



Cranbrook  
School

# Weekly Bulletin

## Friday 8th September 2023

### David Clark - Head

Dear Parents,

Despite the baking conditions, we end week one in good spirits and, for most of us, a spring in our steps. For me, it has been lovely to have the students back on site as they bring so much energy and enthusiasm and no shortage of good humour too. It has been particularly enjoyable getting to know the new Year 7 students and I have the privilege this year of teaching History to both 7S1 and 7S2. Lessons, so far, have been great fun... learning names, sharing stories and comparing historical passions and I am certainly looking forward to a fascinating year ahead in the classroom.

Equally enjoyable have been my interactions with pupils around school. Chatting to students in the lunch queue has provided some entertaining moments as has my time in the Quad each morning as students arrive. I have also had great conversations with charming and engaging sixth formers and I spent a happy couple of hours on Wednesday evening in School Lodge meeting all the new Year 9 boarders.

Yesterday's 1st XI girls' hockey match was another highlight and I was so impressed with the athleticism, skill and commitment of the team – a great example of how sport should be played.

I have been asked several times already what I make of the School and to share my first impressions. Essentially, I see a school with a big heart and with a distinctive ethos. I sense a caring yet dynamic spirit and it is clear that students really enjoy Cranbrook School and are very comfortable in their surroundings and in their own skins. Tradition and history are all around us but I like the modern and outward-looking approach and I love the internationalism that seems to be at the core of who we are. Best of all, after only one week, I feel closely in tune with the essence of Cranbrook School and I can't help but think how lucky I am to be part of this special community.

I hope you find today's Bulletin both useful and interesting and please also follow us on social media - where we will do our best to showcase the many activities and successes associated with Cranbrook.

Have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

David



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**[www.cranbrookschool.co.uk](http://www.cranbrookschool.co.uk)**



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### David Carney - Deputy Head

Thank you for the warm welcome. As a new member of the Cranbrook School community, I wanted to take a moment to thank all the pupils, parents and staff for a great first week back.



### Uniform:

I have seen some very good examples of students wearing their uniform correctly, even in this sweltering weather. The vast majority of the sixth formers have been in business dress as per our Cranbrook uniform rules and the Sixth Form Dress Code, both of which can be found via the [school website](#). However, I have noticed a minority who are not adhering to the uniform rules. Please could all families review the guidance and ensure that all students be reminded of the expectations. If students continually disregard the expectations of the school dress code, a parent or carer will be contacted and their child will be sent home to get changed and returned to school as soon as possible.

### Weather:

Our weather should be back to a more seasonal temperature for this time of year. We will be going back to normal school uniform with blazers and ties being required and worn from Monday 11th September.

### Opening Evening Event Tour Guides: Wednesday 13th September

A reminder that students in Years 8 and 12 are required to act as tour guides for the Years 7 and 9 Open Event on Wednesday next week (13th September) from 6:00-8:00pm. If students are unable to assist, please can they notify their Head of House.

### Years 10 and 11 Information Evening: Monday 18th September at 6pm

Our first opportunity to meet will be at the Years 10 and 11 Information Evenings on 18th September (6pm). Both David Clark (Head) and I will be present. You will learn about the year's assessment and reporting milestones, Cranbrook Together, along with wider suggested pathways in key areas to include: study skills, e-safety and wider pastoral care.

### Immunisations:

A reminder for parents of Year 8 students. You will have received communications on 12th July regarding HPV vaccinations taking place in school. The deadline for the consent form is this Wednesday (13th September). A reminder will be sent on Monday via ParentMail and as per the Kent Immunisations message, students will also be informed via TEAMS. We would be grateful if you could discuss this with them over the weekend.

### Year 7 Inductions:

We started well today with the Year 9 induction trip to Bewl Water, just a reminder it is Year 7's trip on Monday (11th September).

### Charity Walk:

The Annual Cranbrook School Charity Walk will now take place on Monday 2nd October. This Walk has been a key feature of Cranbrook for many years and as well as being an enjoyable whole school event, raises a large amount of money for local and national charities chosen by our student Charity Committee. The route is almost entirely on quiet footpaths between Scotney and Cranbrook. Sponsor forms will be given out next week and full details will follow in due course. We look forward to your support.



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### Reminders for Parents:

Please may we remind parents not to use Barham Drive to drop off students in the morning or pick them up in the afternoon. Full details regarding drop off and collection can be found on the website [here](#).

Additionally, please remember to send students to school with a full water bottle, particularly during this spell of very hot weather. They can replenish these during the day from one of the water fountains on site. Thank you.



### Students visit to Antibes

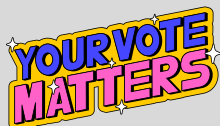
On 9th July, the whole school was getting ready for the last week of the school year. However, 30 Year 10 students, seven Year 12 students, along with four members of staff were packing for a week of French study and culture in Antibes, in the South East of France. It was a varied time for everyone; the mornings were spent in lessons, where the Cranbrook students joined other international youngsters on their endeavours to be better French linguists. All the lessons were delivered in French, and after the initial shock, most students fell into operating in French with more ease. In the afternoons, we visited Antibes, Monaco, an Aquapark, and some were lucky to sail before the weather turned. The football ground, table tennis and pool on the study site were popular for the students, but visits to the local beaches were probably the most popular trips. The evenings were spent with French families, and the students were lucky to experience the Bastille Day celebrations during their stay. Everyone grew in confidence with their French, their orientation in the town and with the local buses and trains. Many families were also very complimentary about their guests.

As a trip leader, the prospect of taking such a big group to France was slightly daunting, but the Cranbrook students (and staff) lived up to their excellent reputation and made me very proud. They embraced the language, the ways of life, the culture, and even survived the insistent mosquitoes and odd jellyfish sting. Un excellent séjour ! Merci à tous.

Mme Lavigne



### Vote for Gardening Club at Tesco



We are delighted that Gardening Club's application to the Tesco Stronger Starts has been successful and will be put forward to a customer vote in its Hawkhurst store.

Voting starts from the first week of October 2023 until mid-January 2024 and the Club would very much appreciate your support. To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value, where you will receive one token. These can then be dropped into the appropriate receptacle. Thank you for your support.

Mrs Rahtz



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### Menus

The menus for the next two weeks can be found [here](#) on the website.

### CSPA News:



Welcome back! Please save the date for the following events:

Saturday 7th October: Cranbrook Apple Fayre - volunteers and donations required for the CSPA stall - more details to follow.

Thursday 9th November: School Fireworks evening - don't miss this fabulous event!

### From KCC: Consultation on new Family Hub Services in Kent

You may have taken part in our previous Community Services Consultation about what Children's Centres and Youth Hub buildings we keep. Now we need to hear your views on what services you need as we develop Family Hub Services.

We are seeking residents' views in an eight-week consultation closing on Wednesday 13 September 2023.



Kent was identified as a Transformation Authority and selected by the government as a Trailblazer for the national Family Hubs and Start for Life Programme in October 2022. The programme will support the council to transform Children's Centre services, Youth Services, Health Visiting, and work alongside Community-based midwifery care, bringing them together and making them easier to access.

Family Hub Services will offer support to children and families from conception through to age 19, or up to 25 for children with special education needs or disabilities.

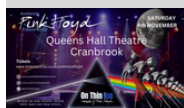
This consultation also includes a proposal to stop funding the youth clubs and activities currently commissioned by KCC but run by non-KCC organisations. This is due to the financial pressures the council is facing. This means that some activities and clubs would stop unless the organisations are able to find alternative funding. We are keen to hear from service users how the proposed changes might affect them. For full information and to tell us what you think about our proposals visit [www.kent.gov.uk/familyhubservices](http://www.kent.gov.uk/familyhubservices).

### What's on at the Queen's Hall Theatre



THE CRANBROOK COMEDY CLUB - 22nd September 2023

Laugh until your ribs ache, and chuckle until your cheeks hurt! It's The Cranbrook Comedy Club – THE place to watch live stand-up! The Line-up: Dan Atkinson, Terry Alderton, Ian Stone & Jack Skipper. Street food provided by Lloyds Kitchen. [Find out more here...](#)



THE SOUNDS OF PINK FLOYD - 4th November 2023

We are excited to bring our "Sounds of Pink Floyd live tour 2023" to The Queens Hall Theatre. Expect authentic music recreated from Dark Side of the Moon, Animals, The Wall & P.U.L.S.E albums along with some classics. [Find out more here...](#)



SHOW OF HANDS - 18th November 2023

After thirty remarkable years of non-stop touring Show of Hands, comprising Steve Knightley and Phil Beer, have announced that they will no longer tour together as Show of Hands for the foreseeable future. [Find out more here...](#)