



# Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 12th May 2023

Dear Parents,

I hope that many of you enjoyed watching the Coronation last Saturday. I am certain that, amongst all the glorious music and pageantry, you noticed the King's first words spoken in the Abbey in response to the chorister who addressed him. He said: "I come not to be served, but to serve." These are words of profound importance, I believe, and should be a model for all our lives.

On Sunday, a number of our pupils and staff will be taking this message to heart, running in the Oxford Parks Run. In terms of staff, the dynamic crew consists of Miss Farmer, Mrs Green, Mme Loyer and Mrs Merriman. They will be starting at 10 o'clock and running the necessary 10km in support of the charity Muscular Dystrophy UK. My participation in the race will be as a spectator and I hope that I might bump into some of you.

As I mentioned last week, I spent the early part of this week at Worcester at the Choir Schools' Association Annual Conference. We discussed many things which are relevant to schools with choirs, and heard a most inspiring talk from the Bishop of Worcester, the Rt Revd Dr John Inge, someone who played a role in the Coronation as Lord High Almoner, the person who arranges the Monarch's giving of alms or charity in the form of the ancient ceremony of the distribution of the Maundy money. The Bishop reminded us all about the preciousness of the tradition of English choral music, which is partly sustained by the existence of schools such as CCCS. This tradition means that Britain has the finest set of choirs in the world, something which was gloriously on show at the Coronation. Outside of Britain there are very few schools of this nature, there is one in the USA - in New York - and only two in the entire Southern Hemisphere, one of those being in Christ Church, New Zealand, founded of course by members of Christ Church, Oxford. In Britain there are over 50 such schools. Dr Inge encouraged us to do all we could to promote choral singing. We will, of course, take his advice to heart. More on this soon!

The catering at the conference was organised by our caterers, Thomas Franks, who also provide the catering for the King's School, Worcester, our hosts. The Founder and CEO of the business, Frank Bothwell, was there. Mr Bothwell is a remarkable and inspirational man who not only runs an extraordinarily successful business, providing excellent food to many schools such as ours, but is dedicated to serving others. It was Mr Bothwell who came to CCCS on Christmas Day when our choristers were here singing the services, and who used our kitchens to prepare food to take to those in Oxford who would not have been able to enjoy a Christmas dinner. It was a privilege that we could make our facilities available for this purpose.

Our 1st Team played The Dragon at Cricket on Wednesday; I am delighted to tell you that we won convincingly! What was particularly impressive, I thought, was that our Head Boy, Jeremy Newman, and our Head of Sport, Thomas Bratby, both decided not to bowl (they are both outstanding bowlers) so that everybody else would get a chance to bowl. I thought this was an extremely mature approach to the game and another example of people thinking about others.

Part of my job is, of course, to visit and form relationships with senior schools. On a recent trip to one of the schools that we send a good number of pupils to, I was delighted to be told that they always liked the characters of boys from CCCS and they rated them very highly in terms of their contribution to the life of the school. We are very fortunate in our close relationships with senior schools. I hope that as many of you as possible will be able to come to Cathedral Assembly next Friday to meet Mr and Mrs Roberts. Mr Roberts will be preaching at the service. He is Headmaster of Ampleforth College, in Yorkshire. In his time he has been Master of the Scholars at Winchester College, Headmaster of Bradfield College and Headmaster of the oldest school in the world, The King's School, Canterbury.

More than ever, our school is full of the sound of music as the boys prepare for the House Music Competition next Friday. By the sounds of what I have heard, we are in for a feast. Please make sure that you come – the Music Competition is one of the year's greatest treats!

Have a wonderful weekend and, unlike in the last couple of weeks, I look forward to seeing you on Monday!

Mr Murray  
Headmaster

**Trinity 2023**  
**Monday 15th - Sunday 21st May**

MONDAY 15	<i>Matthias The Apostle</i>
1.30 - 3.30	Forms 7 & 8 Athletics Practice (Oxford University)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
TUESDAY 16	
12.30 - 4.10	Form 7 Trip to Rockstar Climbing
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tennis Club (Reception - Form 2) (WWH)
WEDNESDAY 17	
	Forms 3 & 4 Swimming
9.30 - 11.45	Form 2 Trip to Botanic Gardens
2.30	1st XI Cricket v Bruern Abbey (Away)
2.30	2nd & 3rd XI Cricket v Bruern Abbey (Home)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
THURSDAY 18	<i>Ascension Day</i>
	CC/CP: Not required for service
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 19	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, speaker Mr Peter Roberts, Headmaster, Ampleforth College, Yorkshire
1.30 - 4.00	<b>House Music Competition (Cathedral)</b> Parking available on the Broad Walk from 1.00 pm To watch the secure live-stream during and after the performances, please visit: <a href="https://youtube.com/live/1jSNQH9uptk?feature=share">https://youtube.com/live/1jSNQH9uptk?feature=share</a>
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
	CC: IN
SATURDAY 20	
1.30	CC/CP: Rehearsal
2.30	Memorial Service for Simon Offen
6.00	CC: Out until Sunday
SUNDAY 21	<i>The Sunday after Ascension Day</i>
	<i>University Fifth Week</i>
6.30	CC/CP: Return



**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).



## Our Coronation Picnic in the Park Gallery







## House Music Competition

I have so enjoyed hearing auditions for the Music Competition for the past month, with Prep boys offering up well over 200 performances so far. Pupils have kept themselves busy by teaching new instruments to each other, as well as auditioning with their 'serious' pieces (of course...) This really is a competition for everyone to enjoy - regardless of level or experience - and the constant flow of auditions and song rehearsals has been tremendous.

The Music Competition final will take place in the Cathedral at 1.30 pm on Friday 19th May. A list of instrumental finalists has now gone up in school, and every Prep boy will be involved in the House Choir performances at the end. Parents will be very welcome to attend, but if you can't make it in person then you can follow the live-stream at <https://youtube.com/live/IjSNQH9uptk?feature=share>. Please note that pupils in Forms 3 - 8 should wear their white shirts to school next Friday.

We are fortunate to have David McKee as this year's adjudicator, visiting us from Cheltenham College where he is currently Director of Music. Mr McKee is an experienced conductor and singer, and will be moving to be Director of Music at Charterhouse this September. He will be giving valuable feedback about our instrumentalists and choirs, so I do hope that many of you will be able to join us at next week's Final. It should be a superb afternoon!

SB



**Auditions for NCO 2024 are now open!**

<https://www.nco.org.uk/join-in/auditioning-for-nco>



## Cathedral Choristers

On Tuesday, the Cathedral Choir joined New College and Magdalen College choirs for Evensong. The massed ensemble included 77 singers, 5 organists and 3 directors. We were very fortunate to have the composers Matthew Martin and Cheryl Frances-Hoad with us, whose music featured in the service. JR



## 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.



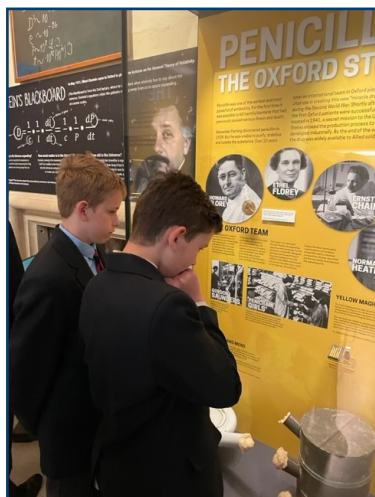
## Visit of Mr Barker

On Tuesday Graham Barker came to talk to Form 8 about the Crisis of the Third Century, when emperors barely had time to don the purple before being brutally replaced by the next; and he continued to the murky period when Britain broke off from the Empire under the pirate emperor Carausius and his successor Allectus. Mr Barker has recently published a book on the latter two usurpers - a story that deserves to be better known; and donated to the school a copy (to be found now in Beecham).

We are very grateful that Mr Barker came to Oxford just to share his knowledge and enthusiasm with us; and four lucky boys given coins from that period are especially felices. NR

## Myth Competition

More entries for the Myth Competition (advertised last term) would be welcome. As everyone is so busy, the deadline will be after half term, rather than before. House points and prizes for the best retelling, poem, picture of any one of the dozens of beguiling Greek myths. NR



## Making the Most of Oxford

This week our Making the Most of Oxford Club visited the History of Science Museum. There we learned that although penicillin was discovered in London by Alexander Fleming, it was a team of Oxford Scientists who worked out how to manufacture it in bulk and save the lives of so many people.

There was much more in the museum than we had time to look at and we had to tear ourselves away.

We think it is well worth a visit! KS



## Art News

In Mosaics Club the boys have been making mosaic coasters.

These are their first completed ones! EE



## D.T. Corner



## Oxford Town and Gown

To raise money for Muscular Dystrophy and to sponsor the Christ Church Cathedral school runners (Miss Farmer Mrs Green, Madame Loyer and Mrs Merriman) please visit:

[SportsGiving - Sponsor Christ Church Cathedral School in Oxford Town and Gown 2023](#)

**Muscular  
Dystrophy UK**  
Fighting muscle-wasting conditions



**TOWN AND GOWN**  
**10k SERIES**  
OXFORD • CAMBRIDGE • LEICESTER



## Sports News

This week saw our first Cricket matches of the season. Our senior boys faced The Dragon Prep School at both 1st and 2nd team levels. Both games were played in excellent spirits, with our 1st team running out convincing winners. Notable performances with the bat were from Thomas and Vasishth . Matthew was the pick of the bowlers, taking several early wickets. Our 2nd team faced a strong Dragon side and, unfortunately, were defeated in the end. Zachariah impressed with the ball and William led by example, fielding and batting with enthusiasm and precision.

Forms 3 & 4 also played their first matches of the season, against New College School. All of the games were entertaining, with lots of progress made by both schools. We were immensely proud of our junior boys, who all put everything they had been working on into practice, in particular, bowling with a straight arm. NH



## Form I News

Form I enjoyed a wonderful trip to The Story Museum this week, as part of our Fairy Tales topic. The boys were lucky enough to take part in a creative storytelling workshop in which they had free rein to come up with their own stories and act them out in groups, using the 'rule of three'.

We were thoroughly entertained with vivid tales of giant squirrels, elephants tricking a sleeping tiger, ice dragons, rainbow monsters, and gullible hunters. You all have future careers on the stage boys! TR



## Lost Property



Please ask your children check the box on the landing outside Form 2 for lost items of clothing.

Thank you. LK

## Meet and Greet: Jessica Lan - Parent of Edwin, Form 3

**What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now?** I wanted to be a manager, now I am a Project Director in textiles manufacturing.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why?** It must be the Antarctic and Arctic in summer.

**Who is your idol?** Maybe Maye Musk, Elon Musk's mum. She could balance the family and her career quite well.

**Favourite city or town and in which season?** Provence in France, summer.

**One thing you would change in the world if you could?** To achieve the immortality of mankind.

**Is there a family trait/habit that you have?** Healthy diet.

**Favourite Book?** *Homo Deus, A Brief History of Tomorrow*

**If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be?** I may start to learn medical science.

**Any advice on how you relax at the weekend?** Travel around with kids.

Like you, anyone who can manage the Motherload and a career is truly admirable, needing to be in two different places, physically and emotionally, is a challenge - meals on the table one minute and madly preparing snacks the next. Maye Musk has certainly taught Elon about ambition and working hard. The Antarctic and Arctic look like spectacular destinations, the driest places on earth with little precipitation (around two inches per year) and have the lowest infant mortality rate of all the continents. Eleven babies have been born there and are thriving in life.

There is chat about love being the closest thing man can have to immortality, I totally understand this as I have just discovered chocolate coated Hob Nobs and, unfortunately, I love them! I can't see this feeling ever ending. Travelling with kids, keeping healthy and working hard, sounds like you've got the balance, now all you need is a few Hob Nobs and tomorrow will always be bright. Thank you, Jessica.

Have a great weekend,  
Kathryn