

Dear Parents and Carers

A big welcome to the parents and carers at Henleaze Infant and Junior Schools as both schools joined CST on the 1st of July!

As we move towards the end of the academic year and prepare for the next, we are all wondering what a new government will mean for schools. No doubt there will be changes to the Ofsted framework and there is likely to be a curriculum review. We will keep a close eye on developments and ensure that as a family of schools we respond to change and are alert to any opportunities this may present.

The summer term is also a time of change with the end of exams signalling that some of our students will be moving on to new and different chapters of their lives. Recently I attended a music education conference at the Royal Northern College of Music. A very talented CST student went to the RNCM in 2019 and his course leader told me how he has made a very successful transition into the world of work as an in demand session player. It was great to hear and rare that we get to follow the progress of our students whether that be from primary to secondary school or after they leave compulsory education. It is a useful reminder to us all about the importance of preparing our children for their future. Teachers are always sad to see children move on but it is also with a sense of hope and optimism about what they might go on to do and achieve.

Alongside some of our students we are also saying goodbye to a number of staff and want to thank them for all that they have done to support our schools. This includes the Headteachers at BCCS (Jo Thurston), VPPS (Nic Bailey) and HPPS (Alex Gingell) and we are delighted that new appointments have been made drawing upon the high calibre of staff within the trust. In addition we have a number of members of staff leaving after long service in our schools including Anne Jelf (SPPS), Louise Brown (HPPS) and Lorraine Dunn (VPPS). Their commitment and support for our schools and communities deserves recognition and our sincere thanks.

Wishing you and your families a happy summer and thank you again for all that you do to support your children and our schools.

Best wishes

Neil Blundell
CEO Cathedral Schools Trust



CST Parent and Carer Questionnaire

A big thank you to all those who replied to the annual parent and carer questionnaire. Your feedback is welcome and we have shared the findings with our schools. There were improved responses in a number of areas including around behaviour management and whether parents would recommend their child's school. However, there are, as always, areas we can reflect on and seek to improve, including around the frequency and approach to communication with parents in some of our schools. We will continue to work with leaders on this going forward.

Governance spotlight

Antonia Lythgoe



Antonia has lived in Bristol for nearly 30 years, having come here to train to be a teacher after completing her Geography degree. She has worked in education ever since starting her career as a classroom teacher of geography in a Bristol secondary school. She then moved into a curriculum support role for Bristol Local Education Authority, supporting schools and teachers to implement the introduction of Citizenship Education into the national curriculum.

Antonia then joined the School of Education at the University of Bristol to train teachers. She ran the Citizenship PGCE programme for several years before becoming the university lead for the Teach First Initial Teacher Education Programme. Her work with Teach First, which seeks to remove socio-economic barriers to positive educational outcomes for all children by working with challenging schools, inspired her to become involved in governance structures in Bristol schools. Antonia sits on the local governing body at BCCS and is also one of the members for the trust.

Antonia is now an Associate Professor at the School of Education, lecturing on the Education Studies undergraduate programme. She has been fortunate to enjoy a varied career in education and wonders what might be next. She is married to Ken and has two sons, one of whom is at Cathedral Primary School. She is a lover of all music, sings in the Exultate singers as a soprano and tries to go to the Glastonbury festival every year.

Sports Day

Year 5 children from across CST met at Headley Park Primary for the annual CST Sports Day on a sunny day in June. The children took part in 15 different activities, including tug of war, cycling team time-trials, javelin, and even quidditch! The day was supported by coaches from Bristol City Robins and Year 9 pupils from St Katherine's Secondary School. Thank you to Duncan Butler from Headley Park for organising a brilliant day.



Year 6 Careers Fair

St Werburgh's Primary School hosted their annual Careers Fair for Year 6 children from across all our primary schools on Tuesday 18th June. This is an important part of our Enrichment Passport and is designed to inspire, with children meeting and speaking to role models from a huge range of careers. We had representatives from companies based in Bristol and beyond including: Lloyds, Airbus, Deloitte, Pax 8, Ping, HS2, Willmott Dixon, Hachette and Stantec.

We also welcomed inspiring filmmakers, programmers, archaeologists, engineers and conservationists as well as representatives from several areas of the NHS and from Bristol University. So many brilliant people gave their time to make this a success and enjoyed the conversations they had with children who asked great questions. A particular highlight for many was the Bianchi's food truck and the opportunity for children to talk to people about turning a passion into a business.

Quotes from the children attending included:

"I learnt about jobs that I never knew existed."

"Everyone gave us a really good tutorial about what they did and explained things really well. All the people I spoke to were really interesting."

"It made me reconsider options for work because some jobs were so cool."



If you would be interested in coming and talking to Year 6 pupils from across Bristol about your job then please email: enquiries@cathedralschoolstrust.org and we will add you to the list for next year!

Year 2 Trust music event



Year 2 pupils from six of our schools gathered together at Trinity Academy a few weeks ago for a day of music! The children were treated to performances from the Trust House band, Trinity Academy's Band Excel and Trinity's Trumpet ensemble. There were several thoughtful questions about the instruments being played from the children which Trinity Academy students answered.

The children also enjoyed singing songs together as a choir that they had learnt in their lessons. They made a brilliant sound together especially on the favourite song of the day "Power in me"! A big thank you to all the teachers, volunteers and music leads who made this day possible! Also thank you to Trinity Academy for hosting this very special event.

'The Arts' at Henleaze Infant School

Henleaze Infant School were lucky enough to be invited to the CST Year 2 Trust Music Event above. The children and staff had a fantastic time and the songs that they learnt inspired them so much that they decided to include some in their Year 2 summer performance, Pirates v Mermaids. Alongside these songs they gave themselves a challenge to learn dances, lots of lines and make scenery and props in just two weeks!



The first dress rehearsal was this week and, as you can see, everyone looks amazing (they sound amazing too!). Music and singing is very important at Henleaze Infant School and their singing assemblies each week are a highlight for all and a chance for the whole school to come together to learn and perform songs. Henleaze choir also rehearses each week towards different performances throughout the year and every year group in school performs to an audience twice a year as part of the wider curriculum. Henleaze Infant School are looking forward to collaborating in even more creative activities in the coming years now that they have joined Cathedral Schools Trust, enabling more children to be able to share their creative interests both in school and in the wider community.



We are very proud of children from Headley Park Primary School who have had their artwork displayed in Trafalgar Square for the third year in a row. Headley Park artists have successfully won places in the National Gallery's Take One Picture Exhibition, inspired by Rousseau's painting 'Surprised!'. The artwork will be displayed outside the National Gallery from 1st August to the 1st of September if you get a chance to have a look. Well done Headley Park!

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Anna Benoit

I have had the privilege of working at St Werburgh's Primary School for over 10 years, during which I have taken on various roles, including SENDCO, maths and PE coordinator, pupil premium lead, CPD lead, and responsibilities in teaching, learning, and assessment across all key stages. My time here has been incredibly fulfilling. I have cherished being a part of the St Werburgh's community and working closely with our wonderful children and families.



Since St Werburgh's joined CST three years ago, I have thoroughly enjoyed the collaborative environment. I am now thrilled to be joining the CST Central Team, where I can continue to pursue my passion for teaching and learning. In this new role, I look forward to supporting teachers across the trust with their professional development.

I am committed to actively promoting the Trust's strategic objectives and fostering creativity, collaboration, and reflection. My dedication to my own professional growth remains strong, as I continuously seek out training opportunities and engage in educational research.

Additionally, I serve as a Governor for my children's school, which provides me with further insights into the educational landscape. In my spare time, I enjoy staying active and can often be found on the tennis court.

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.

Reflective

Collaborative

Creative