



# Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 19th May 2023

Dear Parents,

As ever, it was an extraordinary privilege to attend the House Music Competition in the Cathedral this afternoon. Listening to such high-class music is always a pleasure, whomever is playing it, but the fact that the exquisite harmonies are being created by boys of such a young age is something which never ceases to amaze. It is easy to take it all for granted, to imagine that these things just happen, but I know that the remarkable standard of instrumental music comes from sustained practice as, every day, when in my study I hear music around the school. Sometimes I hear completed pieces, sometimes I hear boys running over tricky phrases time after time, sometimes I hear boys practising scales. But none of this comes without very hard work over many years. Equally, what is obvious is that our boys love playing, that it is a delightful thing for them to do and that it becomes as natural, therefore, to them as breathing. And it was clear today that our boys enjoy performing so much. We all owe so much to Miss Biddell, who not only nourishes the pupils' love of music but masterminded the day exquisitely. Miss Biddell has heard 250 auditions since the beginning of term in order to choose the finalists – I cannot imagine how she has managed to find the time – but she has and gosh it was all worth it.

We are very fortunate in having a school where excellence is achieved every year, and this year is no exception. We have now heard the results of all those boys who took Awards. This year over 80% of the boys who applied for Awards achieved them. They are as follows:

Arlan	Our Lady's Abingdon	Music Scholarship
Felix	The Oratory School	The Cardinal Newman Music Scholarship
Kit	Wellington College	Music Scholarship
Jeremy	Magdalen College School	Music Award
	Magdalen College School	Academic Exhibition
Yourui Chen	Winchester College	Academic Scholarship

In every case we were contacted by the schools concerned to say how impressed they were with our candidates, and given the standards of the schools here, I am thrilled with these achievements. We have also heard recently that two of our former pupils, Henry who is at Eton, and Sebastian who is at Harrow, have had the Music Exhibitions they gained at those schools when they left CCCS, elevated to Music Scholarships. Plus, Joseph, also at Eton, was awarded an Academic Scholarship in similar circumstances. It is clear that boys who leave CCCS have the building blocks to stand out in their senior schools.

We were privileged to have Mr Roberts, the Headmaster of Ampleforth come to visit us this morning in the Cathedral. Ampleforth still has a Benedictine Monastery on the site and it was wonderful to hear about the way in which the monastic culture, which is present at the school, lends a sense of calm and purpose to the place. Mr Roberts feels that it is partly this which influences, positively, the pupils of the School, who are amongst the most delightful that he has taught and there is a strong sense about Ampleforth that life is about Service.

In terms of Service, it was lovely to see four of our boys and five members of our staff run in the Oxford Town & Gown for charity last Sunday. It was a wonderful event, the streets around the University Parks being packed with people. I arrived wearing a rather elegant blazer only to be slightly sarcastically greeted by two other Headmasters who, unlike me, had running gear on – I know what I'll be doing this time next year and I can assure you that it won't be elegant!

Mr Murray  
Headmaster

## Trinity 2023

**Monday 22nd - Sunday 28th May**

MONDAY 22	
3.45 - 4.45	After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
3.45	U11 & U13 Tennis v Thorngrove (ChCh Sports Ground) (Return approx. 5.15 pm)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
TUESDAY 23	
2.00	U8 & U9 Cricket v Ashfold School (Away) (Return approx. 4.15 pm)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tennis Club (Reception - Form 2) (VWH)
WEDNESDAY 24	
	Forms 3 & 4 Swimming
2.15	Senior Cricket v APS (Home) (Return approx. 4.30 pm)
2.15	Colts Cricket v APS (Away) (Return approx. 5.15 pm)
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
THURSDAY 25	
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 26	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, speaker Dr Tristan Franklins, Lecturer in Classics, Oriel College, Oxford
2.30	Fun Run Fundraising Event (Merton Field)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
4.10	<b>Half Term begins (return 05/06/23)</b> <b>CC/CP Half Term begins after Evensong</b>
SATURDAY 27	
SUNDAY 28	<i>Whit Sunday</i> <i>University Sixth Week</i>

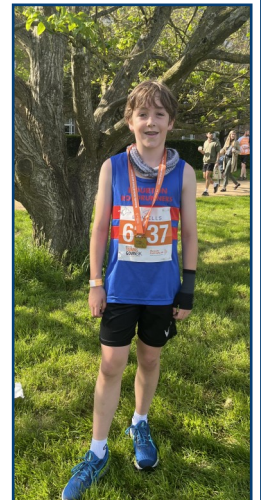


### Oxford Town & Gown

CCCS Town & Gown Runners would like to thank our community for their generous donations.

We raised over £500 and plan to do it all again next year.

Edward (Form 7) came an incredible 9th in the Junior section. LK





# Christ Church Cathedral School

A Boys' Prep School with Co-ed Nursery



## **SUPERHEROES STAY & PLAY FOR CHILDREN AGED 3 - 7 YRS**

Join us for our **Stay & Play and Fun Run** on **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May** at **1.30 pm**. Parents will enjoy a tour of our School, while children take part in Superhero fun activities. Visiting parents and children will then join Nursery and Pre-Prep, on Christ Church Meadow, for our Fun Run.



Register by **Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May**;

email: [registrar@cccs.org.uk](mailto:registrar@cccs.org.uk) // 01865 242561

[www.cccs.org.uk](http://www.cccs.org.uk) // 3 Brewer Street, Oxford OX1 1QW

**To register for our Stay & Play**

please [Click Here](#)





## The Primary Mathematics Challenge 2022/23

In Michaelmas term, Christ Church Cathedral School took part in a nationwide challenge for mathematics aimed at Primary Schools, called the Primary Mathematics Challenge (PMC). It is undertaken every November by as many Forms 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, called the Bonus Round.

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

In this week's Assembly, the PMC Gold, Silver and Bronze certificates were handed out by the Headmaster and the Head of Maths, Mr Bagnall to all those who won awards.

Bronze Awards were awarded to: Form 6, **Hugo, Troy** and **Splendour**.

A Silver Form was awarded to: Form 6, **Carson**.

A Gold Award was awarded to: Form 6, **Solomon, Trust, Ben** and **Carl**.



Bronze Award Winners



Silver  
Award Winner



Gold Award Winners

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

The four Gold Award winners 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.

They took this challenge one step further in February this year and, in qualifying for the final round (being one of 3,700 out of 57,000) put them in the top 6% nationwide.

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

Trust and Solomon received a Bonus Round Bronze Medal with their accompanying certificate which put them in the top 2,400 pupils of the original 57,000 who took part, raising them into the top 4.2 % nationwide.

Ben received a Bonus Round Silver Medal with his accompanying certificate which put him in the top 1,300 pupils of the original 57,000 who took part, raising him into the top 2.2% nationwide.



## Continued...

Carl received a Bonus Round Gold medal with accompanying certificate for his very impressive 24 out of 25 in the final which put him in the top 382 pupils of the original 57,000 who took part, raising him into the top 0.7 % nationwide. With only 382 Bonus Round Gold medal badges being struck this year for the nation's Years 5 and 6s, it is very impressive that one of them has been received by a boy at CCCS.

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



Bonus Round Gold Award



Bonus Round Silver Award



Bonus Round Bronze Award

## Pembroke Choristers

Congratulations to our Pembroke Choristers, who sang demanding canticles by Meirion Wynn Evans in the presence of the composer at Evensong last Sunday.

Younger boys were keen to join the undergraduates at croquet after the service... a perfect activity to pair with evensong! SB



## 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,

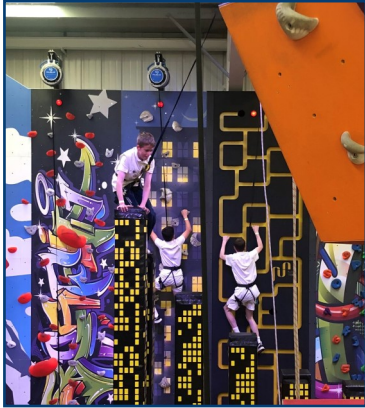
Clipper cut £10, Beard trim £5,

Over 65s £13.50, Under 16s £13.50.



## Form 7 News

On Tuesday afternoon Form 7 had an amazing time at Rock Stars Climbing Centre. There were lots of climbing walls for different abilities and a 'Climb to Heaven' which was great fun to jump off. The boys really enjoyed the challenge and it was great to see not only the progress that they made but also the support and encouragement that they gave each other. It was an afternoon that was fun and entertaining and one in which new skills and resilience were learnt. Form 7 are hoping to go back very soon! KS



## Making the Most of Oxford Club



The 'Making the Most of Oxford Club' visited the Botanic Gardens on Thursday. We particularly enjoyed the glasshouses and were fascinated to see how pineapples grow. Again, we had to tear ourselves away and are planning another trip to see if we can find some Venus fly traps. KS



## Form 2 News



On Wednesday, we went to the Botanic Garden. It was so beautiful and peaceful. I learnt about mint, I even smelt it – I love that smell! I saw some plant instruments. My instrument was made of wood and a coconut. The coconut was so tiny.

Then we went to the greenhouse. In the greenhouse, Mrs Fletcher let us find something and I saw lots of pineapples. When I saw the pineapples, I was surprised they grew on leaves.

Lucas, Form 2

## Form 1 Fun at the Woodland School



## D.T. Corner





## Sports News



This week's fixtures took place against Bruern Abbey. It was fantastic to include some Forms 5 & 6 boys to help the School field three senior teams. All of the teams performed superbly with our 1st and 3rd teams coming out on top.

It was a pleasure to be with our 1st XI this week and to watch the impressive skills and captaincy of Thomas. Not only did Thomas lead his team to victory, but he scored his second consecutive half-century, bowled 4 overs for 4 wickets with only 2 runs scored by Bruern Abbey.



Thomas was responsible for one of the finest run-outs I have seen in a long time, hitting the stumps directly from around 30 metres away. Thomas displays excellence in everything he does and is certainly one to watch for the future. NH

## Meet and Greet: Michelle Wei - Parent of Richard, Form 3

**What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now?** Since I was young I have always had the desire to be a strong, independent and successful supervisor. I have partly fulfilled that dream as now I am a head-strong businesswoman.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why?** The coast of the Caribbean Islands. The scenery is jaw dropping. There is no such word to describe a place as beautiful as the islands, with their clear blue waters and its greenery. Although, my family and I have not (yet) been there. I have heard, here and there, and from other people, and I have seen from pictures, the beauty of the islands.

**Who is your idol?** Roger Federer.

**Favourite city or town and in which season?** Oxford, all year round. It is peaceful and calm.

**One thing you would change in the world if you could?** No war, world peace, no one has cause for regret.

**Is there a family trait/habit that you have?** On Sundays we have a day for the family to get together and have fun.

**Favourite Book?** Pride and Prejudice.

**If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be?** Ping pong (Table Tennis)

**Any advice on how you relax at the weekend?** Sit back and relax. Close my eyes and take a nap.

Ping Pong, what a game. I love how they came up with its name, Ping is the sound of the bat striking a ball and Pong is the sound of the bounce on the table. There's not much you can't admire about Roger Federer, he's such a good sportsman - fair, honest, determined and graceful, and I bet he's brilliant at Ping Pong. For those who know Michelle, she has more than fulfilled her goals - in fact she's just like Roger! If you've ever eaten the delights at the Sichuan Grand you'll know what I am talking about.

Running a successful business - and managing children, which is another full time commitment - I'm not surprised you need to sit back and relax. I'm sure you could probably play Ping Pong with your eyes shut, while you nap. I highly recommend more than one visit to Michelle's restaurant: <http://sichuangrand.com/oxford> Thank you!

Have a great weekend,

Kathryn