



# Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 10th March 2023

Dear Parents,

It was a real pleasure to attend the Forms 3 and 4 concert on Tuesday afternoon. The number of pupils who were performing was extraordinary and the variety of pieces that they played, equally so. We travelled to all parts of the globe - to the Wild West, to Paris, and to the desert. We also listened to many types of animals described musically - worms and spiders for instance. It was very heartening that so many of our pupils, at such a young age, performed with great panache, entertaining us all. The future of music at Christ Church Cathedral School is bright. The concert began with Alexander Sun playing the Flight of the Bumblebee. Had I have closed my eyes I would've imagined myself in a concert hall. Alexander summoned up the buzzing bees with great accuracy and mastery of the keys, it was exquisite. The concert ended with William Liu playing as if he were in a jazz club. William's syncopation was exemplary and I really felt the colour of the music. There were some performers who had only just begun to play their instruments, it was delightful to hear some of their first notes and I am amazed that they had the confidence to perform publicly.

I hope the pupils enjoyed hearing Susan Wessels, Second Master at Marlborough College, speaking at Cathedral Assembly this morning. I was sorry to miss the occasion but I was attending my mother's funeral today. I have no doubt that Ms Wessels will have inspired the pupils when talking about her experiences as an Olympic Hockey player. Her visit is particularly well-timed, given that we have just reintroduced Hockey into our sporting curriculum. The boys have been making regular visits to the Christ Church Astroturf on the other side of the Cherwell. I hope that listening to Ms Wessels will have inspired the boys to aim high! We will be trying out a number of new sports this year and we will be visiting the Astroturf again next term to play Tennis.

I used to live in a Boarding House during my time at St Edward's school. It was, therefore, lovely this week to be back on Boarding House duty on Tuesday. I spent the evening being beaten at Uno, being beaten at table football and reading stories to the boys just before they went to bed. One forgets how many wonderful conversations one has while sitting around in a Boarding House. I am so grateful to all the Boarding Staff at the School to ensure that it is such a lovely community. I am delighted that there are greater number of pupils enjoying Flexi Boarding this term, gaining experience of this wonderful way of life. Flexi Boarding at CCCS is, as the name implies, flexible: given that the Choristers are already boarding, we are always up and running and can respond to requests with as little as one day's notice. It was lovely to hear that one boy has been offered one night a week of boarding for the rest of this academic year.

As many of you may know, the closure of the Botley Road has been announced as starting in April. I wrote to you a while ago about our plans to combat this state of affairs. We will have a Gapper waiting by the bridge and then we will pick pupils up with our minibus - please watch this space. For any parents who are going to find this all too much, I refer you back to my previous paragraph - Flexi Boarding awaits!

I'm delighted to say that this Newsletter has spawned a child. In Assembly yesterday, Form 4 eloquently announced the creation of a Pupil Magazine. One of the reasons given for having a Pupil Magazine is that parents have a Newsletter all to themselves, so the pupils need one too. All pupils have been asked to send articles to Form 4, who will produce the Magazine on a weekly basis. Please encourage your sons to start writing. It would be wonderful to see their names in print. I might just have to up my game if there is such a popular new title in town!

Mr Murray  
Headmaster

**Hilary 2023**  
**Monday 13th - Sunday 19th March**

MONDAY 13	National Science Week begins
3.45 - 4.45	After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Reception, Forms 1 & 2) (Merton Field)
TUESDAY 14	
2.30	Pre-Prep Concert (WWH)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tennis Club (Reception, Forms 1 & 2) (WWH)
4.30 - 6.30	<b>Form 6 Parents' Evening (SchoolCloud)</b>
WEDNESDAY 15	
	Forms 3 & 4 Swimming
1.45	U10 & U11 Bruern Abbey Football Tournament (away)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tag Rugby Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
	CC/CP: Joint Evensong with Frideswide Voices
THURSDAY 16	
8.00	Form 3 Assembly (WWH)
8.25	Form 1 visit to Science Oxford Centre
8.45	School Play Dress Rehearsal (Forms 5 - 8)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 17	<i>St Patrick</i>
8.30	Cathedral Assembly for Mothering Sunday, including Nursery and Pre-Prep
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tag Rugby (Reception, Forms 1 & 2) (Merton Field)
6.30	School Play (Forms 5 - 8) (WWH)
	CC: OUT
SATURDAY 18	
6.30	School Play (Forms 5 - 8)
SUNDAY 19	<i>The Fourth Sunday in Lent</i>

**Trinity Music Exams**

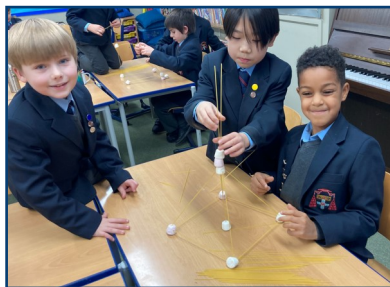
This term's Music exams will take place on Tuesday 21st March.

If your son has an exam this term, please encourage him to check the Trinity timetable on the board by the practice rooms.

Thank you SB

## Clubs News

Forms 3 and 4 have had lots of fun in Clubs this term, with lots of team building activities. In Book Club we have created comics, in Science Club we made periscopes and catapults, and in Modelling Club we created clay dragon eyes! SG, CS, JR,



Robotics Club has had great fun over the past few weeks making models using their Crumble controllers. Among other things, we now have:

- a robotic car with flashing lights
- a robotic car which reverses when it approaches an object
- a buzzer which increases in volume and frequency when an object gets closer to it
- a game with a toy on a rocker; the player needs to press the button at the right time to save the toy

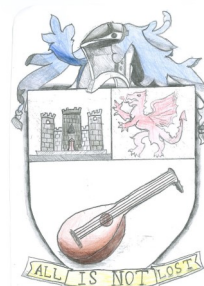
The boys have designed their constructions and built them out of electronic components and card; they have then programmed them using Crumble software, which has many of the same features as Scratch. Finally, the boys unplugged their models from the computers and hey presto - robotics! Well done to all the boys taking part. AF



## School Play

Performances of the School Play will be on Friday 17th and Saturday 18th March at 6.30 pm.

Tickets will be available from the Office from next week. (This is so that we know how many parents to expect each night and to ensure that we do not exceed the capacity of the Hall.) NH



## Lost and Found

There is a Lost Property Box on the landing near to Form 2.





## Sports News

On Wednesday, our Colts A - D teams travelled to The Dragon School to play their U10 A - D teams on a freezing and wet afternoon. With a few boys unavailable through injury and illness we had six players in each of our four teams. This worked to our advantage as all boys were able to play the whole game rather than being off the field in challenging conditions.

Our A team played a fantastic game, with both teams playing some fantastic football. Each time The Dragon took the lead, we were able to strike back. Two very good goals came from our attacking style of play. Alas, in added time The Dragon claimed victory.

Our B team were able to come away with a 2-1 win after a hard-fought game on a very muddy pitch. our C & D teams both fell to defeat but there were lots of extremely positive performances put in by our boys on an afternoon when it was difficult to play good Football.

On Thursday afternoon, our U8s & U9s travelled to Abingdon Prep School to play a fixture. Playing their B team in the first half, we set out to attack as much as possible and both teams created multiple chances to score. Unfortunately for us, Abingdon managed to convert two chances and we couldn't quite capitalise in their box. On occasion, the boys were convinced the ball had crossed the line, but no goal was given. In the second half against Abingdon's C team we had the lion's share of the possession and again, just couldn't get the ball over the line. We managed to grab one goal back late on but Abingdon held on for victory, despite waves of late pressure.

In the U8 matches we were clearly the dominant teams in both the A & B team fixtures. Our A team ran away with the game, with a very impressive final score! A really entertaining afternoon of football. SP



## Reception and Form 1 News



An excited group of Reception and Form 1 boys braved an icy wind to walk to the Story Museum on Wednesday for an afternoon of full immersion French.

With plenty of audience participation - in French of course - the boys listened to stories about a big green monster, a crocodile with tooth-ache and a

beautiful story about a little girl who grew up in a grey world with no colours at all. A stroke of luck helped her find a small box with five crayons in it... and you can guess the rest, or ask your sons what happened!



As well as practising their French listening and speaking skills, the boys were busy with a craft activity and had some time to play, dress up and explore and all too soon did the time come around to step out of the magical world back into the wind and rain... AE-W

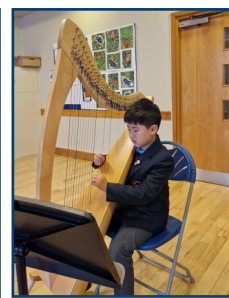
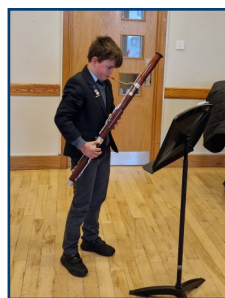


## Music News

The National Children's Orchestra hosted its first events of the year at the weekend, and I am delighted that - having won a place before Christmas - Ian (Form 5) represented CCCS at the prestigious 'project' rehearsals in London.

The NCO gives talented children the chance to play in a full symphony orchestra, and Ian joined 60 other instrumentalists to learn pieces by Tchaikovsky, Dvořák and Bizet. Well done!

The boys in Forms 3 and 4 gave a memorable concert in the Walton Hall this week, with 27 fantastic instrumental performances as well as ensemble singing of two atmospheric folk-songs. They were consummate professionals and the range of pieces was extraordinary. It was particularly heartening to see so many rare instruments: oboe, bassoon, harp and even a double bass! Thank you so much to all boys, staff and parents for helping to make this such an enjoyable event.



Our Worcester and Pembroke Choristers have sung their last services until after Easter, and I would like to thank the boys and parents for such a successful Hilary Term. Pembroke College hosted a celebratory tea in Hall before the final evensong, which was attended by several of the younger boys who will be joining the choir in the summer. I had the pleasure of directing the Worcester combined chapel choirs at their last Sunday of term, due to organ scholar sickness, and was tremendously impressed by their musicality and lovely sound. Both groups are a great credit to their members, and I look forward to seeing what they might achieve in Trinity Term.

Many thanks to Mrs Sear for coming to speak to the Cathedral Choristers about the larynx and vocal techniques on Wednesday night. She ran a joke competition to help them work on their 'inside smile' and also gave some advice on how not to tire the voice out when cheering at games - very useful indeed! SB



## CCCS Minibus

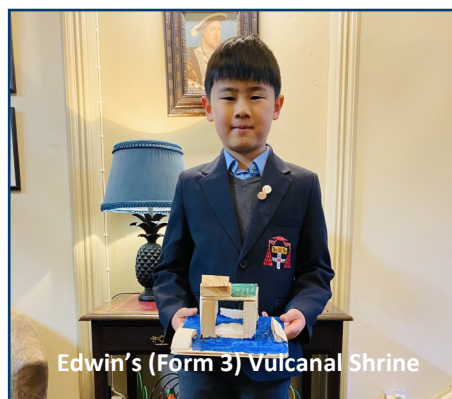
For boys in Forms 3 - 8, we operate a morning and afternoon minibus service.

If you would like your son to be brought to and/or from school in our minibus, on a regular, or one-off, basis, please contact us:

[schoolsecretary@cccs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsecretary@cccs.org.uk)

The cost is: Bus run one way, £240 per term. Bus run both ways, £355 per term. LK

## D.T. Corner



Edwin's (Form 3) Vulcanal Shrine



Starting time: 2.3pm Date: 14th March 2023

# Pre-Prep

# Concert!

Pre-Prep parents: we are looking forward to hosting you in the Walton Hall at next week's concert on Tuesday! SB



## Baby Sitting Services

Alfie and Hamish, two of our Gap Students are available for baby sitting/child minding/ house sitting/pet sitting etc., during the first week of the Easter holidays:

Alfie: [gourley.a@cccs.org.uk](mailto:gourley.a@cccs.org.uk) Hamish: [foran.h@cccs.org.uk](mailto:foran.h@cccs.org.uk)

## London Marathon



Mr Bagnall, our D.T. Teacher is attempting to run the London Marathon on 23rd April, supporting two charities:

- 13 Rivers Trust
- Battersea Cat's and Dog's Home



If any of our parents would like to sponsor Mr Bagnall please email: [bagnall.c@cccs.org.uk](mailto:bagnall.c@cccs.org.uk)

## Meet and Greet - Emma Elias, Art Teacher

**What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now?** I wanted to be a nurse as I grew up and ended up being an Art teacher which I love.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why?** I would like to travel to see the Northern Lights.

**Who is your idol?** My Grandfather is one of my idols, he was an amazing man and taught me how to see the funny side of things and to always keep positive.

**Favourite city or town and in which season?** Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, in Spring.

**One thing you would change in the world if you could?** I would love for every child in the world to have access to a good education and be safe.

**Is there a family trait/habit that you have?** A family trait is our family all have thick hair.

**Favourite Book?** My current favourite book is *The Boy, the Mole, the Fox and the Horse* by Charlie Mackesy - the quotes are powerful.

**If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be?** If I could start something new I'd like to start creativity workshops in every country.

**Any advice on how you relax at the weekend?** Relaxing at the weekend for me includes country walks and playing Tennis.

In a world where you can have access to almost all things, it is crazy to think that some amount of education, let alone good education is not always accessible for children. A wonderful advantage to being a teacher means you can have a direct positive influence on children. In your role, you can draw out their creativity and unleash the beast that it can be! Future careers require creative thinking beyond a text book to resolve problems, so preparing children, through teaching, really is a privilege. Saint-Jean-Cap-Ferrat, what a beautiful part of the world, I didn't know that this pretty peninsula was in fact named this. However, I did find out that if you fly into Nice, it only takes around 45 minutes to cycle from Nice to this magical destination. What a place for inspiration - this area is a real mecca for artists, who have been residing there since 1920. Picasso, Dufy, Matisse, and Marc Chagall have visited, creating some of their best known masterpieces. Thick hair is probably really beneficial in winter, keeping your ears warm and acting as a natural protector from the elements, the envy of many.

Charlie Mackesy really nailed it by creating a book that is relevant for all ages, a gentle reminder that kindness is simple and less complicated than the alternative. So many great quotes, a good refresher for us all. A favourite is "Don't measure how valuable you are by the way you are treated." Thank you for your time.

Have a great weekend,

Kathryn

# Trumpet, Cornet and Flugelhorn Day



Join us for an exciting, fun day  
of ensemble playing, masterclasses and more

**Sunday 23rd April 2023**

10.30am - 4.30pm

Hosted by Wells Cathedral School

Open to musicians 18 years and under,  
of all musical abilities

£40 admission (bursaries available upon request)

For more information and to book your place:

<https://wells.cathedral.day/trumpet>

[d.swain@wells.cathedral.school](mailto:d.swain@wells.cathedral.school)

01749 834487



**WELLS**  
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

Enjoy an inspirational day of playing with some of the UK's top performers and teachers in our state-of-the-art performance venue, Cedars Hall. The day will include:

- Workshops and coached ensembles to develop your playing
- Solo performance workshops
- 'Lotto Lessons' - the chance to win a short individual lesson
- An informal concert for family and friends at the end of the day
- The opportunity to try and buy instruments from the Prozone Music trade stand.

## Tom Hutchinson

Besson Artist and Principal Cornet of Cory Band, European Champions 2022 and Professor of Cornet Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.



## Ross Brown

Principal Trumpet - London Chamber Orchestra, Professor of Trumpet - Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Head of Brass at Wells Cathedral School.



## Helen Williams

Virtuoso Principal Flugelhorn player of the Cory Band, European Champions 2022 and Courtois Artist.



## Simon Jones

Senior Trumpet Tutor, Wells Cathedral School, and member of the Bristol Ensemble.



Refreshments will be provided, but please bring a packed lunch.



## CCCS Minibus



For boys in Forms 3 - 8, we operate a morning and afternoon minibus service.

If you would like your son to be brought to and/or from school in our minibus, on a regular, or one-off, basis, please contact us:

[schoolsecretary@cccs.org.uk](mailto:schoolsecretary@cccs.org.uk)

The cost is: Bus run one way, £240 per term.

Bus run both ways, £355 per term. LK

## Flexi-Boarding

We offer flexi-boarding for £58.00 per night.

If any of our parents would like to use this facility, please contact Mrs Kemp:

[registrar@cccs.org.uk](mailto:registrar@cccs.org.uk)



## CCCS Barber

To book appointments you can either message: 07748 105192 or email: [andreachrisostomou@yahoo.com](mailto:andreachrisostomou@yahoo.com)

Men's haircut £17.50, Students £15.00, Clipper cut £10, Beard trim £5, Over 65s £13.50, Under 16s £13.50.