

Weekly Communications to Parents & Carers 18th September 2026

Headteacher's Welcome

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy and positive week at Bristol Cathedral Choir School, with lots of opportunities for our students to get involved and show the values that are so important to us.

A big thank you to all the parents and Year 13 students who attended our **UCAS Evening** this week, particularly those considering making an early application. Our Sixth Form tutors and leadership team worked hard to make the evening purposeful and supportive, helping students to understand the application process and develop their UCAS writing.

We were also delighted to welcome families to our first **Year 7 Open Evening**. Thank you to all the students who helped with tours and welcomed prospective families. They were fantastic ambassadors for our school and our values. A special shout out to **Owen (7D), Kareem (7D), Aleena (7D), Thea (7B) and Ophelia (7B)**, who presented to around 400 people – just nine days into their secondary school careers!

I have spent a lot of time in lessons this week and it has been wonderful to see students returning refreshed and working hard. Highlights have included Year 7s using mini whiteboards and choral response in Maths and Science, sharp paired discussions in Year 10 languages, and extensive reading in Year 9 Humanities and English. These small, consistent approaches are helping to create purposeful learning in classrooms.

Finally, there has been plenty of **buzz around this year's musical, *Sister Act***. I spoke to students waiting for their auditions and it was fantastic to see their excitement and enthusiasm. More to follow!

As always, I am providing opportunities for parents to meet me if they feel they would like to discuss anything about the running of the school. These opportunities will be available weekly on Friday mornings. If you would like to book a slot, please click [here](#). We will shortly be publishing our Michaelmas newsletter.

With Kindness, Courage and Hope,



Dr Nottingham
Headteacher

The Week Ahead

Tuesday 22nd September	Y9 Battlefields Trip Parent/Carer Information Evening
Tuesday 23rd September	Y12 Information Evening
Thursday 24th September	Y7 Open Event 2

Helpful Links

[School Website](#)

[Co-Curricular](#)

[Parent/ Carers Calendar](#)

[Homework Timetables](#)

[Our Curriculum](#)

[Contacting Us](#)

[Careers Bulletin](#)

Whole School Messages for This Week

Year Teams 2026/27	Year Group	Head of Year	Pastoral Support Leader
	7	Miss Brewer abrewer@bristolcathedral.org.uk	Ms Louise llouise@bristolcathedral.org.uk
	8	Ms Saunders msaunders@bristolcathedral.org.uk	Awaiting appointment
	9	Mr Murphy kmurphy@bristolcathedral.org.uk	Mr Darlington zdarlington@bristolcathedral.org.uk
	10	Mr Frost jfrost@bristolcathedral.org.uk	Ms Walker kwalker@bristolcathedral.org.uk
	11	Mr Welch ewelch@bristolcathedral.org.uk	Mr Donoghue jdonoghue@bristolcathedral.org.uk
Arbor Pay 	From September we will no longer be using ParentPay*. Instead, all school payments will be set up and paid for via Arbor. New year 7 students will be sent login details at the start of September (we are not able to do this in advance of the school year). All existing families should already be able to access Arbor, but please contact the school office if you need help logging in. *Y11 and Y13 leavers will be able to make payments for GCSE re-takes, if required, via ParentPay.		
Lanyards	Lanyards must be worn by students on site as part of their uniform. Replacement lanyards are available and can be ordered via Arbor - if you add the lanyard card and strap to your basket and pay for this then our reception team will print a new lanyard ready for your child to collect at break or lunchtime. Please remember to add funds to the card via Arbor Pay. Please contact your child's tutor in the first instance if you have any queries.		

PE Kit on PE Days	Students will wear their PE kit + lanyards to school on their PE day. They will remain in their kit after their PE lessons. Mondays = Year 10; Tuesdays = Year 7; Wednesdays = Year 8; Thursdays = Year 9; Fridays = Year 11 and Sixth Form This means students can come to school in kit and stay in PE kit all day if they want to. If they would prefer to wear your uniform and change at Failand, that is fine. The PE kit expectations: ○ BCCS PE top (Polo or Rugby) and BCCS all weather top as required. ○ Plain black joggers, leggings, skort or shorts. ○ Sports trainers/school shoes. ○ Lanyard ○ Sport specific equipment as required (boots, gum shield, shin pads etc.) ○ Long hair is tied back and all jewellery is removed/taped. The PE team needs your support to make this work and to maximise lesson time. ● Students must wear the correct PE kit for the full day. ● Students must also wear their lanyards throughout the day. ● If it is a rainy day, students must either bring an extra pair of black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms or their uniform to change into after the lesson and wear their all weather tops! ● If it is a cold day, we encourage students to wear additional layers underneath their BCCS PE top, bring gloves, hat etc as appropriate for participating in PE. ● We will give students time to change after the lesson before we head back to school on cold/wet days.
Co-curricular Offer PE Winter Term	Students have a link to a google form in their emails for expressing their interest in representing Bristol Cathedral Choir School in various sports this term. We intend to arrange fixtures, attend tournaments and festivals and attend one off events for the following sports: ● Year 7 Rugby Boys (U12) ● Year 8 Rugby Boys (U13) ● Year 9 Rugby Boys (U14) ● U18 First Team Rugby Boys ● Girls Rugby (Years 7, 8 and 9) ● Year 7 Netball ● Year 8 Netball ● Year 9 Netball ● Year 10 Netball ● Year 11 Netball ● U18 First Team Netball Girls ● U14 Basketball - Girls ● U16 Basketball - Girls

	• U14 Basketball - Boys • U16 Basketball - Boys • Bristol Cross Country Competition Students have until Friday 18th September to express their interest - please remind your young person to complete the form as soon as possible.
 School musical!	We're so excited to launch the 2027 school production "Sister Act"! All information can be found in the Sister Act google classroom - class code kyz37stv. Students will need to complete this form (from their school email address) to register their interest in the show in being involved in the show in whatever capacity: as a performer, musician, set design, costume design, stage management and more - there are lots of ways to take part.
Y7 homework	Year seven students will start to receive homework this week. They will get weekly homeworks lasting around half an hour in maths, science and english and fortnightly homework in languages. Their maths homework will be set online using a platform called Sparx. Your child's maths teacher will show them how to complete this. Students will complete their science and english homework in a booklet which they have been given this week. Your child will make a note on their booklet when each of their homeworks is due. Providing them with reminders to complete their homework and supporting them with a space to work at will really help your child develop effective independent learning habits and thrive at school. Thank you for your support with this. Mr Davies - Assistant Headteacher
Y8, 9, 10 and 11 Maths and Science Homework	Regular Maths and Science homework provides students with valuable opportunities to reinforce their learning, practise key skills and develop confidence in applying their knowledge independently. Students will receive weekly Maths and Science homework through Sparx*. Students can log in using their school login details and should already be familiar with the process, as the Maths department has been using Sparx for homework for a number of years. New homework tasks will be set each Friday and should be completed by the following Friday. <i>*The Science department has now moved away from using Educake and will use Sparx for Science homework.</i>
PTA	The PTA warmly thanks all parents and staff for their support last year. New joiners from all year groups are most welcome. Email pta@cathedral.org.uk to be added to our Whatsapp group. Even sporadic volunteers are very much appreciated. Please go to Bristol Cathedral Choir School - PTA for more detail from our 25-26 year.

**BAT New
Parent/carer
support phone
line**

Bristol Autism Team Family Support Phone Line

A dedicated phone line for parents/carers to
access immediate support from Bristol
Autism Team



Advice, guidance and someone to
listen



Help identifying pathways and
different routes to access support



Signposting and information on local
services, support groups and
resources

The phone line will be open to call on Thursday
mornings between 8:30 and 12.

Phone number: **07387242320**

Please be aware that the mailbox is not monitored so
voicemails will not be returned

You can also access support from Bristol
Autism Team using the QR code or by
emailing
Bristol.Autism.HotLine@bristol.gov.uk



Congratulations to Oscar and Anushka for performing at the Bristol Beacon as part of
an All Party Parliamentary Group meeting to tackle "Young People and Loneliness".
Superb musicianship very much appreciated by all

Details of our fantastic Inter House Music Competition "Bristol's Got Talent" can be found [here](#).



Get involved!

Get House Points!

Win prizes!

Let your talent shine!