

Summer Term Newsletter

June 2024 Issue 5



Head Teacher Update

As we reach the end of another half term, I write to share some of the excellent work that has been happening across Cranbury College.

The hospital team have continued to work tirelessly at supporting the children in Dolphin and Lion ward at the Royal Berkshire Hospital. The team have had some lovely praise emails from parents who have been delighted with the support offered by our wonderful hospital team. The team was also visited by the trust CEO, Jon Peck, who was in awe of the work that happens within this team!

The primary team has seen some changes this half term with our Hospital Lead, Gill Albone, also supporting daily at the primary school. There has been some fantastic learning taking place with the students focusing on the Mayan's. For the summer term, the children will be focusing on The Greeks and The Olympics!

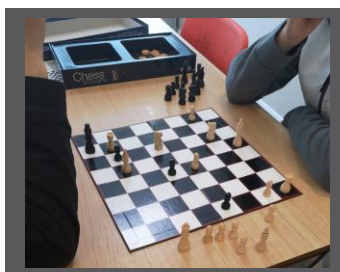
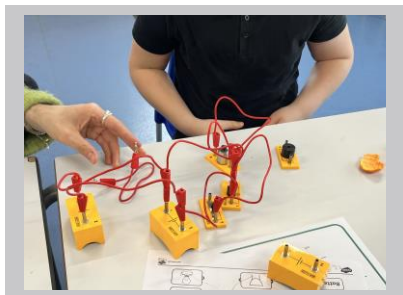
The secondary site has trialled a new timetable this half term, which staff, students and parents have reported positive improvements in being able to manage the day better, and the tweaks to hours provided for each package.

The Scout Hut and primary site has been working wonders for our ILP students! The students have also attended their first day trip of the year to Path Hill Outdoors – it was great to see so many students push themselves out of their comfort zones, participating in team challenges, as well as building fires and cooking their own lunch!

Finally, we have seen the start of the Year 11 examinations, and what a start that has been. We have been so incredibly proud of their attitude towards the exams, and so pleased to see the students using all of their allocated time! Long may that continue next term!

I hope you enjoy reading more about what the college has been up to in this newsletter, but for now enjoy the half term break and we look forward to welcoming our students back on Monday 3 June!

Miss Burns
Head Teacher



Key Dates

Mon 3 June AM
GCSE Maths P2 Exam

Tues 4 June AM
Functional Skills Maths Exam

Weds 5 June AM
Functional Skills English Exam

Thurs 6 June
GCSE English Language P2 Exam

Fri 7 June PM
GCSE Biology P2 Exam

Mon 10 June AM
GCSE Maths P3 Exam

Fri 14 June PM
GCSE Physics P2 Exam

Fri 28 June
Year 11 Leaving Date

Weds 3 July
CPD Day (school closed to students)

Weds 24 July
Last day of term (Early Finish)

Cranbury Road, Reading RG30 2TS | 0118 937 6847

Deputy Head Teacher Update

What an amazing half term! This half term we have started our new school day timings, and this has been really successful; students have been able to access more focussed learning in preparation for their next steps and we look forward to continuing this further next term.

Mrs Willmott

Deputy Head Teacher - Curriculum and Standards



Introducing our new **Headteacher**

Claire Willmott



We are delighted that Claire Willmott will be the next Headteacher at Cranbury College, moving from her current role of Deputy Headteacher.

Claire demonstrated passion and drive for leading Cranbury College into the next phase of development.



“
It has always been my ambition to lead a Pupil Referral Unit and make a difference for the community who attend it.
”

Are you following us on our X (formally known as Twitter) page? Follow us at [@CranburyCollege](https://twitter.com/CranburyCollege)

Department Updates

Primary

Primary have had a busy half term with all pupils working well and making fantastic progress. Our theme for the term was The Maya and we have not only learnt about their history and where they are located in the world, but we have also created Mayan art, tasted Mayan food and read The Hero Twins. In maths we have been learning to tell the time and in science we have planted seeds, learnt about trees and the life cycles of different animals and insects. In PE, we focussed on team games; in cooking we have learnt to make meals such as spaghetti bolognaise and chicken curry and in Design Technology, we have learnt to make electrical circuits and then made an electric car. The pupils have been working hard at working in small groups and it is lovely to see the collaboration and support they provide to each other. I would like to say how well the pupils have coped with having new staff working on site, they have coped amazingly well with a lot of change!

For our final term of the academic year, we are going to be looking at Ancient Greece and The Olympics and we are very excited to have Percy Jackson and The Olympians: The Lightning Thief as our class book.

Ms Albone

Hospital & Primary Lead

SEN

As our Y11 students leave to go on to be the best they can be, all EHCP's have been updated this year reflecting their next steps. Huge thanks to Mr Baggley solidly working with our students and families ensuring their needs continue to be met post 16. The resilience of all our students around the exams has been great and coping with the pressures of fluctuating timetables etc has been wonderful to see. Following on from many meetings I would like to flag up [IASS](#) to our SEN parents which is an independent advice service surrounding all things SEND related and are an impartial service.

For those of you looking for more information or events in the local area that might be useful to you and your family why not sign up to the [Reading Directory | SEND Activities in Reading and Surrounding Areas](#). You can also sign up for the SEND Local Offer Newsletter, published three times a year which is full of information on short breaks, activities, support, news, and much more. Please email localoffer@reading.gov.uk to register.

The [SEND Local Offer](#) is here to help you find information about local services, support, activities and events for children and young people aged 0 - 25 years who have special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). The Family Information Service provides this information on behalf of Brighter Futures For Children which delivers children's services in Reading.

We hope you had a lovely break and continue working hard through the last term ready for the big break.

Mrs Bedford

SENDCo

Maths Department

I am delighted to share with you the wonderful progress and hard work our students have been demonstrating in their math lessons this term. It has been an exciting and productive time for all year groups.

Our Year 11 students have been diligently preparing for their GCSE exams. Their hard work truly shone through with one of our best attendance records to date for Paper 1. It was great to see so many students focused and ready to tackle the challenges of their exams.

Remember that Paper 2 of the GCSE is scheduled for the first day back after our week off. I encourage students to use this break wisely, balancing rest with revision to ensure they are fully prepared.

Our younger students have been equally engaged and enthusiastic in their maths lessons. Students have been exploring different ways to present data, with a focus on bar charts and pie charts. They have been learning how to accurately collect, organize, and display data, as well as interpret the information these charts convey. This skill is essential not only in maths but across various subjects and real-world applications.

Another key area of focus has been understanding and working with fractions and decimals. Students have been practicing how to convert between the two, compare their values, and apply them in different contexts. These foundational skills are crucial for their continued progress in mathematics.

Next term we will be looking at multiplication and ratio and finishing the year off with an understanding of our measurement system.

Thank you for your ongoing support and encouragement. Together, we can help our students achieve their full potential

Mr Alcock
Head of Maths

English Department

This half term we have been busy preparing for our English GCSEs and Functional Skills exams, and we wish all our students in Year 11 every success in their upcoming GCSEs. Year 10 have been preparing for their exams too and KS3 have been studying Macbeth. Next half term we move on to creative writing skills and we look forward to untapping the student's creativity!

Mrs Willmott
Head of English

Re-Engagement Intervention Workshops

We offer the below intervention workshops to a small group of students from local schools who would benefit from specific interventions.

Workshop 1 - Anger management/school expectations - Monday afternoons

Workshop 2 - Healthy relationships/re-engagement - Wednesday afternoons

Students who have attended these workshop sessions have all learned some new skills that they can take away with them, to support them in and out of school.

They have been able to find ways of decreasing their anger levels, finding ways to regulate themselves when needed, improve their problem-solving and communication skills. They have learned to understand the difference between negative and positive relationships with peers, staff in school and others within the community. This is just a snippet of some of the skills they have been learning.

Mrs Quittenton

Re-Engagement Lead

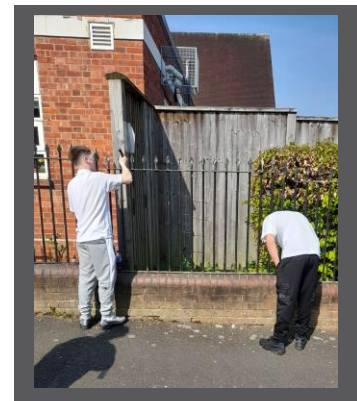
Hospital Teaching Service

The hospital has had another busy half term. We have had a number of pupils who have been in hospital for extended stays, and it has been lovely to build relationships not only with the pupil but with their families too. For our long stay pupils, we place them onto a timetable and through close work with their school we try to deliver lessons and the work that they are missing so that when they are well enough to return the gap in their education is not quite as large as what it would have been without hospital teaching. We find that our long stay and 'frequent flyer' pupils enjoy their lessons as not only does it provide them with sense of normality it also breaks up their day and gives the pupils parents/carers a break too. It is especially nice for the teachers to have this opportunity to build relationships as so many of our pupils are only in hospital for a short number of days.

I would personally like to thank the Hospital Team for their work over this half term and for continuing to do an amazing job (as witnessed by our CEO, Jon Peck during a visit to the ward) in my absence.

Ms Albone

Hospital and Primary Lead



Pastoral Updates

Although a relatively short term, we have managed to pack a lot in! Our reminder to students regarding our uniform expectations has been really successful and we thank parents for their continued support with this. If your child needs additional uniform, please see the link to our uniform provider [Brigade](#). Please ensure that your child arrives to school in a Cranbury College white polo top, Cranbury College black sweatshirt and suitable footwear this term.

We are nearly mid-way through the exam season and our year 11 cohort have been brilliant at listening to instructions and following the guidance. We would like to remind all year 11's of the revision sessions available to them and of course to let us know if they need any further support during this time.

This term, along with other schools nationally, we have had a focus on Mental Health awareness where students have had the opportunity to speak with our therapist - Lucy, our external mentor - Moses, and attend sessions with our school nursing team. Our year 10 cohort were particularly positive in the sexual health session with the nurses and the team were very impressed with their maturity and engagement throughout. Our students also provided excellent feedback and said that the sessions were very informative. We have also introduced a postbox in our Safe Team office for students to post any queries, concerns or requests for support if they need it. After a recent student survey, we were very pleased to hear that our students feel supported whilst in our care and most importantly feel heard.

Whilst the YR 11's have been busy with exams the rest of the secondary students have been engaging in some exciting learning opportunities. We had the pleasure of a return visit from Kate Griffith the SFX artist who had both staff and students completely engaged and covered in fake blood! Our Trades students have been using their skills to paint the railings around the building to improve our environment and some of our students took part in a Team Building trip to Path Hill Outdoors. We had a lot of fun problem solving in the forest, building fires and cooking our own lunch. We look forward to running more trips across the school in the future.

Also thank you to Mr Alcock for introducing students to and teaching them Chess. Students are really enjoying learning and playing the game during break times!

Reminder to parents/ carers that attendance is really important. Great attendance means being in school for 97% or more. Did you know that a two-week holiday in term time will mean the highest attendance you can get is 94.5% over the year?

Academically, if your child attends 100% they are 81.7% likely to get 5 good GCSE grades and this drops to 8.1% for 50%. Every day missed will have an impact on academic outcomes and future prospects.

There are 175 non-school days to spend on holidays/ seeing family/ medical appointments. Please try and encourage the students to be in on time every day.

We very much look forward to welcoming students back to school for the final term on 3 June.

Ms Baggley

Assistant Head Teacher - Behaviour, Wellbeing and Personal Development

Helpful Links

Care2HaveFun	<u>Care2HaveFun - Brighter Futures For Children</u>
Holiday Activities and Food scheme on behalf of Reading Borough Council	<u>https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/schools/haf/</u>
Animal Assisted Activities (Indie Training Provider)	<u>https://www.canineassistedlearning.com/</u>
School Therapist – Lucy	<u>https://www.briym.co.uk/</u>
Family Activities	<u>https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/family-activities/</u>
Early Help	<u>https://brighterfuturesforchildren.org/for-parents-carers/early-help/</u>
What's on in Reading	<u>https://www.whatsonreading.com/</u>

Summer Careers Fair – Tuesday 18 July 11am-3pm

Elevate Careers Fair

Young people will have the opportunity to meet face to face to find out about courses, apprenticeships and many other opportunities plus speaking to employers and training providers. They can also speak to one of our Career Coaches to get help and advice about their options or support with finding a job or apprenticeship.

The event is taking place at New Meaning's warehouse at 28 Portman Road, Reading. RG30 1EA. It is close to the Portman Road Tesco's and is a 5-minute walk from the No. 17 bus stop. Parking is also available at the far end of Tesco's car park.



The poster features the 'elevate' logo with the tagline 'Helping you towards a Brighter Future' and the 'Brighter Futures for Young People' logo. It includes a graphic of a hand holding a glowing lightbulb labeled 'CAREERS'. The text on the poster reads: 'SUMMER CAREERS FAIR', 'TUESDAY 18 JULY @ 11AM-3PM', 'Get help finding a college course, apprenticeship or employment', 'For young people living in Reading aged 16-19 years old (up to 25 years with a current ECHP) come and meet local providers', 'To book your place call: 0118 937 3766 or email: elevate@brighterfuturesforchildren.org', and the 'New Meaning' logo with the text 'Working in partnership with New Meaning Berkshire, Portman Road, Reading, RG30 1EA (free parking available)'.

Some providers attending are: Army careers | Activate Learning Courses | Chiltern Training Childcare and Business Apprenticeships | DWP/Job Centre Opportunities | Princes Trust Personal development programmes | New Meaning Achieve, Sport, Boast (1 to 1 tutoring) and Construction programmes | New Directions College Intensive employability and Supportive Hospitality courses | NHS Nursing and Porter Departments | Reading Football Club - Sports and Employability programmes with Maths & English | Reading Borough Council - Apprenticeships | Shaw Trust - Supportive internships | Starting Point - Mentoring and Aspire programme | SSE - traineeships and opportunities | Thames Water – apprenticeships | Ways into Work – Supported internships

School Nursing Team



Your School Nurse is Diana Sentenga

Our School Nursing Team exists to support children and young people who are living in Reading and strives to ensure they are safe, happy and healthy.

**If you have any health worries,
we can help you.**

We provide a Confidential and Non-Judgemental Service:

- This means that you can discuss personal information, with confidence, in private.
- We will not discuss your personal information with anyone else without your permission. This includes parents and teachers.
- We would only pass on your information in order to protect you or someone else from serious harm. Whenever possible, we would discuss this with you first.

We are here to answer questions you may have or give advice and support for a variety of different things such as:

- Medical conditions
- General Health
- Emotional Health
- Mental Health
- Dietary advice
- Sexual Health
- Healthy Relationships
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Smoking

Berkshire Healthcare 
NHS Foundation Trust

How do you contact me?

- Ask a teacher or trusted adult in school to refer you to us you do not have to tell them what for.
- At times you may be referred by school staff, they will inform you of this before I visit you.
- Call our office on 01189 047320.
- Text our Chat Health line for support and advice (9am-4:30pm, Monday to Friday) on 07312 263266.

Child in Need Meeting

Information for Parents and Carers



What is a Child in Need meeting?

Child in Need meetings are held under Section 17 of the Children Act and are intended to bring together the 'network' around your child(ren). This typically includes the agencies involved with your family, (e.g., the school or health visitor) and any important friends or family members who can support you and your family.

Why is the meeting happening?

The Child and Family Assessment completed with you and your family will have identified that your child(ren) have needs that require additional support and this might be related to their health or development.

This is a meeting to support you and your family. The purpose of the meeting is to develop and review a Child in Need plan for your child(ren). Together, we will agree the kind of support, or people who can help you, in the best interests of the child(ren). Each member of the 'network', whether that is family or an agency, will have their own role and responsibilities in making sure that the agreed Child in Need Plan meets your child's needs in an agreed timescale. **The focus of the plan will be on working with you to help your child/children be safe and happy.**

Key Points to note:

- Speak to your Social Worker if you have any questions about the process or why it is happening. They must keep you informed at every stage of the process, but please work with them to make sure you understand what is happening and also that they understand what you are worried or concerned about – **they are there to support you and your family.**
- There should be no surprises in the meeting and make sure you ask questions if you are not sure about what agencies are saying.
- Think about what you want to get out of the meeting and make a list of the support you feel would help.
- It is very important that you understand what's happening and why, so it is important to listen and don't be afraid to ask questions.

For more information about what happens at a Child in Need meeting or a Child in Need Plan, please scan this QR code:

Or visit the Parents and Carers section of the Berkshire West Safeguarding Children Partnership website:
www.berkshirerwestsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/scp/parents-and-carers



Keeping Young People Safe on the Railways with Network Rail

Simon Frazer, Principal at Guilsborough Academy said; "The tragic death of Harrison in 2017, when he was in Year 7 at Guilsborough, brought home to our community the importance of teaching our children about safety on the Railways".

Please see below links to the relevant 15-minute safety videos. Over 14 million students, parents and teachers from across the UK have already watched these videos which has led to a significant decrease in the number of incidents in their area through watching the safety videos.

Remember 15 minutes can help save lives and provide important safety information to young people. We have made things easier for you to watch the free safety videos by just entering the email railsafety@learnliveuk.com into the "I am registered field" when you first watch the videos.

Please click on the link below to view the relevant safety video:

[Primary school version: Suitable for Age 7-10](#)

[Secondary school version: Suitable for Age 11-16](#)

You can find additional rail safety videos and resources at [Switched On Rail Safety](#). Switched On is a new rail safety programme for 3-16 year olds that encourages young people to stay Switched On around the railway. On the website you will find a wide range of age targeted films, interactive games and activities. Switched On teaches pupils to be aware of risky behaviour and develop hazard-spotting skills.

#ZEROTRESPASS

Murder of Olly Stephens Knife Crime Awareness and Online Safety

1. [Protecting Children Online - Capture, who's looking after the children? FT Film Standpoint](#)
2. [Knife Crime Awareness Workshops – The Ben Kinsella Trust](#)

These are two very informative and helpful links prepared by Stuart and Amanda Stephens. Given their lived experience of online harm, which had a direct impact on the tragic loss of their son.

Online safety and protecting children from online harm is extremely important. Amanda and Stuart would like as many parents and carers to see the FT film in the hope that it will spread awareness and start conversations. They also hope that parents and carers will join the free, Ben Kinsella Trust workshops, to take advantage of this opportunity, to learn more about knife crime and how they can help protect their children.

It is essential to safeguard our children both at home and at school. Together, we can work towards a safer future for all young people.

Katy Trigg

For and on behalf of Amanda and Stuart Stephens.

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