



Christ Church Cathedral School

Friday 6th October 2023

Dear Parents,

It was a great privilege to have the Dean with us today in the Cathedral to talk about the new window which has been commissioned for the north transept. The subject is St Francis of Assisi who was, of course, a lover of God's creation, most especially the birds and animals. As I write, the window is being inserted bit by bit. The effect in the Cathedral is extraordinary as colour spreads through the window. At the bottom the present clear glass remains while towards the top, the whole window turns to a riot of vibrant colours. Already, behind the scaffolding, creatures are emerging including a bright yellow hoopoo bird in all its exotic finery. The Dean told us a good deal about St Francis and even more about the window – all of it appropriately colourful! Most memorable is that there will be a picture of the donor's dog, which goes by the name of Picolo, immortalised for future generations in the colours of the window. The Dean will return to speak to the School at the end of this term when the window will be fully installed. We are very lucky at Christ Church that we have such an outstanding collection of stained glass, from the glories of the Becket window to the exquisite collection of windows by Edmund Burne Jones, including the life of St Frideswide. It is so exciting to see this outstanding collection being added to this month and I have no doubt, from the plans I have seen, that the new window will stand proud against its companions. Our pupils are very fortunate that they are witnessing the development of the Cathedral.

Tomorrow, very close to the new window I have been writing about, the new Sub Dean, The Very Revd Peter Moger will be installed in the Cathedral, a ceremony in which I will play a small part. The reason for this is that one of the Sub Dean's central roles is to be the Vice Chair of School Governors, a position which carries with it most of the day to day gubernatorial supervision of the School. Canon Moger has come to us from the furthest corner of the Kingdom, namely Stornaway on the Isle of Lewis in the outer Hebrides where he has been in charge of the Anglican congregation. Oxford will certainly be a very different experience for him and his wife Heather. Canon Moger was telling me that he is getting used to the rather higher ceilings in Oxford, as most houses on the Isle of Lewis are low in order to mitigate the effect of the wind. He will, however, find that his role here at Christ Church has much in common with his previous role as Canon Precentor of York Minster where he had a great deal to do with the Minster Choir School and lived in a Cathedral community. It will be a very great pleasure to welcome Canon Moger and we will ensure that there is an opportunity before too long for him to meet you.

We must also welcome Alma our new School Secretary. I am certain you will see Alma if you pop into school and you will no doubt have communication with her in the near future. Alma has been with us for a few days and has already shown herself to be a charming and lively addition to our splendid staff.

I am sorry that I have not been on Brewer Street much this week as I have been undertaking an inspection of another independent school. 'Independent' is a thoroughly apposite word here as it occurred to me that it is our sector's independence that leads to so much wonderful variety. Since the foundation of the school I have been inspecting, lessons and meetings have begun with a moment of silence followed by the repetition of the Sanskrit Phrase "Om paramar mainamar" to which the response is "Atta" The phrase translates as "We dedicate our union to a greater source" and the school is indeed dedicated to the unity of all people. I was very interested to see the effect of this philosophy upon the school as a whole.

It was wonderful to be back at CCCS this morning. I dropped in to see some Pre-Prep boys doing some throwing practice with little balls. I was drawn into the exercise and found myself passing the balls back and forward to some of the boys.. "Mr Murray," said one boy, your head looks like a ball." "Why?" I asked. (why don't I learn?) "Because it hasn't got any hair on it!" Oh well! Despite this, I think on balance that it's very good to be back

Mr Murray
Headmaster

Michaelmas 2023

Monday 9th - Sunday 15th October

MONDAY 9	
10.30 - 11.40	Oxford City Centre Neighbourhood Policing Team visiting Pre-Prep (WWH)
2.15	Senior House Cross Country
3.30 - 4.30	After School Chess Club (Form 2)
4.10 - 5.00	After School Football Club (Forms 3 - 8)
4.10 - 5.00	Ancient Greek Club (Forms 7 & 8)
TUESDAY 10	
	Bikeability Level 2
2.30	U8 & U9 Rugby v Windmill (Home)
4.10 - 5.00	After School Rugby Club (Forms 3 - 8)
6.00	CC/CP: Court Sermon
WEDNESDAY 11	
	Forms 3 & 4 Swimming
2.15	Forms 7 & 8 Rugby v Ashfold (Away)
3.55 - 4.45	After School Chess Club (Forms 3 & 4)
4.10 - 5.00	After School Mandarin Club (Forms 7 & 8)
THURSDAY 12	
	Bikeability Level 2
2.30	Forms 3 & 4 Rugby v Chandlings (Away)
4.10 - 5.00	After School Multi Skills (Sports) Club (Form 2)
FRIDAY 13	
8.30	Cathedral Assembly, Speaker James Kazi, Under Master, Westminster School
4.10 - 5.00	After School Rugby Club (Reception - Form 2)
	CC: IN
SATURDAY 14	
9.30 - 12.30	Open Morning
SUNDAY 15	
	<i>The Nineteenth SUNDAY After Trinity</i>
	<i>University Second Week</i>
6.00	CC/CP: Installation of new Clerks, Choristers and Sub-Organist at Evensong

Lost Property



There is a large Lost Property Box in the Foyer,
outside the Walton Hall. LK



ABYSO Concert, 16th October: Save the Date!



In school, we are preparing for an extremely exciting concert coming up next month. The Antigua and Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra (ABYSO) will be performing in the Cathedral alongside a choir drawn from boys in the Prep School. Established five years ago under the guidance of the Kanneh-Mason family, the ABYSO has opened up exciting new opportunities for orchestral playing in Antigua, and it's intended that it will become a hub for classical music across the Caribbean. Some parents may remember my work for this scheme last year, and I am very moved that CCCS musicians will be able to share a performance with the ABYSO during its very first trip abroad.

The concert will take place in the Cathedral at **12.00 noon on 16th October**, and will last just under an hour. Parents are very welcome to attend, and I hope that this will prove a fantastic event for all involved. The programme includes a jazz waltz by Shostakovich, a selection of songs popular in Antigua, and an innovative version of *Winter*, from Vivaldi's 'Four Seasons' arranged for orchestra and steel pan.

You can get a sneak preview of what's in store by watching this recording of the ABYSO performing an excerpt from *Winter*: <https://youtu.be/9WKup1tRXps>

We would be very grateful if you could let Mrs Kemp know if you wish to attend, so that we can plan seating. Please do join us if you can! SB



Sports News

On Wednesday, our Forms 7 & 8 boys played against Bruern Abbey - traditionally a very tough fixture. Our boys didn't disappoint, they put in huge amounts of effort and commitment.

During the 1st Team match, we struck first with a blistering run down the wing from Troy. This was followed by pressure from our opposition, eventually resulting in a try for them. The first half finished 4-2 to Bruern Abbey. In the second half, CCCS showed renewed energy and confidence. Jon and Troy scored our first two tries of the match. We then changed the way they defended, putting Bruern under immense pressure and causing them to make mistakes.

The final score was 7-5 to Bruern Abbey in what was a thrilling game to be involved in. Well done to all the boys for a superb performance. NH



Duolingo Challenge

At the time of writing, Trust (Form 7) is Number 1 in the Duolingo CCCS 30-day Challenge League. Will K (Form 8) was Number 1 last week. Teachers and parents alike are becoming very competitive and many boys have begun their own Duolingo competition with their parents. I am learning Portuguese so I spoke to Mrs Manfio, one of our Chefs, earlier this week - keen to use my newly-learned words. I uttered "I am a woman. I eat bread and I drink water". I am hoping that by the end of this Challenge, my conversation will be a bit more interesting... SL

Making the Most of Oxford Club

Inspired by what we saw at the Alphabets Alive! exhibition at the Weston Library when we visited, our Making the Most of Oxford Club spent this week producing our own lettering. The Thursday group tried reflecting letters using paint and paper, whilst the Tuesday group used their bodies – not always as easy as first thought! KS



Nursery News

The weather has been kind to us this week so we have taken work out into the garden. The first picture below shows the use of our moveable alphabet to help sound out words and then to write them.

We have been showing the youngest children how to work with activities from the shelves and put them away. In one of our morning meetings Miss Helen showed us how to work with four blocks of knobbed cylinders.

Whilst the rest of the school spend their break times looking for conkers, Nursery have been collecting sticks, conker casings and conkers to make woodlands and fill them with animals. The sticks really do look like animals! HB

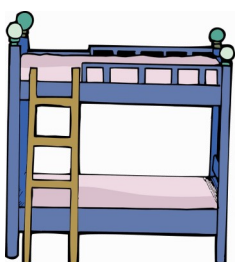


Flexi-Boarding

We offer flexi-boarding for £63.00 per night.

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

registrar@cccs.org.uk.



D.T. Corner



Form 7 News

Form 7 visited Rock Star Climbing Centre on Monday and had a great time expending some energy and scaling the heights.

Mr Harrison and Mrs Schiller were very impressed by the determination and perseverance shown, and by the encouragement and congratulations that the boys gave to each other.

Another successful Team Building Day! KS



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL SCHOOL
Boys' Prep School with Co-ed Nursery



OPEN MORNING

Saturday 14th October 9.30 am – 12.30 pm

To register, email: registrar@cccs.org.uk www.cccs.org.uk 01865 242561

Meet and Greet: Laurence Roope - Parent of Jaden, Form 4 and Leo, Form 6

What did you want to be when you grew up and what are you doing now? I entertained numerous possibilities, the most enduring probably being acting. I now work at Oxford University, researching and teaching Health Economics and Development Economics.

If you could travel anywhere in the world tomorrow, where would you go and why? I think I would choose Patagonia – it combines my love of Latin America and winter wonderlands.

Who is your idol? Lionel Messi – pure poetry in motion!

Favourite city or town and in which season? Andermatt in winter.

One thing you would change in the world if you could? Stop us destroying the planet.

Is there a family trait/habit that you have? I have always been more of a 'night owl' than a 'morning person' and I fear I may have passed this trait on!

Favourite Book? Hard Times by Charles Dickens and The Picture of Dorian Gray by Oscar Wilde.

If you could start something new (hobby/interest or sport) and were not limited with time/age/money, what would it be? Learn to play the piano.

Any advice on to relax at the weekend? I like to spend quality time with family.

Even if you don't like football, you can't not like Messi. He is a true team player and someone who can create an opportunity even when one doesn't appear to exist. These are important life skills and Messi is always smiling!

Owls are wise. I'm eager to know if you can turn your head 270 degrees - they do say birds of a feather stick together! If you can schedule in an Assembly on a Friday morning at the Cathedral, do it. You'll be inspired by the singing, the prose and warmth of the piano and if you're lucky one of the boys will play, you may not see them, but it will be the most memorable part of your day to hear them. Thank you Larry and welcome to CCCS.

Enjoy your weekend,

Kathryn