



Christ Church Cathedral School News

6th March 2026



Message from the Headmaster

Dear Parents,

World Book Day is one of my favourite occasions. Pupils you know so well seem not to turn up that day while there is a stampede of characters from books, dressed in their clothing, many clutching wands and staffs. I arrived, dressed this year, as Dumbledore! "Oh look," said one boy as he approached the school, "it's Father Christmas." I spent the rest of the day trying to ensure that everyone knew who I was and, indeed, I found myself getting carried away. I was using a perfectly sized stick as my elderwand and was attempting to bring about magical transformations by brandishing this twig. One of the many Harry Potters who had decided to attend our school, said, as he flourished his plastic wand in front of me, "Well yours is not a wand, it's a stick - unlike mine!"

I did some research and was able to produce some of Dumbledore's well-known phrases, some of which are happily appropriate for a school, for instance, "Silence!" and, at lunch time, "Let the feast begin!" Indeed I loved spending my day at Hogwarts! But ultimately, I have to admit that it is CCCS that is the greater school and it was a parent who drew my attention to this by informing me of her favourite Dumbledore phrase: "Music – a magic far greater than anything we do at Hogwarts" and of course at CCCS we have so much experience of music, of this magic superior to anything found at that other, in many other ways, more exotic scholastic location.

My great good fortune in working at CCCS was also brought home to me at Pre-Prep assembly this morning. I always present the special awards which pupils gain.

The citation this morning was for “dedication to the art of happiness and positivity.” I was delighted that someone was being awarded for these qualities, but I thought it told us a lot about the school that being happy and positive was considered to be an art i.e. something that required skill, hard work and care to achieve. Indeed such attitudes are generally the result of careful thought and I can think of few more wonderful citations. The pupils were also telling us about the things they had enjoyed most about the day. I was thrilled to hear that several people responded “Everything!” (these pupils too seem to have mastered the art of happiness and positivity) but one person wanted to take it even further – “Everything plus 100!” I couldn’t put it better myself!

I was also told about the Pre-Prep trip to the Woodland School, a trip which must have been rendered even more colourful by the fact that the adventurers had gone out with their World Book Day costumes. They had also taken the books in which they appeared and had spent some time reading their books in the wood. Mr Robards had coined a special tone for this activity: “wild reading!” This concept particularly appealed to me. It explains very well the concept of someone reading a book in a wild place – I intend to read while up a tree over the weekend – the more places you can read, the better as far as I am concerned; but I also love the idea of reading wildly – a fully engaged brain might well take on a wild quality! Indeed there are books themselves which are fairly wild, as any of you who have recently read *Wuthering Heights* by Emily Bronte might have discovered. Few recent films have caused more people to revisit a classic novel than the latest cinematic epic! While thinking about wild reading I glanced again at my old copy of the novel. Catherine when in low spirits, writes words which chime with me:

“I wish I were young again, half savage and hardy, and free... Why am I so changed? I’m sure I should be myself were I once among the heather on those hills.”

but I thought a more appropriate line for a school of predominately boys was Heathcliff’s splendid utterance *“I shall be as dirty as I please, and I like to be dirty, and I will be dirty!”*

Given all these trips to the woodland school to do some wild reading, perhaps your sons and daughters will require a good bath. Thinking about it, baths are another good place to read!

Mr Richard Murray,
Headmaster

School Contacts

School Office: 01865 242 561 (8am - 5pm)

Prep Line: 07719 109433 (5pm to 6pm)

Mr Mirko Minibus: 07736 148199

Mr Quen Minibus: 07346 224937

School Calendar

Monday 9th March - Sunday 15th March

MONDAY 9 MARCH

2.00 - 4.00: U12/U13 Hockey v New College - Away (St Edward's School)

TUESDAY 10 MARCH

Science Day

1.30 - 4.30: U8/U9 Football Tournament - at Oratory School

WEDNESDAY 11 MARCH

1.45 - 4.30: U10/U11 Football Tournament - at Bruern Abbey

2.15 - 4.00: U12/U13 Football v d'Overbroeck's (Home)

3.30 - 7.30: Form 5 Parents' Evening (Online)

THURSDAY 12 MARCH

9.30 - 12.00: School Open Morning

9.00 - 1.00: Form 3 Trip to the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

2.30 - 3.30: Pre-Prep Concert (WWH)

FRIDAY 13 MARCH

Worcester Choir Trip to Florence (13th - 16th March)

8.45 - 9.15: Mothering Sunday Service Cathedral Assembly with Nursery & Pre-Prep

9.15 - 9.45: *All parents are welcome to join us in the Priory Room for coffee following the service*

Upcoming Events



Nursery Stay & Play Wednesday 18th March

9.30 - 11.00am

We are looking forward to meeting new friends at our upcoming Nursery Stay & Play!

Bring your little ones along for our Stay & Play session! It's a great opportunity for children to explore, play, and make new friends in our friendly surroundings, while parents relax and meet with our staff and other families.

To register your place, simply click [here](#).

Upcoming Events



Open Morning **Thursday 12th March** **8.45 - 9.45am**

Christ Church Cathedral School

We are excited to open our doors to prospective families looking for a small but mighty school for their child.

Friends and family are very welcome to come along and see why our School is so special. To book a place, please [click here](#).



Mothing Sunday Service

Friday 13th March **8.45 - 9.45am**

Christ Church Cathedral

We are looking forward to having the Nursery and Pre-Prep children join us for this special Cathedral Assembly.

As always, parents are welcome to attend the service, and join us afterwards in The Priory Room for refreshments.



Pre-Prep Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 27th March **1.00 - 4.00pm**

Christ Church Cathedral

Will we be able to find all the Easter eggs hidden by the Easter Bunny in the Cathedral Garden? Join us to find out!

Following a Easter Service, the children will take part in the Easter Bonnet Parade before racing around the Cathedral Garden for the Easter Egg Hunt.

After School Clubs

Something for everyone!

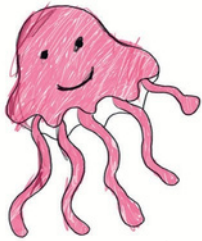
After School Club Timetable

Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Mandarin Club (Rec - Form 2) 3.30 - 4.15pm Form 2 Classroom	Multi Sports (Rec - Form 4) 4.15 - 5.00pm School Hall	Mandarin Club (Forms 5-8) 4.15 - 5.00pm Form 4 Classroom	Greek Club (Forms 7-8) 4.15 - 5.00pm
Chess (Form 2) 3.30 - 4.30pm Form 1 Classroom	Chess (Forms 3-6) 4.15 - 5.15pm Darwin Classroom	Table Tennis Club (Forms 5-8) 4.15 - 5.00pm Playground	
Mandarin Club (Forms 3-4) 4.15 - 5.00pm Form 2 Classroom			
Football (Forms 3-8) 4.15 - 5.00pm School Field			
Real Tennis (Forms 3-8) 4.15 - 5.45pm Real Tennis Court			

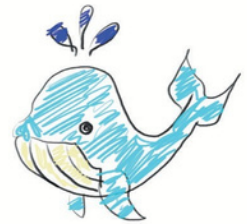
To sign your child up for a club, please email schoolsecretary@cccs.org.uk with your child's name, Form and the name of the club they want to join and the day.



Drawing Competition for 4-12 Year-Olds



Penguins, dolphins,
whales and seals,
jellyfish, sharks and eels,
pirates, turtles,



some seashells on the shore,
coral and starfish,
on the ocean floor,



the sea is magic, fun and more,

what will you draw...?

Our After School Care team have placed a copy of the competition details into your child's bag.

Winning drawings will feature will be published in a book. Every child who enters will receive a sticker strip!

Please hand your entries into School by Friday 27th March.

The Life of a Cathedral Chorister



To wander into the choristers' Song Room at Christ Church is to encounter a pleasing anachronism: small boys in immaculate new cassocks, hurrying with a seriousness that would shame most cabinet ministers, intent on plainsong more than punctuality. One expects a heady mixture of incense and discipline, Latin and lashings of stoicism. What one discovers instead is something at once more human and more subversive: a republic of treble voices, sustained by mischief, ambition and a surprisingly robust sense of humour.

I asked several of these young gentlemen what it is like to be a Cathedral Chorister. Their answers, refreshingly unvarnished, offer a corrective to any sepia-tinted illusions about an ecclesiastical childhood.

The best part? Not piety. Not prestige. Not even the architecture. For Henry, it is "making new friends", a reminder that even beneath the vaulted ceilings of Christ Church, fraternity trumps theology. Harrison concurs, praising "being around other people and composition" which suggests that the true liturgy here is companionship, set occasionally to music. Sergey is more direct: "Singing, especially at big services and concerts." There speaks a natural performer, already aware that applause is a sacrament in its own right. William, admirably blunt, nominates "music practice" itself – I fully concur with him on this.



And what of their musical devotions? Their playlists range widely! Henry leans toward the lush romanticism of Rachmaninoff; William favours the cool, liturgical wit of Poulenc; Sergey invokes the baroque intricacies of Buxtehude. Harrison stands with the titan Beethoven, while Edward selects MacMillan, whose Catholic modernism does not so much float up to heaven but marches up there and bangs authoritatively on the pearly gates. Artie opts for Nico Muhly, proving that the contemporary has not been excommunicated from the choir stalls.

Yet this is a boarding school, and no idyll is complete without its irks and irritations. The most challenging aspect? William recalls simply “starting” – that first wrench from home, a universal pang. Harrison confesses that sharing a dormitory is taxing, “because I’m so messy,” (this is my own postscript to what Harrison told me, but it holds true). Sergey cites simply “gossip,” the eternal vice of cloistered communities but he failed to indicate if his complaint was in terms of too much or too little. Edward points to “Mr Holder’s expectations,” which sounds ominous until one remembers that Mr Holder has the patience of a Saint. Artie, with enviable candour, identifies “sleeping” as a challenge but having sat next to him in many services, I can honestly say that he seems to have no problem in this regard.

In-house enthusiasms are equally telling. Football club vies with piano practice; the IT room competes with bedtime extensions. Henry and Artie admit, with a conspiratorial grin, that “trouble” ranks highly, one feels that Henry’s mentoring has not been lost on Artie. Sergey’s preferred pastime, “scaring Matron,” has the ring of a minor Gothic farce.

As for life beyond the Cathedral, ambition flourishes. Radley and Harrow beckon; Marlborough, St Edward’s, Purcell and Wells hover on the horizon like promised lands. These boys are already plotting their next chapters, their treble lines destined to break but their aspirations unbroken. Thus, the life of a cathedral chorister emerges not as a monastic retreat but as a vigorous apprenticeship in music, camaraderie and endurance. Beneath the surplices beat ordinary, rebellious, ambitious hearts. They sing Buxtehude and Muhly; they endure gossip and dormitories; they dream of Harrow and Radley. And in the echoing spaces of Christ Church, their voices rise, not in sanctimony, but in spirited, occasionally troublesome, entirely human song.

Mr John Robson

Boarding Housemaster



Smart devices promise to make our lives easier. In many cases - they do, however these new technologies present risks too. Whether you're using a digital assistant to record your shopping list or you're controlling your lights through a smart system, many smart functions can be 'hacked' and controlled by someone outside your home. This guide will help you identify some of the ways you can stay alert and protect yourself.

1 KNOW THE RISKS

The success of any smart device relies on it communicating with other devices using the Internet. It's an unavoidable part of using smart devices, but it does expose you to numerous risks. Attackers could use the Internet connection to steal your data for identity fraud or to make unauthorised purchases through your devices. There is even potential for more sinister exploitation, such as child grooming or cyber-bullying.

2 WHAT IS THE INTERNET OF THINGS?



This is the term given to all the devices connected to the Internet in your home. It includes a new digital doorbell connected to your smartphone, your kettle that boils when you tell it to on your tablet or your heating that comes on when you wake up on your smart watch. The Internet of Things (IoT) is designed to make life easier, but it also opens up your home network to potential cyber-attacks. It doesn't mean you can't enjoy the benefits, but it does mean being aware of the potential negatives.

3 CHECK ENCRYPTION SETTINGS

Whenever data is sent over the Internet, it is 'encrypted'. This makes it harder to read if it's intercepted. You should look to use a strong encryption setting, such as WPA2, rather than WPA or WEP. You can check your router manual on how to do this.

4 KEEP YOUR SOFTWARE UP TO DATE

Manufacturers constantly update and improve software used in smart devices. Some will automatically alert you to an update, but not all do. To be on the safe side, it's a good idea to set reminders in your calendar. Check the manufacturer's website for any updates and run them if necessary.



5 RENAME THE 'GATEWAY' TO YOUR HOME

Your Internet router is the virtual gateway to your home network. It needs protecting. To do this, you should change the default name (the SSID) and password. You can usually find steps to do this in the instruction manual. Don't use your family name. Choose something more obscure. Make the password complicated too, using upper and lower-case letters, numbers and symbols. Do this for your router and any other smart devices connected to the Internet.



12 Top Tips To Get Smart About The

DEVICES

In Your Home



National Online Safety®



6 USE A SEPARATE NETWORK FOR GUESTS

If your router has a feature that allows you to set up a separate network for guests, you should use it. That way, when guests use your Wi-Fi, they won't have access to your devices.

9 TRUST YOUR INSTINCTS

If you ever feel something is wrong or your network is being exploited, visit the manufacturer's website or ring their technical support department. It's better to be safe than sorry.



7 SAY GOODBYE TO SIRI AND ALEXA

It's a good idea to change the activation words on your smart devices so they are unique to you and your family. This makes it that much harder for people to break into your smart devices.



8 DEACTIVATE ANY UNNECESSARY FEATURES

Though it's a fun idea, you probably don't need to control your kettle from outside the house. In fact, there are often many unnecessary features included on smart devices. Where possible, you should look to disable these. Doing so reduces the ability for people to hack your devices. When someone sees you've actively taken steps to increase security, they're less inclined to try to compromise them.



10 BUILD A WALL

You could also purchase a dedicated 'firewall' device. This is something that plugs into your network and stops cyber threats reaching your router. Some routers do have a firewall element included, but they are no replacement for the real thing. A firewall device thoroughly analyses information coming in and out of your network and helps stop malicious attacks. A security device is strongly recommended to anyone who works from home or deals with sensitive information.



11

SECURE YOUR SMARTPHONE

If you do use apps on your smartphone to control devices in your home, make sure your smartphone is secure. At the very least makes sure the pin function is enabled, as well as any biometric authentication you have. Where possible, it's also a good idea to download some anti-virus software for your smartphone too.



12

REGULARLY AUDIT YOUR DEVICES AND CONSOLES

Every now and then you should check through all of your smart devices (including games consoles connected to the Internet). Turn them off at the mains and disconnect them from the Internet. In fact, it's good practice to disconnect any devices that aren't in use. It's a small thing but really does help. Even when you think a device might be in sleep mode, if it's connected to the Internet it could still be listening or streaming data.



Meet our expert

Emma was a secondary school Computer Science teacher for more than decade. Since leaving education, she has been working in a cyber security firm delivering cyber awareness training to businesses and carrying out network testing. She is a mother of a five-year-old and has vast experience of controlling and managing how children access online services and use apps.



Welcome back Miss Hannah!

This week the Nursery children welcomed back Miss Hannah to lead our Tatty Bumpkin yoga class. Miss Hannah suffered a broken elbow during the Christmas holidays. The children were very excited to see Tatty and enjoyed their favourite song, 'We are giggly, bendy, clever and strong.' Welcome back Miss Hannah and we wish you all of our best wishes for your continued recovery.



Sometimes we share a book with the children that really chimes with their feelings. This week this was, 'Harry and the Robots,' a book in the Harry and the bucket full of dinosaur's series. With lots of illnesses accompanying the season, one of the children made a robot to blast his cough away. Let's hope it works and he is feeling better after the weekend.

As part of our World Book Day celebrations, Miss Helen read, 'The Cave' to the children, a story about some foxes on the hunt for rabbits.

HB



Celebrating World Book Day in Pre-Prep

It is a testing task indeed to try and summarise all the literary fun and frolics we had yesterday in Pre-Prep for World Book Day. The day was awash from start to finish with words, pictures, costumes, and storytelling, in its multifarious and glorious colours. The day began with a welcome from a wise, and exceedingly tall, wizard on Brewer Street, and it was a delight to see the children come skipping into Pre-Prep, beaming with excitement and rightfully proud of their magnificent book-themed costumes. Huge thanks to our Nursery and Pre-Prep parents for the time and effort put into the costumes - you really surpassed yourselves!



To provide a taster as to the experiences we enjoyed across the day, the children were treated to a rich variety of activities, including: an interactive Drama Workshop, a superb Book Swap (again supported exceedingly well by our incomparable parents); a World Book Day Assembly; quiet reading on comfy cushions on the playground in the Spring sunshine; an EYFS Reading Carousel with teachers swapping between classes; a trip to the Dorothy L Sayers Library; and last but by no means least, 'Wild Reading' in our Woodland School.

In the Woods, children found a quiet space to read alone, or with friends, in all manner of wild spots. Some children chose to read up a tree, others built their own hide-outs in which to retreat with their book of choice, and others still reclined lazily in the sunshine under our self-made camouflaged reading dens on the edge of the field.

It was an extraordinary day, and when Dr Seuss famously pondered as to the 'places you'll go', perhaps one such place that he had in mind, arguably the greatest place of all, was curled up in bed at the end of busy day with a favourite book, thinking back over all of the fun that can be had in life if we are 'Wild About Reading'.

TR



CCCS Pre-Prep Concert
2.30pm Thursday 12th March, WWH



A selection of instrumental and vocal performances by the children in Pre-Prep.

Refreshments afterwards. All are welcome!

Form 3 take us on a Rainforest Adventure



Form 3 performed a wonderful assembly to showcase their learning about the rainforest.

The boys confidently shared facts about this unique habitat and delivered a thoughtful retelling of the story *The Great Kapok Tree*, highlighting important messages about protecting nature and listening to the animals who depend on the rainforest for their homes. The boys worked incredibly hard to learn their lines and performed them with great confidence.

A big thank you to all the parents for your support with costumes and for helping the children practise at home - it made the assembly even more special.

CZ



Reminder: Form 3 Trip to the Ashmolean

The class will be heading to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford on Thursday 12th March. We will leave School at 9am and return by lunchtime. We can't wait!

Form 3 and 4 Concert
2.30pm Tuesday 17th March, Walton Hall



A programme of instrumental and vocal performances
by the boys in Forms 3 and 4.

Refreshments afterwards. All welcome!



This term's Trinity music exams will take place on
Tuesday 24th March.

Good luck to all pupils taking exams. We look
forward to celebrating your hard work!

A World of Imagination: Celebrating World Book Day!



From the halls of the Hogwarts Express to the whimsical woods of Wonderland, our school was transformed this week as we celebrated World Book Day. It was a vibrant, noisy, and deeply inspiring reminder that between the covers of a book, you can go anywhere and be anyone.

Bringing Characters to Life

The day kicked off with a spectacular array of costumes. The creativity on display was truly next-level! We saw a sea of capes, crowns, and even an assortment of wild animals. Seeing the children step into the shoes of their favourite heroes - and villains - did more than just provide a great photo op; it allowed them to connect with the stories they love on a personal level.



From Page to Stage: Drama Workshops

To keep the energy high, pupils participated in immersive drama workshops. These sessions pushed everyone to think about how a character moves and speaks. Among the activities everyone took part in were:

- Improvisation: Pupils acted out alternative endings to famous tales.
- Character Building: Small groups worked together to create "freeze-frames" of pivotal plot moments.
- Confidence Building: Many pupils found their voice, proving that stories aren't just for reading - they're for performing!

The Power of the Voice: Staff Read-Alouds

One of the most cherished moments of the day was our "Staff Reading Time" session. Staff members from across the school visited classrooms to read their favourite stories out loud. There is a unique magic in being read to, regardless of your age. It allows the listener to fully immerse themselves in the rhythm of the language and the emotion of the plot without the pressure of decoding words. The rapt silence in the classrooms was a testament to the timeless power of a good story, well told.

Why We Read: More Than Just Words

While World Book Day is a blast, the message behind the costumes is vital. Reading is the ultimate "superpower" for growth. It provides:

- Empathy: Books allow us to live lives different from our own, fostering kindness and understanding.
- Vocabulary: Every new book is an encounter with new words and big ideas.
- Mental Health: Getting lost in a book is a fantastic way to de-stress and recharge.

"A book is a dream that you hold in your hand." – Neil Gaiman

Poetry Recitation and Bookswap Week

Our annual Poetry Competition just before half term was every bit as much a highlight of the school calendar as we had hoped it would be. After weeks of preparation, the finalists at last took to the stage to perform. Our winners demonstrated well how the exercise of learning a poem can build memory, vocabulary and confidence.

Congratulations to all our winners and runners up:

Infant section: Shangen N (winner), Allorah S (runner up), Enzo L (runner up)

Junior section: Alexander P (winner), Teddy C (winner), AJ (runner up), Fraser M (runner up)

Intermediate section: Armaan N (winner), Harry Li (runner up), George R (runner up)

Senior section: Hugo AL (winner), Adam C (runner up), Harsha N (runner up)

Book Day was preceded by our Book swap Week. When you're working at a school where so many boys are interested in exchanging books, you know you've got a great reading tradition.

Mr James Farmer

Head of English



World Book Day 2026 Photo Album



Intermediate & Senior Poetry Recital Winners

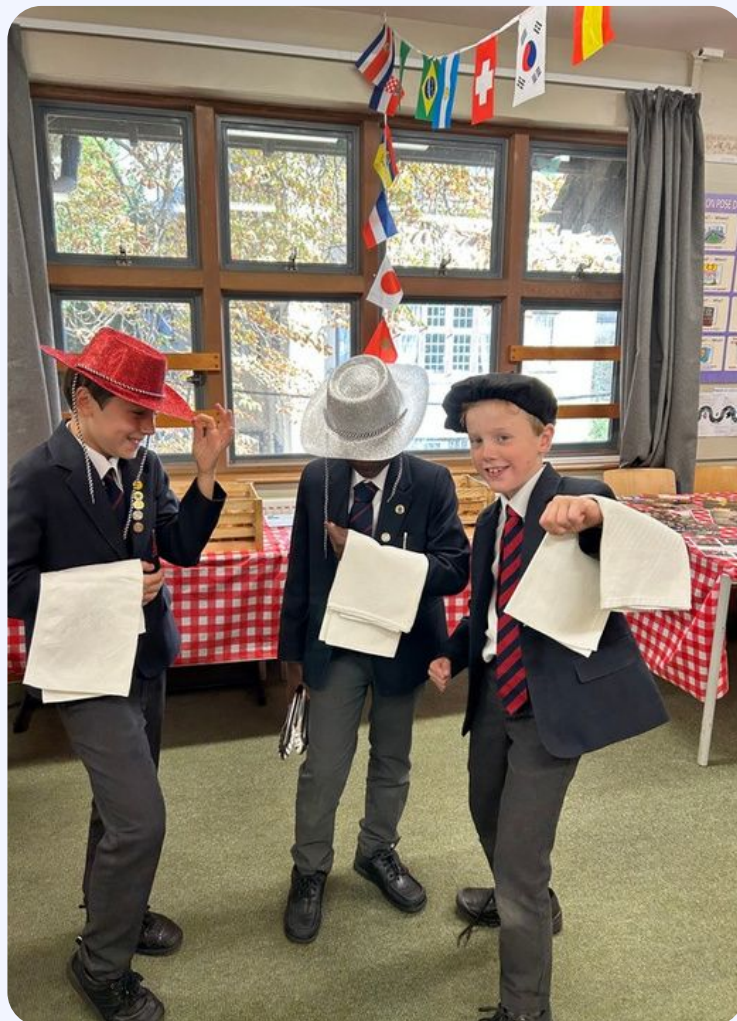


Inspiring a love of languages at CCCS

When prospective parents ask at what age we start learning French at CCCS, they are often surprised to hear that we do so, from the moment a child joins our school. Let's be honest, Mme Williams and I are not so powerful that we can brainwash everyone into thinking that learning French is essential. Science backs us up.

The theory behind our passion is simply that children should learn languages at a young age because early childhood is the most natural and effective time for language development as the brain is flexible and very receptive to new sounds, patterns, and structures. Young children can absorb vocabulary and grammar almost effortlessly. As they grow older, learning a new language typically requires more conscious effort, and achieving fluency becomes more challenging.

Imagine learning animal names, family members and numbers as a teenager. The themes feel baby-ish, the effort still real, and if you feel self-conscious speaking with an accent in front of peers, learning a language becomes really difficult. In general, young children are less self-conscious and more willing to take risks when speaking. They are not afraid of making mistakes, which is a crucial part of language learning. The earlier you start learning a language, the better!



At CCCS, we believe that learning French is a way of introducing our pupils to different traditions, perspectives, and ways of thinking. This exposure helps them develop respect for diversity and a broader understanding of the world.

Mme Williams and I try to add a French touch to everything we do, and we tailor it to our pupils' age. From House competitions, where the children take part in French spelling bees, Maths Challenges, Duolingo challenges, baking and decorating competitions, to listening to stories in French in the Story Museum, ordering Cheese, crêpes and breakfast in French within our local community, there is always a fun way of motivating our pupils to learn even more outside the classroom.

I asked two Form 6 boys what they thought about learning languages. For Périclès (F6) it's 'because you can go around the world and make new friends'. As for Terry (F6), it is 'To just be cool'. Last year, Leo, now in Form 8, completed his IPQ project on why learning languages is essential - a testament to the value our pupils place on being multilingual in today's world. I often tell parents, half-jokingly - that they need to support their child by planning a family trip to Paris! We take boys from Form 5 to Normandy in the summer for immersive stays, and boys older than 10, skiing to the French Alps, to discover and enjoy another aspect of French culture. After all, what could go wrong when you are abroad, with friends, keen to enjoy yourself?!

Curiosity starts in the classroom and discovery starts in the real world. As they grow older, our pupils will have what is essential for their future- the confidence to step out of their comfort zone to discover and enjoy differences. That's probably why the expression "Simple comme Bonjour" exists, which translates as "As easy as pie" or 'as easy as Good Morning'. Learning a language, at School and in the real world starts with a smile, some courage and a Greeting. Now, time to ask yourself whether you shouldn't start brushing up your French!

Mme Sophie Loyer

French Teacher

Form 6 Tutor



CCCS Geography Quiz Masters!



On Monday, six of our Geographers travelled to MCS to take part in a Geography quiz alongside pupils from a number of other prep and secondary schools from across Oxford and the surrounding area.

Both teams worked extremely hard, enjoyed the evening, and tackled a wide range of Geography questions. It was a great opportunity to test their knowledge while representing the school.

Well done to all the boys who took part.

FB

From Oxford to Antigua: The Music Never Stops



Our Director of Music, Ms Biddell, is currently in Antigua working with ABYSO - the Antigua Barbuda Youth Symphony Orchestra, which was formed in 2018 in partnership with the Kanneh-Mason Family. You may recall Jeneba Kanneh-Mason hosted a masterclass at CCCS back in February last year with some of our pianists!

Ms Biddell has shared her thoughts from her trip:

“I am working with ABYSO in Antigua at the moment, conducting the Junior Orchestra and working with the senior wind players. This is an orchestral project guided by the Kanneh-Mason family, running year round to provide two orchestras and a choir for the young people of Antigua. Musicians from UK, US, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Montserrat all contributing this week with spots on radio and TV.”

We can't wait to hear more from Ms Biddell when she returns!



Cross Country Champions



On Monday, Mr Morgan and I took a group of 12 boys down to Thorngrove School in Hampshire for their annual cross-country competition. We entered the three competitions at Form 4, Form 6 and Form 8 age groups, with four boys running in a relay style cross country format around a 1km course.

The Form 4 boys ran first, with Louis as the first to go. He ran excellently and passed on the baton to Jasper with one other school just slightly ahead. Jasper ran a great second leg, keeping some energy in reserve for an incredible sprint finish which put us slightly ahead when the baton was passed on to Isaac. He took off, in his new running spikes and extended our lead out in front. Lucas was the final runner, and even though he was chased down slightly, the gap between us and the school in second place was too large, and Lucas crossed the line in first place. It was a great start to the afternoon!

Next up were Form 6. We had a strong team with Hugo setting the pace and bringing the baton back just behind the two schools in the lead. Alex was second to go and ran a positive second leg, keeping us in touch with the leaders. Jayden went third and continued with the excellent pace through the puddles and the mud. The final leg was Richard who got off to a great start, closing the gap on the school ahead. The school behind were also catching up, and it took an incredible effort from Richard to get us over the line just ahead and into third place.

The Form 8's were the last to run, but they were up against some incredibly fast schools and individual runners. It was tough going for our boys, but they all ran excellently and put in a real shift. Ray took off and excelled around a course that was becoming increasingly muddy. He passed the baton to Milan who also ran well and constantly with a smile on his face. Gerard was third to go, putting in real effort and battling tough competition. Eaton was our final runner of the afternoon, and his effort was rewarded with a respectable 6th place finish.

All our runners did the school proud and should be really pleased with their efforts.

Mr Pear

Rugby Roundup

Cothill v CCCS



Form 4 Contact Team

This week we had a one-off rugby match away at Cothill, with the boys having a games session last week to just remind them about the intricacies of a sport we haven't been working on since November. Cothill on the other hand have been working on rugby for the past few months, so we were expecting a tough afternoon.

Our Form 4 contact team were very excited about getting stuck into a physical battle against a very good opposition. Cothill started strongly, scoring a few tries in quick succession. However, the boys showed great resilience and fought back to score three tries before half time. In the second half, the boys were fully back into the swing of the game, scoring several more tries and putting Cothill under real pressure. Despite a strong comeback, the match finished 10-8 to Cothill. It was an excellent performance and a great display of determination from the CCCS boys. What was particularly pleasing to see was how much the boys had remembered from the autumn term, and their willingness to follow coaching points they received from Mr Pear and me.

Mr Boarder

Form 3 and 4 Tag Team

The CCCS Forms 3 and 4 tag rugby team travelled to Cothill for a fun afternoon of rugby. It was a very narrow loss, but the boys seemed to really enjoy the change from football and were all really excited to compete with Cothill on a springlike afternoon. They all played well with a special mention to Qi Heng who scored two very good tries in the corner. Another honourable mention goes to Thomas K who prevented multiple tries with his strong defence and great tagging ability. However, man of the match went to Edward T as he played out of his skin. He defended brilliantly, he tore up Cothill's defence with his fast feet and managed to join Qi Heng in scoring a brilliant try!

Mr Morgan.

Football Focus

CCCS v The Dragon

CCCS A Team

On Wednesday afternoon Forms 5 and 6 welcomed The Dragon over to Merton Field for some football fixtures. Coming up against The Dragon is always a tough ask, given the size of their school compared to ours. However, all of our boys stood up to the test and worked really hard to showcase what sport at CCCS is all about, showing resilience and effort even when matches are tough.

CCCS A team were involved in a hard-fought, high-quality match in which they were narrowly defeated by The Dragon School. The defensive group, in particular, played very well throughout, with standout performances from Pericles, Hugo R and Richard H. Raphael was once gain outstanding as goalkeeper, dominating his area during set pieces and saving a penalty.

Mr Withers

CCCS B Team

The Years 6 and 6 B team had a great match against The Dragon, with an extremely tight first half, and a back and forth second half, making the game very exciting to watch.

The Dragon started well, but CCCS defenders stayed solid, limiting shots and giving our attackers some great chances to run at the goal on the break. At half time, the scores were level at 0-0 creating a very interesting second half of football to come.

Unfortunately, The Dragon scored a couple of goals in the second half, but the boys kept fighting throughout, showing great teamwork. Man of the match was Jing, who made some incredible saves, including a great double save late in the second half, keeping his team in the match.

Mr Rowland

CCCS Town

On Wednesday, the Years 5 and 6 football, Town team came across a strong Dragon school side.

The boys attempted to use skills learnt in earlier games sessions to be able to gain a competitive advantage over their opponents, unfortunately the Dragon school's teamwork was unmatched, and the Christ Church boys went down in a tough defeat.

Mr Gordon

CCCS Town & United Teams

On Wednesday afternoon, CCCS United and Town matched up against The Dragon school.

Although the boys suffered a 3-1 loss, we had good moments, especially the goal which included a great passing move. We defended well against a strong opposition and put in some great tackles. Good effort from Christ Church, onto the next one.

Mr Crucioli

Upcoming Fixtures

Date	Time	Team	Event	Location
Monday 9th March	2.00 - 4.00	U12/U13	Hockey v New college	Away (St Edward's)
Tuesday 10th March	1.30 - 4.30	U8/U9	Football Tournament	Away (Oratory School)
Wednesday 11th March	1.45 - 4.30	U10/U11	Football Tournament	Away (Bruern Abbey)
Wednesday 11th March	2.15 - 4.00	U12/U13	Football v d'Overbroeck's	Home

CCCS Cheer Squad, Assemble!



It was such a nice afternoon on Wednesday, and having so many parents and staff along to support the boys during the fixture gave the afternoon a really special feel this week. Having parents coming to watch matches is something that we would like to encourage even more over the coming weeks and months - it really does mean a lot to the boys. With the weather beginning to improve and spring just around the corner, it would be lovely to see more of you coming along for the sports fixtures. As always, there will be light refreshments, tea and coffee on offer in the Pavilion and hopefully some entertainment to enjoy out on the football/cricket pitches.

Mr Pear

Enrichment

Woodland Art

The boys were challenged to collect a range of natural objects from their surroundings during Forest School. They explored the woodland environment carefully, looking for different textures, colours and sizes as they gathered materials such as leaves, sticks, bark and stones.

Working together, they then used their collections to create one large collaborative installation. The activity encouraged them to observe the natural world more closely and think creatively about how different materials could be arranged to form patterns and shapes. It was great to see them discussing their ideas, experimenting with different combinations and taking pride in the final piece they produced.

The session was a wonderful opportunity for the boys to combine creativity with teamwork while enjoying time outdoors. A fantastic time was had by all.

CZ





CCCS

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB

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8AM - 4PM

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- TEAM ACTIVITIES!

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SCAN TO BOOK!



CCCS Holiday Clubs



School Photobook



CCCS Cross
Country
Champs!



School Photobook



Form 3
Eye of the
Dragon



Nursery Fun!

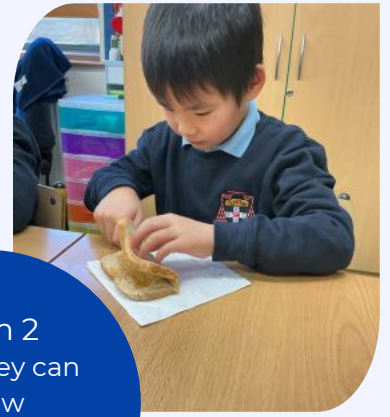
Around
the School



Form 3 with our gappers, Mr Morgan,
Mr Gordon and Mr Rowlands



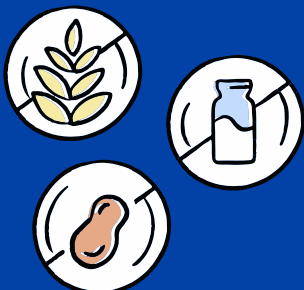
School Photobook



Form 2
show they can
follow
instructions for
their love of jam!



DT Delights!



Help us keep the school community safe

If your child has an upcoming birthday and would like to celebrate with their CCCS friends, please place a cake order with our Chef, giving at least three days' notice. You can email Chef Peter directly at franks@cccs.org.uk
Please do not bring any outside food into the School.