



# Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 23rd June 2023

Dear Parents,

If we shadows have offended,  
Think but this, and all is mended,  
That you have but slumber'd here  
While these visions did appear.  
And this weak and idle theme,  
No more yielding but a dream,  
Gentles, do not reprehend:

Last Monday evening, many of us heard these words as we sat on Merton Field at the edge of the Woodland School. They are part of Puck's epilogue which ends Shakespeare's glorious and magical play, "A Midsummer Night's Dream." Puck, now speaking directly to us, the audience, begs that if we have not enjoyed the performance we can imagine that we have been asleep and that the whole thing was only a dream. Never have such superfluous words ever been spoken. All of us who attended the performance of A Midsummer Night's Dream, loved it. The setting could not have been more perfect. In a city which sees many outdoor performances of Shakespeare at this time of year, there could not have been a more perfect scene – indeed the only sound which interrupted the speech were the bells of Merton Tower chiming the hour. At this particular spot there is a half-moon extension of the field which juts into the wood. This was the stage. The actors were able to enter the stage from behind the trees and bushes of the wood, disappearing in one direction and then magically reappearing from another. Once on stage, the boys performed with great colour and panache, acting with the bravura and confidence of professionals. The performance was, in every way, charming and magical. I am so proud of our boys who performed so well and I want to thank Ms Skipwith and Mrs Fairhurst for their immensely hard work in giving us something to dream about.

I have just come back from the Art Exhibition which Mrs Elias has mounted in the Walton Hall. Much of the art is work that has been created by pupils during the course of the year and I was very struck by the vivid colours and the care for detail. Much of the work though has been done in the last two days. Mrs Elias invited a professional artist, Gino Ballantyne, to work with the pupils. The idea was for each Form to choose a piece of music which they would then react to artistically. Some of the responses were extraordinary and it was a delight talking to many of the boys about why they had reacted in the way that they did. The exhibition will be open for the next few days so I would thoroughly recommend a visit.

Outside the exhibition, alongside some delicious refreshments, Mr Wang had very kindly agreed to host a tea tasting. He had a beautiful box, out of which he selected the most exquisite teas, all carefully compacted into flat cakes. They all varied in colour, some dark some green with hints of colour, like meadow flowers, some white. These were placed carefully in ceramic pots, designed so that the tea might breathe. Many of us were transfixed by the delicacy of the flavours and the care and ceremony with which the teas were served. It was a lovely way to end the week.

Not though that this week is ending on Friday afternoon. Very happily we have Sports Day tomorrow, which will take place on Merton Field. Excitement has been rising over the past few days. From my desk, I heard the following remark: "Guess what? It's 41 hours until Sports Day starts." Many of our pupils have a real eye for detail! It will be so lovely to see the whole school community together on a day which promises to be appropriately sunny. Sports Day will be followed by the Old Boys' Cricket Match. Many of our current Form 8s will be taking part. Please don't feel in a rush, therefore, to leave early after Sports Day - given that the match will provide a worthy context for the picnics.

It is always difficult to anticipate what conversations one might become involved with at lunch. Nonetheless I most certainly wasn't expecting the question which I was asked as I sat down on Thursday. "Sir! I'm very keen to ask you. Should you wear Black Tie or White Tie to the opera?" I have to say that this is a matter upon which I don't have a very fixed opinion!

Mr Murray  
Headmaster

## Trinity 2023

### Monday 26th June - Sunday 2nd July

MONDAY 26	
9.00 - 6.00	Form 8 Geography Field Trip
3.45 - 4.45	After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
TUESDAY 27	
	Enterprise Day
9.00 - 12.00	Crepe Van for Whole School (French Practice)
10.00	Pre-Prep Gargoyle Walk Around Oxford
4.00 - 5.00	After School Tennis Club (Reception - Form 2) (WWH)
WEDNESDAY 28	
9.00	Forms 3 & 4 Residential to PGL Liddington (Return 30.6.23 4.00 pm)
8.00 - 5.00	Forms 5, 6 and 7 Trip to Hampton Court Palace
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
THURSDAY 29	
9.30 - 2.30	Nursery and Pre-Prep Trip to Cutteslowe Park
1.30 - 4.00	Trek to Boars Hill and Back (Forms 5 & 6)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 6) (Merton Field)
FRIDAY 30	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, speaker The Headmaster
1.30 - 4.00	Trek to Boars Hill and Back (Forms 7 & 8)
4.00 - 5.00	After School Cricket Club (Reception - Form 2) (Merton Field)
	CC: IN
SATURDAY 1	
SUNDAY 2	<i>The Fourth Sunday after Trinity</i> CC/CP: Eucharist CC/CP: Cricket Match

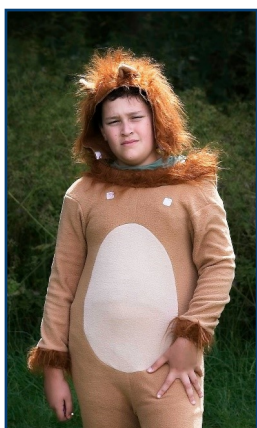
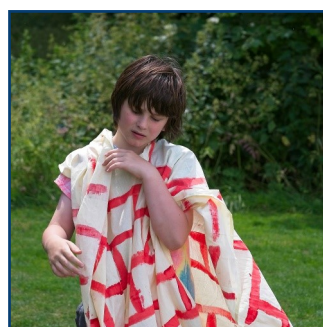
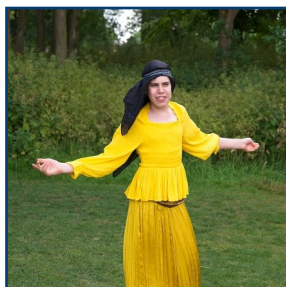
## Lost Property



As we are nearing the end of term, please would you remind your children to look in the Lost Property Box on the landing near to Form 2 for any belongings they are missing. Thank you LK



## A Midsummer Night's Dream





## **The UKMT – Junior Mathematical Challenge (JMC) – 2023 (The National Maths Competition for Years 7 and 8)**

Earlier this term, CCCS was one of 4,400 schools which took part in a nationwide competition for Mathematics aimed at Years 7 and 8. It is called the Junior Mathematical Challenge and it allows boys in this school to see how their Maths ability compares with pupils in the rest of the country.

During an Assembly of the School this week the JMC Award Certificates were presented by the Headmaster and Mr Bagnall, Head of Maths, to all the award winners.

The following boys achieved a Bronze Certificate. A Bronze Certificate is awarded to those pupils who achieved in the top 40% in the country.



Year 7: Isaac, Owen and Edward

Year 8: Arlan, Felix,  
Eren, and Matthew

The following boys achieved a Silver Certificate. A Silver Certificate is awarded to those pupils who achieved in the top 19% in the country.



Year 6: Ben Best-Evans

Year 7: Jonathon and Ethan

Year 8: Thomas, Tom and Matthew

The following boys achieved a Gold Certificate. A Gold Certificate is awarded to those pupils who achieved in the top 6% in the country. A high achievement indeed. So very well done to:



Year 6: Carl

Year 7: William, Vasishth

Year 8: Zach, Jeremy and Yourui

The Best in Year Group and Best in School Awards (also Gold Certificate recipients) were:



Year 6: Carl

Year 7: Vasishth

Year 8 and the Best in School Award: Yourui



Also, many congratulations to Jeremy, Zach, Vasishth and Carl who qualified to take part in follow-up round called The Junior Kangaroo Challenge, having achieved a mark putting them in the top 3% in the country - and to Yourui, who qualified to take part in the higher level follow-up round called The Junior Olympiad, having achieved a mark putting him in the top 1% in the country.

At the time of publication, the results of these two follow up competitions are awaited, but we have high expectations of them all. Very well done boys. AB

## Form I News

Our Form I Maths Superstars have been developing their multiplication skills this week.

The boys have been busily making 'arrays' from classroom resources and everyday objects, spotting the numbers of columns and rows and then multiplying them.

Well done boys! TR



## Making the Most of Oxford Club

Our Making the Most of Oxford Club had a double treat this week. On Tuesday, we identified the spires of Oxford from the vantage point of the Varsity Club while sipping deliciously cool mocktails.

On Thursday, we visited the Bate Collection of musical instruments and admired Handel's harpsicord and much, much more. KS



## 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).





## Un Petit Déjeuner Sur L'herbe

Forms 3 and Form 4 practised some tricky French grammar during their lesson on Thursday whilst enjoying baguette and croissants in glorious Summer weather on the Meadows.

"Would you like some baguette?" "Would you like some butter?" "And some jam?" But the boys were served only if asked using the correct French!

Much to the delight of everybody, Mrs Green, her husband and her daughter Florence arrived just in time before the last croissants disappeared.

To end the happy mini trip, everybody joined in to play a popular French playground game before heading back to school. AE-W

## Meet and Greet: Mr Bagnall - Teacher of D.T.

**What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now?** I wanted to be a racing driver. I tried but met with no success but did learn a lot of engineering along the way.

**If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why?** South - way down South, America. I was offered a teaching job there once but unfortunately, and probably foolishly, I passed it up in favour of a post offering more money. I would like to make amends.

**Who is your idol?** William Blake. He struggled with a lowly station in life, had few lucky breaks but nevertheless worked tirelessly to achieve his goals to produce his art, to satisfy his muse and to win in as many as he could. There is something in his life that strikes a chord with me.

**Favourite city or town and in which season?** Penang in Malaysia - a poor person's version of Singapore but full of life - any season as they are pretty much all the same.

**One thing you would change in the world if you could?** I am a vegetarian and would wish it on everyone!

**Favourite Book?** *Three Men in a Boat* by Jerome. Perhaps he was keen on William Blake too?

**Is there a family trait/habit that you have?** We are all keen on music: cello, piano, horns and, for me, guitars - unfortunately we all share a very low opinion of each other's preferences and singing. One of us likes film score work, another likes pure classical, another enjoys popular - whereas I like weird stuff.

**If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/ money, what would it be?** Pottery, now who do we know who is good at pottery?

**Any advice on how you relax at the weekend?** It has to be training for events such as triathlon or running.

It's difficult not to admire someone who commits to a marathon and completes those gruelling 42kms. I'm not at all surprised you wanted to be a racing car driver - adrenaline at its peak. Although assisting young boys in hammering, gluing, sawing and creating probably gives you a buzz! The weird stuff is the thing that makes for an interesting life, I'm sure of it.

Be careful on the pottery wheel, it has a mind of its own, accelerating at pace, nothing you couldn't handle though - and you could make your own vegetable bowl! "Let your boat of life be light, packed only with what you need" Jerome knew what he was talking about. Thank you.

Have a great weekend,

Kathryn

# SUMMER HOLIDAY SOCCER SCHOOLS 2023



**Mon 24 - Thur 27 July**

**Windrush Primary, WITNEY**

**Mon 31 July - Thur 3 August**

**New Beaconsfield Hall, SHIPTON**

**Mon 7 - Thur 10 August**

**Windrush Primary, WITNEY**

**Mon 14 - Thurs 17 August**

**FREELAND Village Hall**

**Fantastic Value**  
**£17 per day.**



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-soccer-schools.co.uk](http://www.next-generation-soccer-schools.co.uk)**



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THE ORATORY

## *ROWING CAMP 2023*

Wk 1: Monday 10 - Thursday 13 July

Wk 2: Monday 17 - Thursday 20 July

Time: 9.30am - 3.30pm

with **SAM ROYSTON**,  
The Oratory's OSBC Rowing Coach



This 4 day camp is for 11-13 year old boys and girls who wish to learn to row. It is run to the highest safety standard from The Oratory Boathouse in Whitchurch, on the River Thames.

For more information and to book,  
please email: [reservations@oratory.co.uk](mailto:reservations@oratory.co.uk)

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