



Cathedral Primary School Newsletter



'Many Voices, One Harmony'

Newsletter No.1 - Term 1 2022



A message from Mrs Yarnold & Mrs Gerolemou

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a brilliant start to the year we have had. It has been fantastic to welcome all of our new Reception parents and children into school. The children have settled well into the school routines and have been enjoying getting to know each other and the fantastic early years team.

We are also very pleased to have started our year with more parents into school for our Reception and Year 1 Parent Information Evenings. We have made some changes to our Reading and Writing curriculum in Term 1 this year and from Term 2 there will also be changes to our History, Geography and Science Curriculum. More about those changes below.

Our Twitter and Instagram feeds are full of lovely pictures of the children's learning in Term 1. Year 1 have created fantastic charcoal drawings of Hairy MaClary and learnt about the importance of the "no pick, no lick" rule when finding 5 different types of mushrooms at Forest School. Year 2 combined music and art to respond to what they were hearing. They also had an exciting afternoon watching a performance of "Dinosaurs and all the Rubbish" from the Roustabout Theatre; Year 4 produced amazing leaf rubbings and learnt a number of sketching techniques. Year 3 have loved learning about the Stone Age and have produced amazing cave paintings, they also created some very colourful monsters using the art techniques they had learnt! Year 4 have been learning about the features of Rivers in Geography and building architectural structures in DT. Year 5 have learnt about subtractive drawing and carried out detailed studies of the artist Hundertwasser. Year 6 camp took place in Term 1 this year and the children had opportunities to paddle board and try out archery. They have also been learning about Frida Kahlo and last week went on a visit to Easton Jamia Mosque. If you haven't had a chance to look at these pictures yet, please do - we are very proud of the children's focus in these projects and the results are stunning.

We also had a visit from Peaches Golding, the King's Lieutenant following the sad passing of the Queen earlier in the term. Peaches was able to tell us about the times she had met the Queen personally, and told us lots of facts about the Royal Family. We even had a personal message from Micheal Rosen delivered to our children!

Wishing you a restful half term,

Best Wishes

Sara Yarnold, Louisa Gerolemou and the CPS Team



Cathedral Primary School

Newsletter



'Many Voices, One Harmony'

Newsletter No.1 - Term 1 2022

Curriculum Spotlight

We wanted to update you on some very exciting news regarding the development of our curriculum at Cathedral Primary School. Last year in Term 6 we took the decision to collaborate with other Trust schools by adopting a curriculum design, "CUSP Curriculum" for some of our subjects.

Not only does the curriculum ensure that all of the knowledge and skills are sequenced so that the children build on their learning each year, the curriculum defines the knowledge that should be taught and includes embedded routines for the learning which mean that the children understand fully the structure of the lesson. This means they are freed up to think more deeply about the new knowledge they are learning or applying. Each lesson has a built in "connect" element which allows children to recall the things they "know" so they are able to build on them. This structure is underpinned by cognitive research into how children best learn. The curriculum also contained explicit vocabulary teaching to ensure children are taught the relevant subject vocabulary to use accurately.

In term 6 and during our Inset days at the beginning of this year, our teachers received training on the new curriculum and also had the opportunity to collaborate with teachers in their year groups from other Trust schools. Feedback from teachers and children has been extremely positive so far, but the Senior Leadership Team is working very closely with the school community to monitor the implementation.

In terms of the Reading curriculum, the choice of texts are carefully planned to ensure that they are high quality, that there is a range of different genres and that they are diverse with representation of different ethnicities, faiths and backgrounds. We have invested in the purchase of books to ensure that the children have a physical book each or 1 between 2 for each text studied rather than relying on copies on screen or on paper.

Adopting the curriculum has led to a change in our timetabling in that now three lessons of each of Geography, History and Science are taught each week on rotation. This means that children can go deeper into their learning in that subject and then have a gap before revisiting and building on that subject. We have also ensured that subjects like Art, DT and Science have "double" slots back to back on the timetable as we know the setting up for these subjects in terms of materials benefits from this.

We have also changed our timetable to build Assembly time into the timetable each morning at the start of the day. We felt that this was important to ensure that the children have an opportunity to come together each morning for either Whole School, Key Stage or Singing Assembly each day.

Within our new timetable we have also ensured that we are still able to allocate time for specialist teaching in Music, PE and French and uphold our belief that every child should have the opportunity for Forest School learning. Our Teachers continue to plan from Discovery RE and Understanding Christianity for RE; from Jigsaw for PSHE; from a curriculum called Kapow for Design Technology and Computing; from CGP



Cathedral Primary School Newsletter



'Many Voices, One Harmony'

Newsletter No.1 - Term 1 2022

for French; from Real PE for PE and for music we follow our own extensive curriculum designed by our Music Lead Mrs Bebbington Lewis.

We appreciate that this is a lot of information. We will be working to update our website with information later this term and next and will include an FAQ's section. If you have any questions, please forward them to the admin team so that we can do our best to answer them in that FAQ.

Pastoral & SEND Team

Our Pastoral Care webpage has been updated with lots of information and the latest Families in Focus newsletter from the council. It also contains activities that you could do at home to support your children.

Other news from Bristol City Council - The first of Bristol's Welcoming Spaces are now open. As the cost of fuel and food continues to rise, a network of warm, Welcoming Spaces has been set up for people to go to, to alleviate cost of living pressures this autumn and winter. Each venue will be responding to community priorities which means what happens in each space will vary, but is likely to include wi-Fi, access to electrical charging points, activities and community meals. There will also be support and practical advice provided by city-wide organisations.

More information about Welcoming Spaces and where to [find your nearest one is available on the Bristol City Council website](#). More spaces will be added over the coming weeks.

If you need advice or guidance for yourself or someone you support, [we have also launched a cost of living support hub](#) on the Bristol City Council website. The cost of living support hub is a useful directory to access information on housing, bills, benefits, employment and skills and mental health and wellbeing.

Miss Bailey, Mrs Lewis & Mrs Snelling

From the Office

Clean Air Zone (CAZ) ➤ This is being introduced from Monday 28th November and CPS/BCCS falls within the designated zone. For more information and to check if your vehicle complies, visit the Bristol City Council's '[Clean Air Zone](#)' website

Bike Park ➤ Please remember to lock all bikes and scooters when leaving them in the school bike park and close the gate behind you.. We do our best to ensure the gate is always closed (apart from drop-off/pick-up time), but there have been occasions when parents have wedged the gate open after school (particularly when picking up from Shine) and this has resulted in attempted bike thefts from opportunists thieves.

Booking School Meals ➤ Thank you for your support with booking school meals on time. Just a reminder, the cutoff is 11pm on Sunday evening for the week ahead.



Cathedral Primary School Newsletter



'Many Voices, One Harmony'

Newsletter No.1 - Term 1 2022

Harvest Appeal

Thank you for your amazing generosity of donations towards our Harvest Appeal. Yet again we have gathered an impressive amount of food and much needed products for the Trussell Trust. If you would like to find out more about the Trussell Trust and the support they offer please visit their [website](#).



CPS PTA

Following the recent PTA meeting there was overwhelming support in favour of running a Christmas Fair this year. We'll need lots of help and support to make this happen so please come along to our online planning meeting on **Monday 7th November at 7.30pm** (link to be shared soon) where based on the level of support pledged we will make a decision as to the scope and format of this year's fair and whether it can successfully go ahead. Everyone is welcome to attend this meeting. The proposed date of the Fair is Saturday 3rd December. This will coincide with the PTA's Christmas Tree sale taking place that day.

Further information from the PTA will be sent out soon.

All the best

Vanessa, Karen, Mary and Cherene xx
CPS PTA Committee

Follow us on Facebook: "CPS PTA", for used uniform and other news and activities shared by our community.

Local Information

Dinosaur Takeover Week:

The ever- popular annual Dinosaur Takeover Week at Bristol Museum & Art Gallery is coming soon! During Dinosaur Takeover Week (22nd-25th November), children will be immersed in the world of dinosaurs as they investigate fantastic fossils, the work of a palaeontologist, dinosaur food chains and reptile remains. For more information visit the [Bristol Museum & Art Gallery](#) website.

Bristol's Welcoming Spaces:

The first of Bristol's Welcoming Spaces are now open. As the cost of fuel and food continues to rise, a network of warm, Welcoming Spaces has been set up for people to go to, to alleviate cost of living pressures this autumn and winter.

More information about Welcoming Spaces and where to [find your nearest one is available on the Bristol City Council website](#). More spaces will be added over the coming weeks.

If you need advice or guidance for yourself or someone you support, [we have also launched a cost of living support hub](#) on the Bristol City Council website. The cost of living support hub is a useful directory to access information on housing, bills, benefits, employment and skills and mental health and wellbeing.