

Termly Communication to Parents/Carers

Lent Term 1 2025

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our Lent 1 half termly newsletter. I hope that you find it helpful and informative. This half term is busy with the GCSE options process, various parents' evenings and plenty of music events.

Staffing News

We welcome several new members of staff to the BCCS team. Rachael Ross is starting as Head of Pastoral Support and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead and joins with over ten years of social work experience. Steven Mak is starting as Finance Officer and has over twenty years of corporate finance experience. Corry Walker is starting as Teacher of PE and is joining us from St Mary Redcliffe. We were sad to say goodbye to Ms Heidi Wells and Ms Amy Seymour at the end of the Michaelmas Term, but wish them all the best in their new roles.

Upcoming dates

Monday 6th January	Inset Day 5 (School Closed to all Students)
Tuesday 7th January	Term 3 Begins
Wednesday 15th January	GCSE Options Information Evening
Thursday 16th January	Y8 Parent/Carer Evening
Monday 27th January	Y8 HPV Vaccinations
Monday 3rd February	Inset Day 6 (School Closed to all Students)
Tuesday 4th February	Y12 Parent/Carer Information Evening
Thursday 6th February	Y9 Parent/Carer Evening
Tuesday 11th February	Pop and Rock Concert
Friday 14th February	End of Term 3

Helpful Links

[School Website](#)

[Parent/ Carers Calendar](#)

[Timings of the School Day](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Our Curriculum](#)

[Co-Curricular](#)


[Homework Timetables](#)


[Year 9 Options](#)

[PTA](#)

[Contacting Us](#)

Whole School Messages

Whole School Messages	
<p>Year 7 Camp</p>	<p>Year 7 Camp will take place from the 23rd - 27th June. The deadline for the second payment was the 10th of January; please can this be paid as soon as possible if you have not yet done so. If you have not yet paid but wish your child to attend, please email Mr Foster at year7camp@bristolcathedral.org.uk. Please also email if you have any concerns or queries currently stopping your child from attending.</p>
<p>Year 9 MFL Futbol Lingo</p> 	<p>We are looking forward to welcoming Futbol Lingo into school for a Year 9 assembly on Tuesday 28th January to promote and highlight the importance of language learning both in sport and beyond! There will also be the opportunity to take part in some language-related workshops.</p>
<p>Free Maths Event at Bristol University</p>	<p>MATHS EVENT at Bristol University Stories about Hollywood's Hippest mathematics. A celebration of Women and Girls in STEM Wed 12 Feb 2025 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM G.10, School of Mathematics, Fry Building, BS8 1UG. Tickets are free, just sign up using the link attached, this isn't a BCCS event, students are welcome to attend with friends or parents. There is a pizza reception after the event where you can meet the panelists too. https://www.tickettailor.com/events/universityofbristol15/1482328</p>
<p>UKMT Intermediate Maths Challenge</p>	<p>Year 10 and 11 mathematicians are invited to take part in the Intermediate UK Mathematical Challenge on Wednesday 29th January 3.25-4.25pm Past papers are available here for students to practice and students should speak to their maths teachers to sign up.</p>
<p>Year 10 DofE Bronze</p>	<p>The focus this half term is to get organised with activities for the Volunteering, Physical and Skill sections of the award and being doing these on a regular basis. Expedition Dates: Please check the amended original <u>LETTER</u> for dates in April and May (<i>not June</i>). There will be sessions after school on some Tuesdays to support students with using eDofE - the online platform for tracking the award. More support here https://sites.google.com/bristolcathedral.org.uk/dofebccs/home</p>
<p>Year 10 Mock Exams</p>	<p>Year 10 mock exams begin the week of the 10th March. Next week the year group will have an assembly with Ms Messinger to let students know what to expect. During the Year 10 mock exams students will sit assessments in most of their subjects. After the assembly we will send a communication to all parents/carers with a mock exam timetable, some sample revision timetables and links to useful resources. We know that many Year 10 students will be celebrating Ramadan during the mock exams. We are mindful that some students will be fasting. To support our students to have a positive experience the formal exams will be held in the morning only and with careful consideration given to the length of assessments. Further detail will follow. Dr Harris</p>
<p>Year 10 / 11 Double PE changes</p>	<p>We are changing the year 10/11 Double PE curriculum slightly to give the students more options. Some activities will be on site, some at Failand and some at Kingsdown Sports Centre. If students opt to do an activity at Kingsdown Sports Centre they will be able to leave from there after signing out with their teacher. If a student opts for Kingsdown and you do not want to give them permission to leave from Kingsdown please email myself vbobby@bristolcathedral.org.uk and we will walk them back to school. Options start next</p>

	week.
Y11 Art & Design ESA (Fine Art, Textiles & 3D Design)	<p>The art exam papers are on students' Google classrooms along with any support materials provided by their teachers. Students have until just after Easter to prep for their 10hr exam - producing research, drawings, ideas, experiments and outcomes inspired by the theme that they have chosen from the exam paper. Please encourage your child to work regularly at home or in after school sessions (in addition to lesson time) on their work as this will be the shortest time that they have had to produce a project from start to finish.</p> <p>Fine Art Paper Textiles Paper 3D Design Paper</p>
Y12 & Parents of Y13 Leavers	<p>If your child sat their GCSEs at BCCS in summer 2024 and have not yet collected their exam certificates, please remind them to do so. They can be collected from the Exams Office in S024 (Science Corridor).</p> <p>If you have a child who sat A-levels in summer 2024 and they have a sibling still at BCCS, please could you consider asking them to collect it on their behalf? Please contact Miss MacBryde at Kmacbryde@bristolcathedral.org.uk to organise this if possible.</p>
SEND Homework support Sessions	<p>On Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3.25-4pm SEND homework support sessions are held in 'The Hive', our SEND Support Centre.</p> <p>KS3 sessions are in the main Hive workroom and KS4 sessions are held upstairs in A301. Both sessions are staffed with LSAs. This term the KS4 session also offers support with revision and study skills.</p> <p>If you would like to sign your young person up for these support sessions for Term 3, please do so using the linked form HERE.</p>
SEND Coffee Morning 14th February	<p>Come along to our SEND Coffee morning hosted in partnership with Bristol Parent Carer Forum where you can find out more information on what support is available locally for your child with special educational needs and disabilities. This coffee morning will focus on students that have primary need in the areas of SEMH or Physical & Sensory. SENDCo (Jo Bennett Pullan) and Heads of Area Ruth Pestell (P&S) and Emilia Bugg (SEMH) will be attending the event from BCCS as well as representatives from Bristol Parent Carers.</p> <p>There is no need to book, but if you would like to register your interest then click the link here.</p> <p>Date: 14th February Where: Staff room (there are several steps up to this room please let us know if you require us to change location for access) Time: 9 - 10:30am</p> <p>Please note that a second coffee morning will be held in March for parents and carers of young people whose needs fall into the Communication & Interaction / Cognition & Learning areas of need.</p>
Redcliffe Bridge closure Jan/Feb 2025	<p>There will be a temporary closure of Redcliffe Bridge as follows: The bridge will be closed to all users from: 9.30 a.m. until 3.30 p.m. on 20th January 2025 until 7th February 2025. Please see attached for the diversion routes here & here</p>
School Show: We Will Rock You	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="margin-left: 10px;"> <p>Please look out for an update from the school show in next week's communication home - we are hoping to reach not only the parents and carers of students directly involved in the production with key rehearsal and performance dates, but those members of the community who might</p> </div> </div>


	be able to support the production in terms of set building and costume making. Many thanks!
We Will Rock You: please read!	A letter to the whole BCCS Community regarding the upcoming school show: We Will Rock You. Information about rehearsals outside of the school day and requests for help with set and costume.
Ramadan 2025	We are so looking forward to Ramadan celebrations beginning at the end of February. Please encourage students to get involved in the planning of student experiences during Ramadan and/or for our BCCS community Iftar by speaking to Ms Helena Lacey - hlacey@bristolcathedral.org.uk Furthermore we welcome any family members to get in touch and help us celebrate this special time.
BCCS Community Cookbook	We are excited to announce that BCCS students are curating and illustrating a cookbook full of the recipes and stories of food that make up our school community. Please share your recipes, stories/anecdotes about your recipes and origin of your recipes to hlacey@bristolcathedral.org.uk for students to work with. BCCS Cookbook will be available on completion!
PSHEe: Sex and Relationships Education this term (Ms Helmich)	As part of our school's wider PSHEe programme, this term, your child will be engaging with content on positive relationships with themselves and others (Years 7-8) as well as relationships and sex education (Years 9-11) and personal safety. Relationships and Sex Education (RSE), along with Health Education, now form part of the National Curriculum. The resources we use to deliver these lessons are all made by me personally; they are age-appropriate, culturally sensitive, based around Department for Education guidelines and recommendations from the PSHE Association who gather national data on the issues that affect young people and when. Please take the time to read this letter for further information



All Years - Futures Careers Bulletin	The weekly Futures careers bulletin has lots of amazing opportunities for students including university open days and tasters along with live apprenticeships starting in Sept 2025. Please feedback if any of the opportunities have been useful. Any questions please contact John Phelps, (BCCS Careers Advisor) , careersadvisor@bristolcathedral.org.uk									
Y11 Careers Personal Guidance	As part of the BCCS Futures careers programme ALL Y11 students will receive a one to one careers guidance meeting with our Level 7 qualified Careers Adviser, Mr Phelps. Students can self-refer by emailing Mr Phelps if they would like to move their meeting forward - especially if they are unsure about next steps. A parental communication about the Y11 Futures programme is available here .									
Y10 & Y12 Work Experience	<p>BCCS Work Experience (WEX) Information:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>12</td> <td>6th - 9th May</td> <td>Mon 3rd February</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td> <td>23rd - 27th June</td> <td>Tues 25th February</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Please encourage your child to secure a placement by the above deadline.</p>	Year	Date	Deadline	12	6th - 9th May	Mon 3rd February	10	23rd - 27th June	Tues 25th February
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	The Employers Database, WOWS! (WEX Opportunity of the Week), template emails and other WEX information, can be found in the students Work Experience Google Classroom. Please contact bccsworkexperience@bristolcathedral.org.uk if you have any questions.
Post-16 Careers Personal Guidance	All Post-16 students are entitled to see our L7 Qualified Careers Advisor, Mr Phelps. If your son/daughter has not, as yet, had a careers guidance meeting and need one then please encourage them to contact Mr Mann. To ensure students get the most from this process they should register with Careerpilot and complete the Pathway Planner quiz - please encourage your son/daughter to complete these tasks.
KS3 Take My Child To Work Days	To widen understanding and appreciation of Careers within the working world I am delighted to launch <i>Take Your Child to Work Day</i> on 6th January & 3rd February 2025. The Parents/Carers communication regarding the <i>Take Your Child to Work Days</i> is available here .

Music

<p>Christmas Concert Video</p> 	<p><i>Want to relive the experience?</i> Click here for a preview!</p> <p>Recordings of Tuesday's spectacular Christmas Concert are available, professionally filmed by <i>White Villa</i>. To order a USB (£10) please log onto ParentPay by scanning the QR code. If you can't access ParentPay, please contact musicadmin@bristolcathedral.org.uk</p>
<p>BCCS Music 2025</p>	<p>We have made some changes to our ensemble timetable this term that includes a change of day for GX choir and a short break for Chamber Choir:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Music Choirs and Ensembles LENT 2025 <p>Please see here our upcoming events:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerts and events 2024/25
<p>Y7 MS&C "Outlines" Event</p>	<p>On Monday Y7 Music Specialists and Choristers were treated to a day of music making with professional musicians Dee Byrne and Rebecca Nash. The day was to focus on composition skills and demystify how we can generate ideas, develop ideas and how we can be brave and innovative with musical elements and structure. This all had to happen while working as a team of 23 students all with different musical skills, tastes and abilities! Congratulations to all involved for showing such skill and creativity, and for living out our values of <i>kindness, courage and hope</i>.</p>



<p>Music lessons</p>	<p>With over 400 lessons per week and an expert team of 30 visiting instrumental and vocal Teachers, there are so many routes to learning an instrument. From steel pans to</p>
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trombone, jazz double bass to cello! If you are interested in taking up lessons please [complete this form](#) or email musicadmin@bristolcathedral.org.uk

We currently have waiting lists in place for drum kit and piano, if you are on a waiting list we will email to confirm.

*** [Click Here](#) for the full Co-Curricular opportunities available this term ***