CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS TRUST

JULY 2023



Dear parents and carers,

This newsletter comes to you at the end of what has been another busy and challenging year for schools. I have been so impressed by the continued resilience, determination and creativity across our schools as staff and communities continue to prioritise the needs of our children.

We are thankful that the commitment to the co-curricular, sport, trips, music, drama etc has not wavered across all our schools. There have been so many wonderful events over recent weeks with sports days, school performances, shows and awards evenings.

The pandemic taught us just how precious time spent inside and outside of the classroom is and our communities continue to go above and beyond to deliver these opportunities. Thank you to all who have made it possible.

A particular thank you to all the staff who are leaving us this summer- we wish them well going forward. We are looking forward to welcoming new staff at the start of the next academic year and we are lucky to have been able to recruit such talented teachers and support staff.

We would also like to send our best wishes to all those who are moving on from our schools be it to the next phase of their education or pastures new. We are very grateful for all the support that you as parents and carers give to your schools through the PTA, parent governors or as volunteers in school. Your support makes all the difference!

I hope that you and your families are able to have a happy and restful break over the holidays and we look forward to welcoming you back in September.

With best wishes

Neil Blundell Chief Executive, Cathedral Schools Trust

> For the latest news from CST and all our schools connect with us on <u>Twitter</u>: <u>@CST_Schools</u>



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Reflective

Staff Spotlight - Lucie Bebbington-Lewis

I began teaching music at Cathedral Primary School in September 2021 and also took up the post of Primary Music Lead for the trust at the same time. Prior to this I have worked in a variety of other settings, from nurseries to male voice choirs.

I believe that the role of the primary music teacher is to make music accessible and enjoyable for all, offering all our children a breadth of musical experiences whilst also ensuring we deliver a rigorous and challenging music curriculum. I am so lucky that at CPS and across the trust I am given the scope to make this happen.

Surprisingly for some I'm sure - I recently had a child ask me, "Why are you out of the hall?" - I do have hobbies outside of school, and when I'm not sitting on the M4 heading West, I love to run! This love developed out of challenging myself to run a marathon when turning 30 and (aside from injury) I have not stopped since! The challenge I am most proud of is running the 4-4-48 (Google it!) in aid of a very special little seven year old in my daughter's class.

I feel so blessed that at CPS I am able to be involved in so many activities that enrich our children's lives, from the school council, to Unicorn Fest, to collaborating with Project Zulu. Whenever I am asked how I juggle it all, I say there is just so much reward and feedback from the work I do. I'm also part of a wonderful team that helps to make it all happen. What amazing opportunities our children have!

Meet a CST Trustee - Amy Mitchell

Amy is a graduate of the University of Nottingham, having studied a Joint Honours Physics and Philosophy degree. Her career, that spans education, learning & development and charity leadership, started as a teacher when she taught Science in a secondary school in Tower Hamlets, East London. After leaving the classroom, Amy went on to work for Teach First, an education charity seeking to ensure every child can achieve their potential. She completed a Masters Degree in Teaching at the UCL Institute of Education and supported new teachers, who were training via Teach First, in their first years in school.



Following her marriage in 2010, Amy (and her husband) travelled the world before returning to the world of education. She has held numerous roles at Teach First since then and has seen the charity grow from 50 staff to over 700 staff currently. From Head of Curriculum to Head of Multi-programme development to Director of Innovation & Insights, Amy has continued to extend her leadership reach. She completed an MBA at Aston Business School in 2022 and has recently started a new role as Chief Impact Officer for the organisation, overseeing the design, delivery, evaluation and strategy work for the charity. Through this role, she oversees the training of 1500 new teachers each year, alongside 3000+ early career professionals, 4000+ mid-senior school leaders and a community of 16,000+ alumni of Teach First programmes that continue to support the charitable mission.

Amy was previously Chair of Trustees for the innovative charity 'Learning with Parents' and saw their growth across schools and capability in that time. She has also worked as a school governor for 2 primary schools in South Bristol and is now a proud Trustee of the Cathedral School Trust.

Amy lives with her husband and 2 children in Knowle, South Bristol, and they are delighted to be part of the Victoria Park Primary School community (with 1 child in Year 3 and another in Year 2).

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Year 6 Careers Fair

Year 6 children from across the trust visited St Werburgh's in June for the annual careers fair. In total 35 people from a wide variety of career paths (including an illustrator, a barrister and a midwife) gave up their time to explain their jobs to the children. A huge thank you to everyone involved and we know it is not easy to give up your time, especially if you are self employed or have just come off a night shift (thank you paramedics!)





Year 5 Trust Sports Day









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Year 2 'Celebration of music' event!

On the 16th June all Year 2 children from across our six primary schools joined together at Trinity Academy for a morning of music making. They were supported by the Aurora Quintet from the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. It was a brilliant opportunity for the children to all get together to sing alongside inspirational instrumental ensembles from Bristol Cathedral Choir School and Trinity Academy. Thank you to all the staff and parents who supported this wonderful event.





Making music happen

Music is a key part of our work as a Trust and one of the many ways that we collaborate across our group of schools. We are really looking forward to our next trust concert which is scheduled to take place in spring 2024 at the newly opened Bristol Beacon, one of Europe's top performance venues. All of our schools will take part and we feel sure there will be neither an empty seat or a dry eye in the house! As we mentioned at our last concert, the venue hire is expensive and to ensure that our children have the opportunity to perform in such an amazing place we have launched a fundraising campaign to cover the hire costs on our justgiving page. If you are able to contribute you can find the page on the link below or by scanning the QR code. Please do also get in touch if you know of any companies who might consider sponsoring our events and we would love to follow up with them directly.



https://www.justgiving.com/campaign/CSTmusic2023-24campaign

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Junior Reporters Club at Hotwells

Junior Reporters Club have been working with Martin Booth (one of our journalist parents of Bristol 24/7 fame). They have loved the club and are really proud of their first published page which you can see <u>here</u>. The page is within the Bristol 24/7 magazine which will be distributed to cafes, pubs, shops and cultural venues across the city - so some great advertising for the school too. Their next job is to put together what will hopefully be a school magazine which will come out at the end of the school year.

Safeguarding Spotlight: Keeping safe over the summer

Wellbeing

The summer break is almost upon us, and the holidays offer both staff and learners the opportunity to re-charge. However, some students struggle without the structure and support offered by their education setting. The Anna Freud Centre has put together <u>self-care</u> <u>summer packs</u> for primary and secondary schools containing creative activities that young people say helped them stay mentally healthy.

Safeguarding over the summer holidays

If you are worried about the welfare of a child over the holidays, please contact First Response by phoning 0117 903 6444. If a child is at immediate risk call the police on 999. If you need some support for you and your child you can request this through Families in Focus by contacting First Response.

All schools will be closed for staff and children to enjoy the summer break however all schools will have an email that is monitored throughout the holidays for emergency use. This should be used to inform the school of any immediate safeguarding concerns that occur in the school holidays. Please be aware that emails will be monitored but this may not be daily.

St Katherines - s<u>chool@skdrive.org</u> Trinity - <u>safeguarding@trinityacademybristol.org</u> BCCS - <u>safeguarding@bristolcathedral.org.uk</u> Victoria Park - <u>safeguarding@victoriaparkprimary.co.uk</u> Headley Park - <u>safeguarding@headleypark.bristol.sch.uk</u> Stoke Park - <u>safeguarding@stokeparkprimary.org</u> Cathedral Primary - <u>pastoral@cathedralprimaryschool.org</u> Hotwells - <u>safeguarding@hotwellsprimaryschool.org</u> St Werburgh's - <u>st.werburghs.p@bristol-schools.uk</u>

Work with us!

There are a number of vacancies for teaching and support staff roles across our schools, if you know of anyone who might be interested then do pass on the details.

We are also always on the look out for governors for our schools, if you are interested please email enquiries@cathedralschoolstrust.org.

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