

End of Term Newsletter

Oct 2023 Issue 2



Head Teacher Update

As we reach the end of term it is important that we share the fantastic work that has been happening at Cranbury College.

Students and staff have had a great return from the summer holidays. The students have had a positive start to this academic year, with the secondary site having implemented a new school uniform – this has really supported the positive atmosphere in the school. We have revamped our curriculum offer for this academic year, and students have been enjoying the new vocational courses; Hair & Beauty (including Barbering), Trades and The Duke of Edinburgh Award. We have seen students fully involved in these courses, painting school walls as part of trades, and some fantastic work in the salon!

We look forward to the sports course on offer after half term, where we will be taking students to different sites and giving them experiences, they may not have previously tried, for example rock climbing!

We are pleased to have received a positive external review last week from Challenge Partners which is school to school support, to ensure we are doing the absolute best for our young people.

Primary site has had a positive start, with some cosmetic work to the garden and building, which has really made a difference in the culture and feel at the primary. We are working hard at relaunching and revamping the outreach offer to local primary schools and look forward to this going live in November!

The Hospital continue to provide a fabulous service to our vulnerable and unwell children who are admitted to the Royal Berkshire Hospital. Dolphin and Lion ward do a wonderful job in educating these children!

Finally, to support each other within our sector of Special and Alternative Provision, we have developed a 'Special and AP' hub to support staff in sharing resources and networking to learn from each other. This has been a great success so far, and we look forward to continuing this work.

May I take this opportunity to thank the staff for their hard work this half term, the students for their positive return and attitude in school and the parents and carers of our children for your support.

We hope you have restful October break and look forward to continuing our journey upon our return!

Ceri Burns
Head Teacher

Key Dates

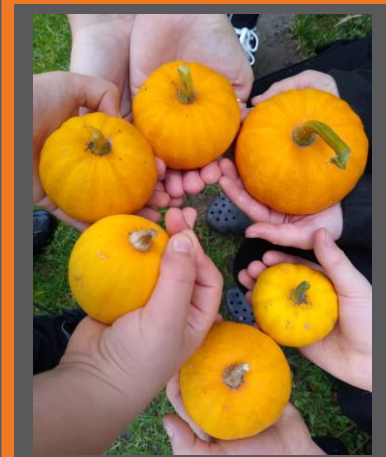
Fri 20 October
End of Term

Mon 30 October
Start of Term

Fri 03 November
Maths Theatre Trip
Year 11's

Tues 07 November
Functional Skills Maths
Exams Year 9, 10 & 11

Tues 14 November
Inset Day



Cranbury Road, Reading RG30 2TS | 0118 937 6847

Curriculum Update

We have started the new academic year off with a flying start at Cranbury this year! We have our widest range of subjects on offer yet and students have the opportunity to learn both academic and vocational skills to prepare them ready for their next steps in life.

We have also introduced our new lesson structure, meaning that all lessons pose a 'Big Question' which is designed to get the students engaged and thinking about the bigger picture, before continuing with the 'I do, We do, You do' approach to learning, which prevents stress and help build confidence.

We are also pleased to share that we have been developing our links with the local community and students will now be able to access a local gym during PE lessons for the next half term that will allow them to develop their physical and mental strength and focus on their core.

Finally, a reminder that students in year 9, 10 and 11 are sitting their Functional Skills examination in Maths on Tuesday 7th November. You will receive direct communication if this involves your child, and I would be very grateful if you could encourage them to spend some time revising as this is an important part of the process. Should you have any questions or queries regarding anything examination or curriculum based, please do not hesitate to get in touch

Claire Willmott

Deputy Head Teacher - Curriculum and Standards

Site Updates

Many aesthetic improvements have been completed already this academic year, which have made a wonderful difference to our school.

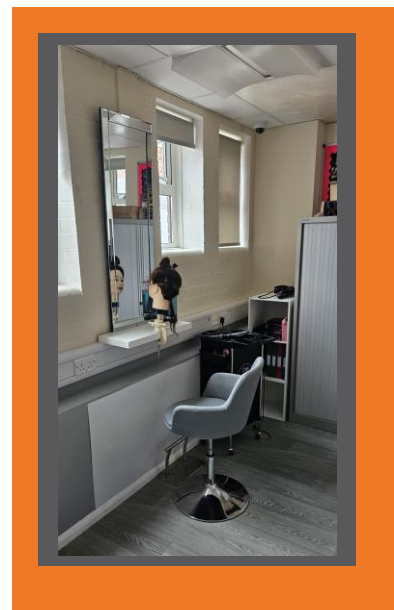
Our site manager, Mr Holt, has installed some lovely flower beds at both the Primary and Secondary sites, these have brightened up our student communal areas and we hope to have our Primary students try their hand at gardening soon!

Mr Holt has also created more motivational wall murals, some of you may have seen the one in the reception last year, and it's great to have these beautiful pieces of artwork splashed across our school walls.

We've also launched our Hair and Beauty Salon which I'm sure our vocational lead Ms Clark has lots to say about, this a great addition to our school and we're proud to be able to offer this pathway with the new facility up and running. There are lots of improvement plans for the future so watch this space!

Abbie Kendall

Business Manager





Indie Update

Indie has been working incredibly hard at Cranbury and only has one more visit left before being signed off his trial period.

So far, he has been working on waiting at doors, welcoming students onto the site and around the school and aiding students into lessons. He is still mastering the art of not eating dropped food!

His timetable will slowly be increased from one to two days so that he can have more activity time with students. There is the option at lunchtime for students on a Wednesday to spend some time with him, maybe try a few tricks or simply relax next to him. Our aim is that sessions can be offered on a 1-1 basis where he can be used in a more therapeutic way to allow students to regulate themselves.

Indie enjoys coming to school. On a Wednesday, he grabs his lead in his mouth and runs to the car ready to go to school!

Lou Bedford
1-1 Tutor

Primary Update

This term, our primary students have been attending the Museum of English Rural Life. They have been learning about harvesting and helping to harvest fruit and vegetables. Once back in school, the children have turned their harvested produce into a tasty, healthy snack. The students have loved feeding and helping to look after the chickens.

Primary Outreach

The team have been busy supporting local schools with students who require additional support.

We are currently recruiting three Behaviour Outreach Workers to expand our brilliant team. Please visit [Maiden Erleigh Trust](#) Vacancy Page for further information.

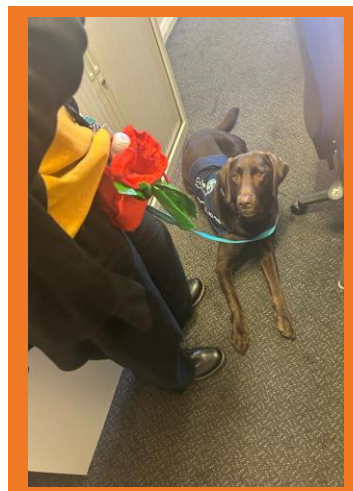
SEN at Cranbury

Year 11 annual reviews are underway ready for post-16 next steps.

The team have been developing 'SMART' targets linked to students EHCP outcomes.

As a school we have been learning about Autism with a focus on girls. We explored current research, how girls may present and how to support anxious students.

Kayleigh Forbes
Assistant Head Teacher - SENCo



Department Updates

English Department Update

The start of this academic year has seen English get off to a flying start at Cranbury.

Students in KS3 have studied A Monster Calls, looking at a novel that allows students to address their fears, whilst also giving them a great opportunity to develop their reading skills. In Year 9 students looked at the Literature of Villains, with the opportunity to explore texts from A Christmas Carol and Oliver Twist as well as some Disney classics.

KS4 have hit the ground running with their GCSE preparation, working on how to answer questions successfully for maximum marks. Watch this space for some exciting opportunities throughout the academic year!

Claire Willmott
Head of English

Maths Department Update

The maths department is very pleased to be organising a trip for year 11 students to go and see a show by the ['Maths Inspiration Group'](#) on Friday 3 November in Winchester. This will inspire and motivate them to aim higher in their maths lessons.

This will be offered to the 5 year 11 students who earn the most positive behaviour points in maths lessons. Students who have been invited will receive a letter home

Jack Alcock
Head of Maths

Science Department Update

In Science this term students have been working hard looking at Magnets, Atomic Structure, Forces and Energy and have produced some amazing work.

We are really proud of their work on [Seneca](#) (online learning platform)

All students have responded well and risen to this challenge. We're looking forward to another term of #TeamScience in action and wish you all a very happy half-term!

Abi Russell
Head of Science

Re-Engagement Intervention Workshops

The Re-Engagement intervention workshops will be starting at Cranbury Road from Monday 30 November 2023.

These workshops offer targeted interventions to a small group of students from mainstream settings, who need some additional support. The workshops will give the students opportunities to be able to reflect and learn support strategies to improve their outcomes and build upon their skills to enable them to be successful on their return to their mainstream school.

There are three packages that are delivered in six-week blocks, where each student will receive two 45-minute sessions on a weekly basis. The schools can choose from one of the following packages:

- **Package One: Anger Management & School Expectation**
- **Package Two: Healthy Relationships & Re-Engagement**
- **Package Three: Conflict Management & Risk Taking**

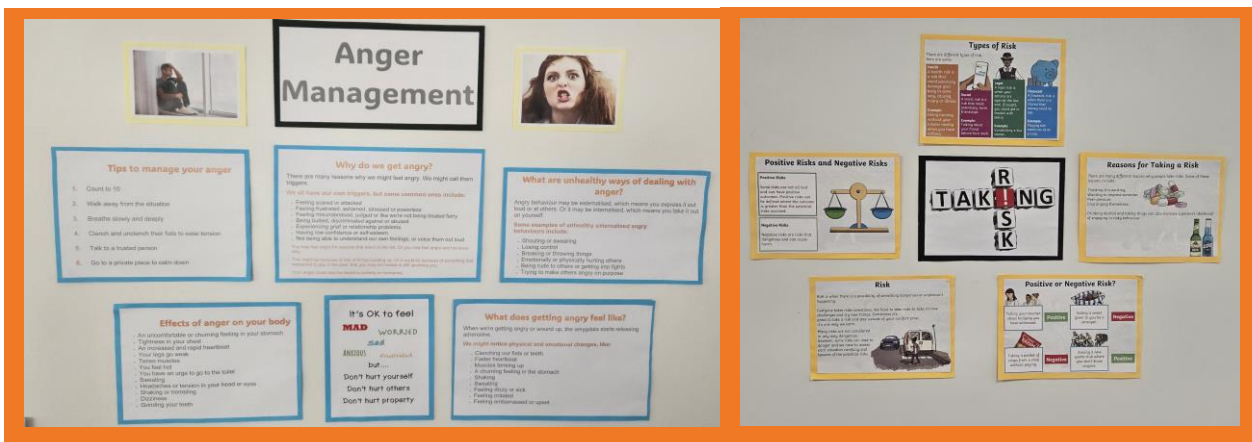
Sharon Quittenton
Re-Engagement Lead

Hospital Team Update

It has been an incredibly busy term with lots of winter illnesses causing problems for some of our vulnerable children and young people. There has also been an increase on the wards with children and young people suffering with mental health illnesses.

For our long stay and recurring patients, there has been a lot of effective partnership working with their schools to minimise loss of education.

Gill Albone
Lead Hospital Teacher



Careers and Post 16 Planning

Lauren Davies from Activate learning visited KS4 students on Wednesday 18th October to promote the courses on offer through Activate Learning. The sessions were delivered in very small groups to ensure that students felt comfortable asking the questions that were important to them. Activate Learning will revisit CC again in December.

Anna Finlason MET Careers Advisor will be working individually with Yr11 students on 1st & 2nd November to begin to establish post year 11 career plans. She will return in January to continue with this work.

New Meaning and Chiltern Training will visit Yr11 students in November and December to promote both of their Post 16 offers. They will return again in the new year.

Will Baggley

Lead for Careers, Outreach and Offsite Provision

SAFE Team Update

There have been lots of changes this academic year that both students and staff are embracing!

We have changed our student entrance to allow for a calmer reception area for visitors.

We have introduced a uniform which looks really smart, and students can choose to wear either a white polo shirt with a logo, a black sweatshirt with a logo or both!! We are also working hard to ensure that mobile phones are away during lessons to prevent loss of valuable learning time.

We also have kitted out our student common room (formerly the hall) for students to use at break and lunch time with a sofa, beanbags, football tables, magnetic darts and some new pool equipment.

All these changes are having a positive impact on the smooth running of the day and on creating a positive learning environment. It's wonderful to see how quickly the students have adapted to all the changes.

Our Positive Points system continues to work well with students earning points for doing well in the following categories: Ready To Learn/ Be Respectful/ Be Safe and there is also a community category for students who do kind things around the school grounds like pick up litter or help paint/ fix something and make the school community nice. I'm sure those of you who have visited so far this year have noticed how much better the inside of the building looks. The YR 9 students helped to paint the meeting room last week and it looks amazing! Winners of the Gold/ Silver/Bronze weekly awards win a certificate and a voucher.

We have been working closely with our mainstream partners to offer Fresh Start trials to our students and we currently have 2 YR 11s on trials/ one successfully on roll and 5 more students working towards their next step. We couldn't do this without the kindness and support of our local schools.

Nicky Dziewulska-Miles

SAFE Lead

Behaviour, Wellbeing and Personal Development Updates

Attendance

We welcomed our students back to school in September with a new attendance challenge for each of our tutor groups – which tutor group could get the highest attendance percentage each week?

This has encouraged our students to not only become competitive but to reflect on their own attendance percentage and focus on the link between the higher their percentage, the more learning that has been received and the impact this can have on their future.

If your child has an attendance percentage of below 90% they are classified as being persistently absent due to the significant loss in learning.

Did you know?

90% Attendance = ½ day missed every week

90% Attendance in one school year = 4 weeks of lessons missed

90% Attendance over 5 school years = ½ school year missed

We are keen to support our parents/carers with improving their child's attendance percentage. If you need support with this, please do not hesitate to contact our main reception or email

cc-adminteam@maidenerlegh.onmicrosoft.com

Charlotte Baggley

Assistant Head Teacher

Behaviour, Wellbeing and Personal Development

Support for Students

We welcomed Lucy from [briym](http://briym.com); our new school therapist this term, who provides intervention to our students that need it. Lucy will work with several of our students in a variety of techniques and methods to help guide them when solving problems, building resilience and supporting them to remove barriers that are preventing them from being successful both in and out of school.

This service forms part of a large range of interventions that we offer our students at Cranbury College and we are sure our students will continue to thrive in her sessions.



Support for Local Schools

One of our roles at Cranbury College is to support schools in the local area with advice and guidance to avoid Permanent Exclusion for their students.

As part of our offer, we now provide workshops for schools on Anger Management, School Expectations, Healthy Relationships, Conflict Management and Risk Taking (as detailed above)

We have also recently introduced 'Behaviour Clinics' for schools to discuss concerns they have and receive timely and informed advice about suitable alternatives to suspension and permanent exclusion.

Personal Development

We are excited to welcome [Narrative Alchemy](#) to Cranbury College on Friday 20th October to deliver a performance to our Key Stage Three students called 'Breaking the Chain'. This session will focus on Knife Crime and forms part of our Personal Development Programme – ensuring our students receive a full curriculum that endeavours to work on the whole individual.

Our students also focussed their thoughts to 'World Mental Health Day' on Tuesday 10 October with the task of 'What's on your mind?'. During tutor time, our students reflected on what is meant by the term 'Mental Health' and reflected upon what impacted their own mental health.

We thank our students for being open and mature with this delicate topic.

Student Pathways

This academic year, we introduced a range of pathways to Cranbury College to ensure that all our students have access to a timetable that is appropriate and allows them to achieve their best potential.

Helpful links

Places where Kids Eat Free in School Half Terms & Holidays 2023	https://kiddoadventures.com/2023/09/28/kids-eat-free-october-half-term-london/
Holiday Activities and Food scheme on behalf of Reading Borough Council	https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/haf/
Animal Assisted Activities (Indie Training Provider)	https://www.canineassistedlearning.com/
School Therapist – Lucy	https://www.briym.co.uk/
Family Activities	https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/family-activities/
Early Help	https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/early-help/

Half Term Events/Services in Reading



CODE Reading

An outdoor show featuring a spectacular blend of physical theatre, parkour and trial bike stunts with live rap music that shines a light on issues of exploitation, county lines and knife crime.

Saturday 28 October 10.30am & 1.30pm
Select Car Leasing Stadium
Junction 11, M4, Reading RG2 0FL

[Find out more about CODE](#)

Berkshire Music Trust READING HAVE A GO SESSION

It's the return of our popular Have a Go! This exciting event is completely free so why not bring your friends and family along and enjoy a morning filled with trying instruments and singing, live music and some goodies!

Our experienced teachers will be on hand to guide you through the different instruments and your voice to help you find the one that's right for you. We can't wait to see you there!

Saturday 21st October 2023 10.30am - 12.30pm
Reading Music Centre
Stoneham Court, 100 Cockney Hill, Reading RG30 4EZ
No need to book, just turn up!

[Find out more about Berkshire Music Trust](#)



Half Term Events/Services in Reading

Reading Rocks

Reading Rocks is the ultimate what's on guide for families to find things to do in the local area.

Use click [here](#) to view Half Term activities in Reading.

To find out more about Reading Rocks, please [click here](#)



Berkshire Healthcare
Children, Young People and
Families services

ChatHealth

ChatHealth is a texting service where parents/carers/students can text a member of the school nursing team for advice and support about any health concerns they might have. Texting can be done anonymously, and the service is confidential*.

We have **3** separate dedicated texting lines for:

- Young people aged 11-19 years **07312 263266**
- Parents/carers of children/young people aged 5-19 years **07312 263194**
- Care leavers up to the age of 25 years **07312 263188**

The service runs Monday to Friday 9:00am - 4.30pm (closed bank holidays)

For further info please click here [ChatHealth](#)

- Our News Feed - [Latest News](#)
- Term Dates - [Cranbury College - Term Dates](#)
- School Timings - [Our School Day](#)
- Maiden Erlegh Trust Vacancies - [Work @ MET](#)
- Our Contact Details - [Contact Us](#)