



Cathedral Primary School Community News

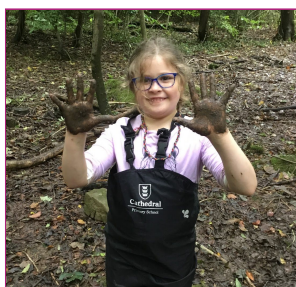


Newsletter No.2 - October 2020

A message from Mrs Yarnold

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a great first term! The children have worked really hard and have once again impressed us with their wonderful learning. It has been lovely to see how responsible and kind our children have been with the way in which they have welcomed the new Reception children. We have been particularly impressed with how the children have embraced the new school value of 'Resilience'. Although we are not having assemblies together in the school hall we are still coming together virtually for weekly assemblies and celebrating the classes and individual children who are value ambassadors at school.



This year, many of our teachers are involved in curriculum development around Black History. This month is traditionally Black History Month and as part of our work we have been learning about important events and people like the Bristol Bus Boycott, Jen Reed, Harriet Tubman and Mary Seacole. Reception have also studied a book called Kente Colours. Our PSHE, art and history lessons have all had a focus on these iconic figures who have devoted their lives to equal rights.

Today at our end of term assembly the children prepared some lovely cards and words for Miss Rollé and Mrs Perryer. On Saturday Mrs Rollé will be getting married and we all hope that she has a wonderful day. The children wrote some lovely top tips for married life. Mrs Perryer will now begin her maternity leave and today the children presented Mrs Perryer with some excellent advice about how to care for a newborn baby. We are delighted to welcome Mr Etheridge, our new Reception teacher to the EYFS team. Mr Etheridge has enjoyed working alongside Mrs Perryer over the last two weeks.

A huge thank you once again for the contributions made for the Food Bank. Each year at an assembly we discuss the challenges that some people face and how these food parcels can support people in times of need. The Trussell Trust will use the contributions to provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty. Their aim is to end poverty and hunger in the UK. This year the table in the hall was piled high with contributions made!

This term we have continued to use the outdoors as much as possible. Reggae and Country Class have enjoyed their Forest School block. Jon Withers, our Forest School lead has reported how Year 3 totally embraced the house building and tool making activities. Both classes demonstrated resilience, determination and good team work skills. Forest School sessions continue to give the children an opportunity to play and learn outside in a normal environment. We will continue to use this wonderful resource as much as possible.



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Curriculum communication is very important and we have reviewed how we communicate the essential curriculum and learning highlights with our school community. From next term we will be combining our class pages to year group pages. Teachers will add curriculum information at the start of each term and these pages will be updated mid term with curriculum celebrations and at the end with a summary of the term. Class teachers will regularly use the school Twitter account to share photographs of learning each week. If you are not currently following us, please do at Cathedralprimaryschool@primarybristol

As we head towards Term 2, we are looking forward to the many events leading up to Christmas. Although the school is running very differently we will be looking at ways in which we can come together as a community virtually to celebrate. Miss Kelly and Mrs Hughes are planning to record contributions from all classes that will be presented as a Christmas concert. We will let you know the full details of this nearer the time.

As we reach the end of our first half term, I would just like to take this opportunity to express my pride and gratitude in how brilliantly everyone in our school community is working together in the face of the changes to our lives that the battle against the Covid-19 pandemic has caused. As parents and carers, this has potentially been a tough time for you as you cope with your own worries and I would like to thank you all for the support you are giving to your children as we all try to ensure that we are able to continue with the 'new normal' in school. Wishing you all a great half term.

Thank you for your continued support,

Best Wishes

Sara Yarnold and the CPS Team

★ Have a restful half term - School reopens on Tuesday 3rd November ★

COVID-19 Information Updates

BCCS have this term had a number of confirmed cases and year groups have closed for a period of time. We have made the decision that we will continue to have packed lunches in classes to avoid using a shared area with BCCS. Once infection rates reduce we will review our lunch provision and will give you notice of when we are able to provide hot meals.

Please remember that if your child is unwell and is being tested that you need to let the school office know.



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Pastoral

This year we are excited to introduce our new whole school value, which is Resilience. There are many different definitions of resilience. We view it as a skill that can be built to help students to cope when they face challenges or when things don't go their way. We define academic resilience as students achieving good educational outcomes despite adversity. We will have a whole school community approach to building resilience. This term all classes will be learning about resilience and resilience skills.

★ A Resilience Challenge



Research has shown that thinking of 3 daily gratitudes (things that you are thankful for) or 3 daily positives for 6 months can lead to a change in mindset. Benefits include higher levels of happiness, gratitude and less depression. Bedtime could be a great time to do this with your children. You can ask them for 3 things they are grateful for or that were good about their day. It can be anything from 'I enjoyed seeing my friend' to 'I had sausages for lunch!' If 3 sounds too many then start with one. We would love to hear how you've all been getting on with daily gratitudes or positives, so do please let us know.

Watch this space to hear more about resilience as the year goes on!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Miss Bailey and Mrs Lewis

Staff Spotlight

Richard Etheridge:

Hello everyone!! My name is Mr Etheridge and I have just joined the school as a new Reception teacher while Mrs Perryer goes on Maternity leave. I am so excited to be here, I have worked for the last 2 years within the Trust at Headley Park Primary School, the last year of which I trained to be a teacher in Reception. I am a passionate musician having been a classically trained singer for the last 18 years and I am really looking forward to exploring the numerous musical opportunities the children have here at CPS. In my spare time I love to run, cycle, read Historical books and eat doughnuts!! I look forward to meeting you all in due course.





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Governor Spotlight

Tim Gear-Evans:



Hello, I'm Tim Gear-Evans and I have proudly accepted the role this year of Vice Chair as well as Health and Safety governor. I've actually been on the governors now for nearly two years, however it has felt far less with everything that has gone on. It has been a real pleasure understanding more about how the school is run, and helping to support (and challenge where required) the senior team as they plan the best course for all of the students at Cathedral Primary. It really has blown me away seeing the level of work that the entire team put in at the school to provide for all of the pupils, I'm constantly thankful the school is in such good hands! Away from the governors I work as a consultant with small businesses helping them

with operations and commercial finance. You will often find me at the gates dropping off or collecting my two children (one in year 1 and the other in year 3). Please feel free if you would like to grab me for a chat (socially distanced and away from the gates of course!) and ask any questions you may have.

Faith Designation at CPS

Update on the faith designation for Cathedral Primary School

The Department for Education has approved the final stage of the process for Cathedral Primary School (CPS) to adopt a Faith Designation and become a Church of England School. They have also confirmed that this will come into effect from 1st December 2020.

Thank you to those who responded to the consultation and for your comments and questions throughout the process. We would like to reassure you again that we have no intention to alter any core aspects of our school and community and we will continue to value and celebrate our inclusivity and diversity. We will also continue to work closely with BCCS, CST and Bristol Cathedral through the transition and explore ways to further deepen these relationships.

CPS PTA

Hello from the PTA and welcome back! In particular, we would like to welcome our new starters in Reception who have joined CPS whilst we are experiencing the strangest of times and as such we've not had the chance to meet you all as with previous years at our Summer Fair and Ice Lolly Fridays. We are however, looking at how we can remedy this through virtual events and activities – the first of which is a Virtual School Disco for Reception and KS1 students to be held on Wednesday 21st October at 6pm. Zoom details have been sent to those class groups via school email. We hope the children will enjoy it.



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The committee held a meeting with school in September to go over what we can do this year to continue to raise money for things like Forest School, the literacy programme, Wow Days and the like, and how to continue to engage with our school community. We don't think it will be possible to have a Christmas Fair this year, but thanks to Folio Print (Tara and Andy Bird), we will have Christmas Cards available again this year - the children are already busy working on their class designs and our fabulous Christmas Tree team are co-ordinating a joint xmas tree sale with BCCS this year to be held on 5th December at school - more details on how you can buy one of our fabulous trees will be sent out after half term. In addition to this we hope to have a Christmas Raffle and Virtual Family Quiz.

Over the last few weeks we have seen such kindness on our Facebook page and WhatsApp groups. Used uniform has been generously donated across the school and where possible, the PTA has received a number of donations in return. Thank you! Thank you also for the support given to our PTA Treasurer, Mary Hodges, who ran the virtual London Marathon recently in aid of the PTA and achieved it in 04:49:52!. So far, she has raised a fantastic £605 through her justgiving page, which is still open should anyone still wish to make a donation:

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/cathedralprimaryschoolpta?utm_id=2&utm_term=bdY7aKkxy Thank you in advance to all those who have donated.

We also saw the introduction of our very own virtual CPS Bookclub this month, kindly set up by Class Rep Zoe Armitage-Norton. Please see our Facebook page for details of how you can join the monthly meeting. November's book is "Everything I never told you" by Celeste Ng and the meeting will be held on 19th November at 8pm. All are very welcome.

We hope that whilst we may not be able to do things in person so much at present, our virtual events and interaction will go some way to keeping us connected. If you have any suggestions or would like to host a virtual event, please get in touch - we would love to hear from you. The next PTA meeting will be after half term. Details will be posted on our facebook page and via the Class Reps should you wish to come along.

We hope you have a good half term break,

All the best,
CPS PTA

(contact us on: cathedralprimaryschoolpta@gmail.com or via our facebook page: CPS PTA).

Secondary School Applications

Final reminder! The deadline for secondary school applications is **31st October**.

The best way to apply is online at:

[School Admissions](#)



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From the Office

Replying to school emails:

Please note that emails coming from the 'Capita-Intouch' account do not have a reply option (this is stated at the top of the email) and any replies made to this account will not be seen. All emails to school must be sent to 'admin@cathedralprimaryschool.org', this is monitored by all of the Admin Team. As you can imagine we have a large volume of emails and while we do our best to answer them as promptly as we can, this is not always possible and we cannot guarantee same-day replies.

Cathedral Gatehouse and Bristol Cathedral:

We have had a request from the staff of Bristol Cathedral regarding their Gatehouse (the building over the stone archway) and the Cathedral area where we currently release Year 5. They have asked that at no time should children be climbing the walls of the Cathedral or going up the steps to the Gatehouse. We would really appreciate your support with this.

Lunches & Allergies:

As the children are currently eating their sandwiches in the classrooms it is more important than ever that children do not bring in foods that contain nuts. This means no peanut butter or nutella or for example, snack bars such as Daim (that contain almonds) or Naked bars (cashews). We also now have children with serious allergies to sesame, so we are now also asking that children do not bring in sandwiches with hummus or snacks that contain sesame seeds. Can we also remind parents that home packed lunches should be as healthy as possible, suggestions below.

<https://www.nhs.uk/change4life/recipes/healthier-lunchboxes>

<https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/howto/guide/school-packed-lunch-inspiration>

Class Highlight

Year 3:

What an amazing few weeks Year 3 have had! As part of our topic, 'Stone Age, Bronze Age or Iron Age: when was the best time to live?', we took part in an online workshop, exploring lots of amazing artefacts! We learnt about tools, clothing, farming and lots more! We have also put our knowledge into action and made our very own prehistoric shelter in Forest School using wattle and daub to make the walls and leaves, wood and grass for the roof. It was VERY messy but so much fun!

