



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our trust newsletter for parents and carers. As you will all know this is a very busy time of year in our schools with public assessments and examinations taking place in primary and secondary schools as well as a huge range of events and trips not to mention the normal school everyday busy routines for all of our pupils and staff. We welcome this opportunity to update you on some of these in this newsletter

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish any pupils, and their families, the best of luck in ongoing public examinations and very much look forward to celebrating all their successes once the examination period is complete.

Parents will have heard of our application to merge with TiLA (Trust In Learning Academies) This is not something that we anticipate will have an immediate or large impact on everyday school life but we hope that it will ensure that we are able to collaborate even more effectively, ensure that recruitment and retention is improved and establish more financial resilience as public sector services come under even more pressure. You will have received information on this from your individual schools and updated information will be available via our [website](#). Many thanks to those of you who have already been in touch with feedback and queries during our engagement period and we will continue to gather feedback and update you on this project over the coming weeks and months.

We always look forward to a range of collaborative events in the summer term which includes the Trailblazers bandcamp which took place in partnership with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama at the end of April; in June we have our annual Trust Sports Day at Headley Park School and our Year 6 careers fair at St Werburgh's Primary School as well as our annual Governance conference. Across all of our schools we also look forward to a huge number of end of year events to celebrate all that has been achieved over the last academic year in both our primary and secondary schools.

In addition we are very proud that Trinity Academy was selected as the first ever state school venue for the Music Teacher Association Conference which took place last weekend. The conference sees music teachers and professionals from across the country join together to share best practice, collaborate on resources and enjoy networking opportunities all with the aim of providing an even higher level of musical education for our pupils. It was a very successful event which I attended along with a number of CST colleagues, some of which delivered workshops. Thank you to Trinity for hosting.

Neil Blundell  
CEO



# Reflective

As you will be aware it is one of our key values to always be reflective in all we do. As part of this we have completed both staff and pupil surveys already this year. We have carefully analysed the results of these both at school and Trust level and are working on action plans to ensure that we respond appropriately to what our staff and pupils are telling us. Following on from these surveys our annual parent survey will be shared with you straight after May half term. Please do keep an eye out for this which will be sent from your school and please do complete it if you can. We welcome all feedback and look forward to hearing your views on a range of areas in order for us to continue to be as reflective as we can.

I am sure you will also be aware from the media that the use of smartphones by our young people and in our schools has become an area of focus for the Department of Education and the government is considering legislation on this. In the interim we have decided to conduct our own research in partnership with the University of the West of England. Our surveys have now been completed in both secondary and primary schools. Once all the data has been collated and analysed we will use this to consider our response, policy and practice across all of our schools. We appreciate your input and support for this key issue for young people of today and we will communicate any decisions with you in due course.



On the theme of social media, we know that it can be a very positive tool to keep parents, carers and others informed of all that is going on in our schools including news and events and communicating arrangements and key messages. After careful consideration CST has decided to focus on Instagram as the main social media platform for our schools and all schools will be moving towards this over the coming months. If this will result in any change for your school, they will be in touch to clarify methods of communication. We hope that this consistency of approach will allow us to continue to connect with our community in meaningful and impactful ways. Thank you for supporting us as we adapt to better serve our students, staff, and broader community.



You can follow us on [www.instagram.com/cstschoools/](https://www.instagram.com/cstschoools/)

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This is a very busy time of year for recruitment in schools and all schools are working very hard to recruit new staff where they are needed as well as retaining the wonderful staff that we already have. We are always pleased when we are able to offer opportunities for staff progression within the Trust and there have already been a number of successful cross Trust appointments this year which I will update you on in my final update of the academic year in July.

## Year 4 City Hall Event

To support the trust's mission statement to 'empower the next generation of changemakers', all Year 4 pupils from across the trust visited City Hall on Wednesday 19th March. The children heard from the Mayor, sat in the council chamber and debated the motion 'should schools reduce the amount of screen time for pupils during the day.' Our thanks to Alison Lambert, headteacher at Stoke Park Primary, for helping to organise this event.



Work on designing the National Oak Primary Music Curriculum is scheduled to be completed in the autumn and we will be looking to roll out these materials across our primary schools next year. We look forward to sharing these materials with your children over the next few months and continue our commitment to music education

## Laurel Trust funding

We are also delighted to let you know that we have successfully applied for funding from The Laurel Trust. The Laurel Trust is a charity that supports schools serving disadvantaged communities to make sustainable differences to children's learning and life chances. They provide grant-funding and work together with schools and other agencies to put evidence-informed research into practice. Our project focuses on developing a curriculum for the explicit teaching of metacognition. Metacognition is pupils knowing how to plan, monitor and evaluate their own learning processes. The project will span 18 months and will focus mainly on transitions; pupils starting school in EYFS and leaving in Y6. We are really excited to be developing this work with the support and generosity of The Laurel Trust.



Leading Learning through  
Action-led Research and Innovation



On Tuesday 11th March, 450 pupils from across our Trust schools gathered together in the Bristol Beacon to perform 'Starbound', our annual concert in partnership with the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire. It was a very special, memorable occasion for all who performed and for all who watched. Highlights included a performance from all students of Labi Siffre's 'Something inside so strong' and the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire joining the CST orchestra and all the CST singers to perform Sam Ryder's 'Spaceman'. CST even received a special good luck message from one of the writers of 'Spaceman' - Amy Wedge who had heard a rehearsal clip and was really impressed! A huge thank you to all the pupils who shone so brilliantly on the evening and behaved so well. Also to all the staff who supported them in the run up to the event and during the day and evening itself. We are also extremely grateful to the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire and the Bristol Beacon and to all our generous sponsors who made this event possible.

We're already looking forward to next year!





Hannah Ward

St Werburgh's Primary School

I have been working at St. Werburgh's Primary School for three years as a Learning Support Assistant in Key Stage 2. In my role, I am very grateful to be part of a fantastic team of committed professionals who go above and beyond to support children's learning each and every day.

In 2012, I completed a Primary and Early Years PGCE, but I soon realised that my two young children were going to need more support than I could provide if I worked as a full-time teacher. Fortunately, I decided to focus on working with children with Special Educational Needs as an LSA, and I have never looked back. I feel lucky to be part of the educational journey of those resilient, determined children who sometimes find aspects of school life more challenging than others.

One of the things I really love about St. Werburgh's is its outdoor space and how it provides opportunities for children to learn through play. I feel this is especially important for every child whose education was interrupted by the pandemic, as they develop invaluable social skills that are essential as they grow older.

In my spare time, I volunteer at the Avon Riding for the Disabled Centre, where I support riders with additional needs during lessons in the indoor arena and out on hacks. Therapy – Achievement – Fun is the group's mission, and I can honestly say that both riders and volunteers benefit from this goal.



## 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 and visit our website at: [www.cathedralschoolstrust.org/careers](http://www.cathedralschoolstrust.org/careers)

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As the evenings are getting lighter and the weather is improving it is likely our young people will be out and about in the community more, enjoying the open spaces. It is important that as schools and families work together, so we have a shared understanding of some of the concerns that can arise, particularly regarding Anti-social behaviour. Anti-social behaviour (ASB) can significantly impact our communities, affecting both individuals and families. It's essential to understand what constitutes ASB and how we can work together to address it.

## What is Anti-Social Behaviour?

- ASB refers to actions that cause harassment, alarm, or distress to others. Examples include: Vandalism and graffiti, rowdy or aggressive behaviour, public drunkenness, drug misuse and dealing, intimidation or harassment. Such behaviours can disrupt the peace and safety of our neighbourhoods.

**Supporting Your Child** - Children and teenagers may sometimes be involved in or affected by ASB. Here's how you can support them:

- **Open Communication:** Talk to your child about their day-to-day activities and friendships. Encourage them to share any concerns.
- **Set Clear Boundaries:** Establish rules about acceptable behaviour and discuss the consequences of ASB.
- **Monitor Online Activity:** Be aware of your child's online interactions, as cyberbullying and other harmful behaviours can occur digitally.
- **Engage in Community Activities:** Encourage participation in local clubs or groups to foster positive relationships and a sense of belonging.

## Where to Seek Help - If you're concerned about ASB or need support:

- **Bristol: Resolve West:** Offers mediation and support for those affected by ASB: 0117 941 5379 or [info@resolvewest.org](mailto:info@resolvewest.org).
- **Families in Focus:** Provides coordinated support for families with complex needs.
- **North Somerset:** Youth Inclusion Support Project (YISP): Aims to prevent offending and ASB among young people. **Young Victims Service:** Provides support for young individuals affected by crime or ASB: 01275 88 44 88 or [young.victims@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:young.victims@n-somerset.gov.uk)

## Reporting ASB

- **Immediate Danger:** Call 999.
- **Non-Emergency:** Contact Avon and Somerset Police at 101 or report online.
- **Local Council:** Report issues to your local council's ASB team: [Bristol City Council](#) or [North Somerset](#)

Addressing ASB requires a collective effort. By staying informed, maintaining open dialogues with our children, and utilising available resources, we can foster safer and more harmonious communities.

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