



Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 20th May 2022

Dear Parents,

We are moving into Jubilee season.

On Wednesday, I spoke to the boys about the reasons why I thought we should be celebrating Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee. I referred them to her wonderful speech given in 1947 when she was a 21-year-old. The then Princess Elizabeth said: "I declare before you all that my whole life, whether it be long or short, shall be devoted to your service". We all know and rejoice that she has been granted a long life and we also know that she has unfailingly kept to that vow, continuing to serve her country until her 96th year, the 70th of her reign. She is already the longest reigning British monarch, the longest reigning female monarch and, in 23 days' time, she will become the second longest reigning monarch of all time, when she overtakes King Rama of Thailand who reigned for 70 years and 126 days. It will take considerable fortitude to overtake the record set by Louis XIV of France the great Sun King, who ruled for over 72 years. Mind you, he cheated by ascending the throne at the age of 4!

I commended Her Majesty particularly for her sense of duty, for her sense of faith, for her loyalty and for her steadiness, all qualities which we need more than ever today, when the world seems in a fairly perilous state. Though these values do not seem, perhaps, the most exciting ones, they are ones which have passed the test of time. These are values which I'd like all of us to have – if one can rely upon people, if people put a sense of duty very highly, they will thrive in the modern world whether it be in schools or in business. These values, though exemplified by someone born almost one hundred years ago in the 1920s, are some of the central values of the modern era. We will be celebrating the jubilee with great alacrity.

I must commend the Art Exhibition, Mrs Cottrell's first. The centre piece is a lovely homage to The Queen with the Union Flag made from the boys' hand prints. The exhibition opened in the Walton Hall just after the House Music Competition. There are so many wonderful works of creativity to be seen. Thank you so much, Mrs Cottrell. The Exhibition will be open for the whole of next week.



And then there were the House songs, during the House Music Competition, three patriotic numbers which were sung with complete gusto on the part of the boys. The House Music Competition defied expectations - and my expectations were very high. I am still in a state of wonderment that such performances are possible from boys so young. But I was there and saw and heard it with my own eyes and ears. We should all be so proud of the boys. If you did not watch the concert do track it down on the livestream <https://youtu.be/7UqkR7pUeU>.

Of course, next Friday the School celebrations for the Jubilee culminate in a lunch, which the whole school is celebrating in the playground. The playground will be festooned with bunting, red, white and blue and during the lunch there will be some traditional British food. Everyone will be asked to wear colours to match the bunting. As I have mentioned before, we are the only school in Oxford which is a royal foundation so we will ensure that we mark this remarkable occasion properly.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Murray
Headmaster

Trinity 2022
Monday 23rd - Sunday 29th May

MONDAY 23	
3.30 - 4.30	Art Exhibition Opens (School Hours) After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
TUESDAY 24	
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tennis Club (Reception - Form 2) (WWH)
WEDNESDAY 25	
2.45	Colts A v Manor Prep (Away)
2.45	Colts B v Manor Prep (Away)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
THURSDAY 26	
	<i>Ascension Day</i> WC: Last Rehearsal
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 27	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, speaker The Reverend Chris Dingwall-Jones, Chaplain, Jesus College, Oxford
	Jubilee Celebration - school ends at 2.00 pm Half Term begins at 2.00 pm (return 06.06.2022) <u>No</u> After School Prep
2.00	Art Exhibition Closes <div style="text-align: right;">GRADES (Forms 3 - 7)</div>
SATURDAY 28	
	CC: Return from Choir Tour to Sweden CC: Half Term begins on return from Choir Tour. Boys not required for services from Saturday 28th May - Monday 6th June incl.
SUNDAY 29	<i>University Sixth Week</i>

School Baptisms

Every year, children at the School have the opportunity to be baptised. This year's School Baptism will take place during the Cathedral Assembly on Friday 17th June.

If you would like your child to be baptised (at any age), or to know more, please get in touch with the Chaplain:

philippa.white@chch.ox.ac.uk / 01865 276214 or the Registrar: registrar@cccs.org.uk

A letter with more details will follow next week. PW

French News

Le défilé de mode de CCCS Form 5, 2022.

Today, Forms 1 and 2 were our VIPs - the select few invited to watch our Annual French Fashion Show. Form 5 used the catwalk to show their trendy, cool moves and explain – in French, évidemment, what they were wearing and why. Some modelled their favourite outfits on their own, while others modelled in duos and trios.

It is heart-warming to see that we can now resume our inter-Form work, with Form 5 helping Forms 1 and 2 revise the wording for the items of clothing. And it genuinely didn't look like real work. Form 5 boys were nervous but rose to the challenge, with smiles! SL



Science News

Earlier in the year Forms 3 - 6 took part in the Science Oxford Big Science Event as part of British Science Week.

In groups of three or four, boys were tasked with coming up with their own question to investigate, then planning, carrying out and presenting their findings on a poster.

After a school-wide voting process Will, Jason and Ethan from Form 6 were declared the overall CCCS winners and their poster was submitted into the next round of the competition. This week they had the chance to present their winning poster to the judges (via Zoom).

I was so impressed with the way the boys answered the judges' questions clearly and presented their work with such enthusiasm.

We now await news on whether we have progressed to the grand final of the competition, which will take place at the Science Oxford Centre, in Headington.

Good luck boys! CS



Art News

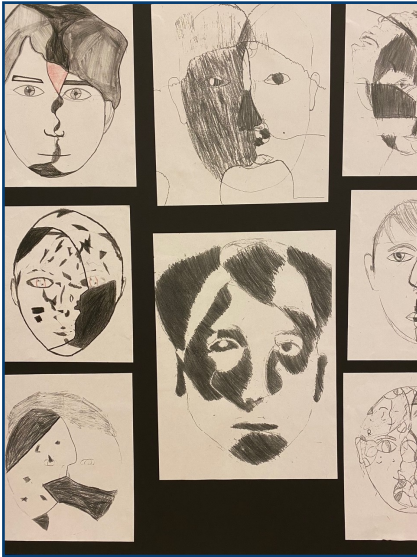
Christ Church Cathedral School's Art Exhibition

Private View - Friday 20th May, 4.00 - 5.30 pm
(following the House Music Competition)

Open for Parents to View
Monday 23rd - Friday 27th May during school hours

We invite you to come and visit our Art Exhibition. You will be able to see our school corporate handprint Art piece, made to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and your son and his peers' artistic pieces created this year!

We look forward to welcoming you. EC



Spot the Form 1 Boys - in our Beautiful Woodland School...

Cricket News

We have managed to dodge the rain enough in the last two weeks to play numerous fixtures against a variety of teams.

Our Form 3 and Form 4 boys have played against New College, The Dragon and The Manor Prep. We have had a mixed set of results, but what has been most pleasing is to see how the boys have listened and, as a result, have made some excellent progress, which meant we had two victories against The Manor this Tuesday. We also managed a win against The Dragon, which means we have won three matches out of the eight played.



Our Senior boys came off their victory against APS feeling confident, as we took on the powerful Bruern Abbey 1st XI. Bruern won the toss and batted first. We managed to restrict them to 129 for 8 in their 20 overs. Highlights of the fielding session were: an incredible catch from Jeremy to oust one of Bruern's 'danger men' and Henry, Form 5, getting two wickets on his debut for the 1st team.

When we batted, we got off to a very good start with Tobias taking the attack to Bruern and scoring a very quick 23 runs with some impressive hitting. We lost a few wickets, but still maintained a steady run rate. Thomas and Jeremy kept things going and actually got us ahead of the run rate with 3 overs to go. However, in the next 6 balls we lost both batsmen who had played themselves in so well. Thomas scored 36 and Jeremy 26. This meant we needed 9 runs off the final over, which unfortunately was a step too far for the two new batsmen. It was a really exciting game of cricket and again, I am so proud of the progress our boys are making. PD



Maths News



In Michaelmas term 2021, Christ Church Cathedral School took part in a nationwide challenge for Mathematics aimed at Primary Schools, called the Primary Mathematics Challenge (PMC). The competition is undertaken every November by as many Year 5 and 6 pupils as possible, in schools across the country. It is a competition at both a school and national level with those achieving particularly high scores being invited to take part in the national finals.

This year, those scoring the top marks within the school were awarded with Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates.

In this week's assembly, the PMC Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates were presented by the Head Master and the Head of Maths, Mr Bagnall to all those who won awards.

Bronze Award: Year 5 - Carl - this is particularly commendable since he was competing against those in the year above.

Silver Awards: Year 6 - Jonathon. **Year 5** - Solomon and Ben - again most commendable since they were competing against those in the year above.

Gold Awards: Year 6 - David. **Year 5** - Franklin . Again, this is especially commendable since he was competing against those in the year above.

Well done to all boys who took part and especially those who received awards - an excellent achievement.

The two Gold Award winners, Franklin and David also commendably achieved scores above the threshold to be invited to take part in the Finals, called the Bonus Round, which took place in February this year.

In addition to the above... Franklin and David took this further challenge in February this year and in qualifying for the final round (each being one of 2,000 out of 63,000) put them in the top 3 % nationwide.

At Monday's Assembly the results of the final (Bonus) round were announced by the Head of Maths, Mr Bagnall, with the Headmaster presenting the medals and certificates:

Both David and Franklin received a Bonus Round Gold medal with accompanying certificate for their very impressive marks in the final which put them in the top 400 pupils of the original 63000 who took part, raising them into the top 0.6 % nationwide.

With only 400 Bonus Round Gold medal badges being struck this year for the nation's Year 5 and 6s, it is very impressive that two of them have been received by pupils at CCCS.



Very well done to both boys on what was an absolutely terrific achievement. AB

PEMBROKE AND WORCESTER CHORISTER VOICE TRIALS



I am excited to announce that voice trials for the Worcester and Pembroke Chapel Choirs will take place in school on the morning of 6th June. These informal auditions are aimed at boys in Forms 3 and 4, although there are some places available for boys in older years too.

Worcester Choristers sing Tuesday and Sunday chapel evensongs during the eight weeks of Oxford University Term, alongside the student altos, tenors and basses of Worcester Choir. They rehearse at 8.00 am on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, as well as after school on Fridays. Worcester Choristers receive free singing and Theory tuition in school, and are regularly prepared for singing exams.

Pembroke Choristers sing Sunday evensongs in their chapel during the University Term, and there are rehearsals in school at 8.05 am on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Pembroke Chapel Choir is a mixed choir of men and women, but since 2019 Christ Church boys have sung the top line alongside the soprano student members of Pembroke College.

All choristers are popular with senior schools due to their self-discipline, confidence and musicality. The Worcester Choristers have a fine record of winning Music awards to their next schools, and one of our Form 8 boys in Pembroke's first ever intake of choristers was awarded a Music award at St Edward's.

At voice trial, boys will be asked to sing a short, simple piece (something learnt in class, or a favourite hymn will do) and undertake simple aural tests. Everything will be done to ensure boys feel at ease... it really isn't scary at all! Parents who think their son might be interested should contact Miss Biddell (biddell.s@cccs.org.uk).



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.



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

Dear All,

Just a reminder about our upcoming first Book Club meeting to chat about:

<https://www.goodreads.com/en/book/show/58451313-the-twyford-code>

Our idea is to meet upstairs at The White House, on Abingdon Road: <https://www.tapsocialwhitehouse.com> on Thursday 9th June at 7.00 pm, giving you a lovely long Bank Holiday in which to read!

And don't worry at all if you don't manage to finish it, the idea is simply to get some book-based chats going in a low-key social atmos.!

Hope to see some of you soon.

MC and KC

Meet and Greet

Matthijs Branderhorst - Parent of Maurits and Hugo

What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now? When I grew up, I would take my father's radio and other equipment apart to see how it worked. As a patent attorney, I do pretty much the same thing, and my work is a perfect match for my original interest in science and technology. I was never as good as putting it back together, though.

If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why? We are going to Stockholm tomorrow, and I cannot think of any better place. It is our first trip abroad in two years. We picked a nice hotel and we will even enjoy some amazing music by our world-class Cathedral choir, not sure we could do without this for very long.

Who is your idol, and why? I think I am a bit geeky and I have never had posters of people on my wall. Or maybe I am too much of a realist to think anyone would be perfect. Although my wife Angela comes pretty close, I can say that can't I?

Favourite city or town and in which season? The only answer is Oxford really, but let me say Leiden in the Netherlands. It is also an old city with students, and it has beautiful canals. The two cities are twinned, but there was a small English speaking community even in the 17th Century. Some words in the local dialect stem from the English language, such as 'het' for head and 'bledder' for ball. The Pilgrim Fathers lived in Leiden before leaving on the Mayflower to America.

One thing you would change in the world if you could? The big wrong at the moment is the war in Ukraine obviously, if I could make that stop I would.

Favourite Book? That tends to be the book I am reading at any moment. We are very fortunate to be around so many incredibly interesting people here in Oxford, so we have been making an effort to read books written by people we personally know. The funny thing is that they are invariably surprised if you tell them you read their book.

Is there a family trait/habit that you have? We are all quite bookish I think. When clearing out my parents' house we estimated there to be over three thousand books that we had to find a new home for.

If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be? Something I don't have time for, I am too old for, and I cannot afford? That combination still leaves a lot of options open. No idea, I think I left this too close to the deadline.

Any advice on how you relax on them weekend? As advice, I would say switch all devices off and go outside! Which makes me sound like my parents.

I am wondering if your family have to discourage you from taking apart all the devices in the house at the beginning of the weekend? Although it means you can relax for longer, it possibly causes much agitation on a Sunday night when you're mentally preparing for the week ahead that involves screens and devices of all shapes and sizes. YouTube have some great videos on putting things back together (if ever in doubt). There is absolutely nothing wrong with saying that your wife is close to being your idol, it is far more appropriate than saying someone else's wife is your idol - this could possibly put a spanner in the works with your upcoming relaxing and exciting trip to Stockholm. I am eager to know if you will visit the Nobel Museum named after Alfred Nobel, and did you know Sweden's literacy rate is 99%, you will be in very good company! Enjoy your trip.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kathryn
PA