242561

3 Brewer Street, Oxford OX1 1QW



Flexi-Boarding



We are now able to offer flexi-boarding for £55.00 per night.

If any of our parents would like to use this facility, please contact Mrs Kemp: registrar@cccs.org.uk

CCCSPA Meet and Greet

Ioanna Thoma, Mother of Périclès (Form 2)

What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now? When I was five years old I was imitating Raffaella Carra, the Italian singer, dancer and TV presenter; I wanted to perform like her. In my teenage years I was seriously considering the prospect of studying medicine but after an honest discussion with myself I realised that being a doctor had to be a calling. For longer than half of my life I have been studying, teaching and serving the discipline of law, most recently as a practising lawyer in the space sector. I approach law with care. I believe law is an enabling tool to achieve balance and prosperity in societies.

If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why? If it were already March 2022, I would love to get on the first plane to Japan and see the blossoming cherry trees.

Who is your idol, and why? I do not have one idol as such. I admire the long line of men and women in history who worked hard to consolidate the protection of human rights: the respect of a person's decency and life, the right to education, family life, freedom of speech, fair trial, social care, labour, fresh water and air, shelter, food, land and many others. Today there are those who dedicate serious efforts to the human right of everyone to have equal access to technology.

Favourite city or town and in which season? I love this beautiful image of a walk with my loved ones in snowy Paris.

One thing you would change in the world if you could? Stop violence and intimidation.

What is your favourite book? I do not have a single favourite book as such. I would like to read theatre plays as this is a genre of literature I have not sufficiently explored.

Is there a family trait/habit that you have? Périclès and I like to decorate a Christmas tree during the whole year: with masks during carnival, flowers in the spring, flags on seminal national holidays and so on.

If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be? I would love to start classical ballet as I appreciate the beauty of discovering one's body through disciplined and graceful exercise.

Any advice on how to relax at the weekend? Over the years I have tried different methods of relaxation (jogging, reading, painting, cooking, oversleeping and the list goes on). In the end I found out that I relax when my loved ones and I smile and feel happy.

There is so much to think about, after reading this snapshot about Ioanna, I almost wish that there were extra questions to answer, as you have kept me really wanting to know more. It must be refreshing for many you work with, knowing that your purposeful intention towards work is saturated with the goodness and goodwill, for the people. Your honesty is compelling and I did visualise you imitating a popular figure as a star-struck child and I compared myself at the same age, not nearly as elegant, I am sure I was imitating a rocker called Jimmy Barnes who had long, tangled, sweaty hair. What a vision of you, and company, in snowy streets, I can't help but think the style and finesse of Raffaella Carra has subconsciously rubbed off on you, it is hard not to notice Ioanna as she looks as though she has stepped off the streets of the Triangle d'Or in Paris, giving it her all, visually, and as we've now read, in every aspect of her day. Thank you for such an interesting insight and suggestions about weekends - maybe my efforts to paint/cook/run to relax will ultimately be defeated by a happy household. Clever!

Have a lovely weekend,
Kathryn