



CRANLEIGH CONNECT

Weekly term-time newsletter for Cranleigh School parents

FRIDAY 4TH OCTOBER

FROM THE HEAD

This week at the Heads Conference (HMC) I've heard experts from all spheres of education. One of the key themes that came across is the decline in humanities, Maths is on the rise as an A-Level choice and subjects such as English Literature are declining. Coupled with the demise of reading for pleasure, it's a concerning trend and one that we are already addressing with a range of initiatives designed to give our pupils a lifelong love of reading. You can read about some of those below. Some of the speakers presented research to illustrate that people with access to music and the arts along with time in nature, play and humour, have better physical and mental health to support learning and are also more open-minded and tolerant of different opinions. Exactly what the global landscape needs and an approach that our boarding environment is very well placed to deliver.

Dr John Taylor (Assistant Head Learning, Teaching and Innovation) was asked to sit on a panel about the future of the curriculum, encouraging schools to lead curriculum innovation by introducing school led qualifications to sit alongside GCSEs and A-levels. John was instrumental in establishing the EPQ and HPQ which he then introduced to Cranleigh and as we now look to develop the curriculum further, there are a number of interesting opportunities for us to consider.

As you would imagine, there was considerable discussion around the introduction of VAT on school fees and it is clear that, whilst the Government has stated its commitment to introducing this from January, the ISC (Independent Schools Council) continue to work hard behind the scenes to champion our sector and the value our schools bring both to local communities (and our community engagement is essential) as well as to education more broadly. To complete the Conference, Sir Clive Woodward gave an inspirational talk on leadership – if only there were more politicians like him!

Samantha Price, Head

CONTACT WITH PUPILS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

As an iPad and Google School, our pupils have access to their school devices throughout the day. They're a brilliant learning tool and they also help pupils to get ready for the world of work as they are equipped with emails and expected to manage them, finding business-like ways to communicate with their teachers.

We understand that families want to stay in touch with their children throughout the week, and email is a good way to communicate. However, we must request that parents and guardians refrain from emailing during lesson times. They naturally want to read emails from you straight away and it is incredibly distracting for them. Please only email after lessons finish at 3pm.

PARENT & GUARDIAN SURVEY WITH RSACADEMICS

How families feel about our school is extremely important to us, no more so than when we sit down with colleagues and Governors to make decisions about the future. We would therefore like to invite you to provide your thoughts and opinions on both your own and your child's experiences at the School via a short, online survey.

In order to give all families the confidence to share their views, we have commissioned RSAcademics, a respected consultancy within the independent schools sector, to conduct the research. Your responses will remain anonymous, no-one within the School will see your completed survey and findings will be analysed independently. The survey should take around 15-20 minutes to complete. You can access it by clicking on the link below:

[Cranleigh Senior School Parent Survey](#)

We appreciate there are many demands on your time, but we would be grateful if you could submit your thoughts by October 21st, when the survey will close. If you have more than one child at the School, please complete the survey thinking about your eldest child. In some cases, families may have requested that we email both parents separately.

If yours is such a family, please make sure that only one of you completes and returns the questionnaire on behalf of your family. Thank you, in advance, for your support in sharing your views of the School

SENIOR MATHS CHALLENGE

On Tuesday, 70 of our A-Level mathematicians and further mathematicians sat the UK Senior Maths Challenge. This is an annual competition run by the UK Maths Trust, and the questions call for some lateral thinking skills as well as the students' A-Level knowledge.

The students will receive their results in a few weeks and will find out then whether they have qualified for the Kangaroo (UK) or Olympiad (International) follow on rounds.

Here are some photos:



OUTREACH

Research from National Literacy Trust shows clear correlation between a love of reading for pleasure, successful educational outcomes and social mobility.

That's why we're partnering with NLT again this year on a Young Reader Programme to support one of our local primary schools. To read about the impact of last year's programme visit our website [here](#).

We're also taking part in their hashtag #Take10toRead campaign, encouraging all our staff and pupils to spend ten minutes reading and swapping book recommendations at 10am on October 10th. To get involved in this great campaign sign up [here](#).

CRANLEIGH BEING

The Cranleigh Being Pupil Group is a student-led group of Sixth-Form students focussing on issues that they identify as most important to them and the wider school community. The group this year is led by Sophia L. as Chair and assisted by Daisy B. as her Deputy.

This year's group focus is on Positive Mental Health, Consent, and Anti-Bullying and the team have prepared and presented a PSHE presentation on Anti-Bullying to the Upper Fifth pupils which was very well received. There are plans to repeat the presentation to the Lower Fifth and Sixth Form in the coming weeks hence managing to spread their message to the entire lower school through the PSHE lecture programme.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Pupil leaders Ella D. and Alexandra R. spoke to the school about Tuesday being the start of Black History Month and acknowledging the roots of this important celebration that we mark at Cranleigh every year.

The school is recognising Black History Month by having Houses and Departments build talks and lessons around the Black History Month theme 'Reclaiming Narratives'. Pupils from our Diversity Alliance Group are holding a film night to recognise untold stories, and the Music Department once again are offering a themed playlist for the month to inspire pupils and staff to engage with lesser told stories.

We look forward to sharing more about how we are recognising Black History.



SPORT

To read a full sports update from Mr Andy Houston, Director of Sport, please click [here](#).



KORROS MUSIC WORKSHOP

On Monday this week, the music department welcomed the excellent ensemble KORROS (flute, clarinet and harp) to give a composition workshop to our A-Level and GCSE music students. The workshop covered writing for the instruments, hearing them play some existing repertoire and then exploring the first compositional ideas of three Upper Sixth students' pieces that, in recent weeks, they have been working on in class.

Now, Maisie B., Richard E. and Ted S. will continue writing their pieces before a follow up workshop on the nearly completed pieces and a recording session/concert of the final work. This will then also be submitted as part of their NEA portfolio. The students' work was excellent and the workshop provided really positive advice and support as they now develop their ideas and aim for top marks in their exams.



DRAMA AT HOME

"Theatre at Home" is a new offering to our drama GCSE pupils.

Every Wednesday, they will be watching a piece of recorded theatre in the drama department from 7pm.



DRAMA CLUB

This week, the Drama Club collaborated with the Film Club to do some screen acting.

They worked on a short scene; the Film Club pupils got to direct the actors and set up shots, while the actors got to experience working more subtly than they'd have to on stage!

ROSH HASHANAH

Rosh Hashanah is the first day of the Jewish High Holidays and it both signifies and celebrates the beginning of the Jewish New Year.

There will be many members of our community celebrating Rosh Hashanah and traditionally some families will indulge in a sweet treat of apples dipped in honey after dinner, this is to signify and symbolise the hope for a 'sweet new year' ahead.

Because of this, at lunch on Thursday in the senior school, the catering team offered small pots of apples and honey on the table outside the servery.



CRANLEIGH CHRISTMAS FAIR



It's nearly a month until the Cranleigh Christmas Fair, your one-stop shopping extravaganza here in Cranleigh, and we do hope you all have the date in your diaries.

There are over 80 fabulous stalls to tempt you and the list is now available on the Christmas Fair [website](#). Please do have a browse and see some of the brilliant gift ideas on offer.

The Fair runs from 10-4 on Saturday 9th November in the Wyatt Hall and Quad at Cranleigh Prep School.

**DATES
FOR YOUR
DIARY**

HOUSE PLAYS

Tickets for House Plays are now available and can be booked via the website: www.cranleigh.org/tickets



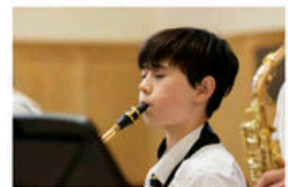
4 OCTOBER 2024
**DR JYOTSNA SRIKANTH
MBE 'CARNATIC NOMAD'**
MUSIC



11 OCTOBER 2024
**UPPER SIXTH MUSIC
AWARD HOLDERS IN
CONCERT**
MUSIC



12 OCTOBER 2024
OPEN DAY
OPEN EVENT



18 OCTOBER 2024
**JUNIOR LUNCHTIME
CONCERT**
MUSIC



9 NOVEMBER 2024
**CRANLEIGH CHRISTMAS
FAIR**
CHRISTMAS



15 NOVEMBER 2024
**'SOMETHING FAMILIAR,
SOMETHING
PECULIAR...!!!'**
MUSIC



22 NOVEMBER 2024
**JUNIOR LUNCHTIME
CONCERT**
MUSIC



27 NOVEMBER 2024
**SENIOR MUSIC
COMPETITIONS
(STRINGS, VOICE &
GUITAR)**
MUSIC

EAST



Victorious MNF against North, 3-1 for Juniors and 3-0 for Seniors

Leo F. and Harry H. get to the House Challenge Final with Martlet



Upper Sixth participated in the charity challenge over the exeat weekend to raise money for Max Windle memorial trust

All members to cycle/run/swim/row 100km each to get to 1 million



MARTLET



Well done to Ella S. who completed her fundraising event 4 miles every four hours for 48 hours running



Thank you for all of your support for our Charity night Waterpolo



Upper Sixth social with Mr Taylor

CUBITT



Upper Fifth social with West



Junior Monday Night Football



Indoor hockey



1st team hockey

WEST



LV Social with North



Upper Fifth Social with Cubitt



Fourth Form movie night



Star of the Week



SOUTH



Emeralds are our first family to have dinner together. Others are to follow.....



Well done to Tabby R., our Charity Prefect, for designing this year's offering of South T-shirts in aid of the charity Mercy Ships

We are all ready now for The Curry and Quiz tomorrow. See you there from 7pm for a 7:30pm start

RHODES



Fruit at break time on Wednesday Toasties for the Lower Fifth



Pizza with Loveday for the Fourth Form



House challenge

