

Termly Communication to Parents/Carers

Lent Term 2 2025

Headteacher's Welcome

Welcome to our Lent 2 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 3rd March	National Careers Week
Thursday 6th March	Y12 Parent/Carer Evening
Monday 10th March	Y10 Mocks begin
Tuesday 11th March	CST Concert at Bristol Beacon
Thursday 13th March	Y7 Parent/Carer Evening
Thursday 20th March	Community Iftar
Monday 31st March	Yr 12 HE Plus Cambridge University Trip
Monday 31st March	Y9 Vaccinations MenACWY/DtP
Tuesday 1st April - Friday 4th April	Y12 DofE Gold Training
Tuesday 1st April	End of Term 4
Tuesday 22nd April	Start of Term 5

Helpful Links

[School Website](#)

[Parent/ Carers Calendar](#)

[Timings of the School Day](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Our Curriculum](#)

[Futures careers bulletin](#)

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[Homework Timetables](#)

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Whole School Messages

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Year 7 Camp	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.
Year 10 DofE Bronze	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
Year 10 / 11 Double PE changes	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 week.
Y11 Art & Design ESA (Fine Art, Textiles & 3D Design)	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. Fine Art Paper Textiles Paper 3D Design Paper
Year 11	Prom tickets are now available to purchase on Parent Pay. Thank you to those who have already purchased them. Information was sent out last Friday. Also on Friday information about the 2025 year 11 leavers hoodies was sent out. We have a strict deadline of April 8th for these to be ordered in which you will not be able purchase a hoodie after. Please email Miss Brewer if you have not received any information regarding prom or hoodies.
Y12 & Parents of Y13 Leavers	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). 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.
Attendance	Attendance of your child is now completed in Arbor not ClassCharts. We are aware that sometimes these systems do not communicate fully and if your child is part of a non-subject activity that ClassCharts does not show this correctly, particularly around music. When we move fully over to Arbor this will not be the case but we ask that you

	<p>are patient in the interim. There is no need to contact our attendance team if you find that ClassCharts is reporting absence and you know they have music.</p> <p>Thank you. Attendance Team</p>
<p>SEND Homework support Sessions</p>	<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>
<p>Ramadan 2025</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>BCCS Community Cookbook</p>	<p>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!</p>
<p>PSHEe: Sex and Relationships Education this term</p> <p>(Ms Helmich)</p>	<p>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</p>

Futures


<p>All Years - Futures Careers Bulletin</p>	<p>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</p>						
<p>Y11 Careers Personal Guidance</p>	<p>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.</p>						
<p>Y10 & Y12 Work Experience</p>	<p>BCCS Work Experience (WEX) Information:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 33%;">Year</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Date</th> <th style="width: 33%;">Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6th - 9th May</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Mon 3rd February</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Date	Deadline	12	6th - 9th May	Mon 3rd February
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	10	23rd - 27th June	Tues 25th February
	<p>Please encourage your child to secure a placement by the above deadline.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Please contact bccsworkexperience@bristolcathedral.org.uk if you have any questions.</p>		
Post-16 Careers Personal Guidance	<p>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.</p>		

Music

BCCS Music 2025	<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> <p>Music Choirs and Ensembles LENT 2025</p> <p>Please see here our upcoming events:</p> <p>Concerts and events 2024/25</p>
Y7 MS&C "Outlines" Event	<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 trombone, jazz double bass to cello! If you are interested in taking up lessons please complete this form or email musicadmin@bristolcathedral.org.uk</p> <p><i>We currently have waiting lists in place for drum kit and piano, if you are on a waiting list we will email to confirm.</i></p>
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*** [Click Here](#) for the full Co-Curricular opportunities available this term ***