

CRISPIN

ASPIRATION • COMPASSION • EXCELLENCE

Transition Newsletter

Welcome to the second Transition newsletter of 2020 / 21.

As you will appreciate, 2020 has been a very unusual year in many respects and one I will not be unhappy to say goodbye to. However, as always there have been many positives with the most obvious one at Crispin being the opening of the new Innovation Hub.

This facility is now fully open and provides superb classrooms for subjects including Art, Photography, Graphics, Product Design, Food and Nutrition, ICT and Computing and the Technical Qualifications.

Do not hesitate to contact me if you want to discuss any areas contained in this newsletter.

I hope you and your families have the best Christmas possible.

Mr Reddick, Headteacher



The newly opened Innovation Hub

At Crispin we enjoy offering a wide range of subjects to students in areas you may not always have studied at primary school. In this edition you will hear from some of our students studying subjects like Philosophy, Business Studies and Drama.

We can't wait to introduce you to lots of new subjects too, as well as the subjects you are familiar with from primary school.

Mrs Cowper, Deputy Headteacher

Innovation Hub

The Creativity and Innovation and Information, Technology and Industry faculties are very excited to have left Practical Block and moved into the brand new Innovation Hub.

The space is split over three floors, with large rooms, social area and exhibition space which will make this new building an inspiring area to work and learn. On the ground floor we have two purpose-built Design Technology workshops and a large computer room for CAD/CAM. We also have seating areas which can be used for quiet meetings or as a break-out space.

On the middle floor we have a well-equipped and inspiring Food Technology classroom alongside three computer rooms.

The top floor has stunning views and high ceilings and this houses one BTEC classroom, two large Art Rooms and purposely designed Graphics and Photography Rooms.

The demolition of Practical Block is well under way and once gone will leave a large open space in the middle of the school for students to sit and socialise during lunch and break.

We are extremely excited to be teaching in this new facility this term.

Jacqui Maxfield



Philosophy at Crispin

We have been doing Philosophy in school for the last year. It isn't all about Ancient Greek philosophers but instead, we listen to stories and try to think about a deeper meaning to them. My favourite story was about a little egg who was trying to fly and ended up cracking because he refused to listen to the adult hens. After we listened to this story, we discussed the ideas and come up with 'juicy' philosophical questions. An example of these could be: 'should you trust everyone?', 'is it a good idea to always ignore adults?' and 'is life too slow?'. Overall, philosophy is a really fun subject and I really enjoy it. **Oliver - Year 8**



In Philosophy children have the freedom to ask as many 'juicy' questions as they can come up with, Philosophy isn't just about philosophers as we explore a range of stories with a deeper meaning. Philosophy has a very historic background dating back to ancient Greece, so in Year 7 you might learn about philosophers like Pythagoras or Socrates.

My favourite story that we have explored was from Year 7 which is called John Brown and the Midnight Cat. In the book the dog is trying to keep the lady safe but in the end the cat gets its own way and comes inside. In the book we realise that the dog symbolises the lady's husband as it is the closest thing to the lady, until the midnight cat comes.

Philosophy has been very different due to Covid-19 as everyone has to stay facing the front to reduce the amount of germs being spread in different directions but normally Philosophy lessons have everyone in a circle with the tables at the edge and chairs in a circle so that everyone can face each other. I hope that after Covid-19 everything can return to normal and that Year 7s get the chance to enjoy Philosophy as many other people in the school have. **Caleb - Year 8**

Philosophy isn't just about asking interesting questions it's about digging deep into stories and finding juicy questions up for discussion and up for debate. There's always something new to discuss every lesson is different from the one before yet the same, even the happiest of books for children can hide the deepest darkest secrets and questions waiting to be discovered by us .

Philosophy is an amazing subject. There is no right or wrong answer but there are always discussions and questions. We don't just only read books and look at pictures sometimes we even find secrets in movies which we watch in class. Philosophy is a great subject and it is always so much fun and anyone and everyone can do it. **Jessica - Year 8**



Drama

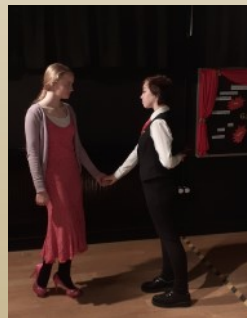
Hello there, we are Josh and Willow and we are studying GCSE Drama in Year 9. Crispin offers a high-quality Drama curriculum which come with many enriching opportunities such as school productions and theatre visits.

We have sophisticated Drama facilities: including a studio with professional lanterns and an audio system, which we use regularly. We watch multiple theatre productions throughout our GCSE course, including the famous horror *The Woman in Black* in Year 11. Drama at Crispin includes plays to suit everyone, ranging from 1980s tragedy *Blood Brothers* to the musical gothic horror *The Grinning Man* by Victor Hugo which we are watching and analysing in class at the moment.

Furthermore, we have direct access to Strode Theatre, and we put together an annual stage production filled with choreographed dancing, singing, and exciting roles. Whether you're interested in backstage lighting and sound, makeup, or taking a role in the production itself, there will always be a place for you in our stunning school plays.

Today we have been creating our own pieces of Black Box Theatre as you can see from the images!

By Willow and Josh—Year 9



Science

Here are some quotes from our Year 7s about how they are finding Science at Crispin so far!

'I think Crispin has been good so far and the Science lessons are fun. I have also enjoyed looking under the microscope at things. I also like exploring cells and listening to the animal cell and plant cell song/rap.'



"My first experience in Science was nice and I enjoy it! I can't wait to be practising with experiments. I've enjoyed everything and have worked hard even with Covid-19 limitations."

"Science so far is very interesting, as well as completely different to other subjects. It's different because you get to learn and perform experiments and learn about the human and animal body. We have learnt about space and cells, organs, organ system and tissues. Overall, I'm liking Science so far."

'My first experience (in our new labs) was good because I liked sitting on the big seats and I can see better and we have more space as well. I liked learning about cells. We have learnt about animal cells (nucleus, cell membrane and cytoplasm) and also plant cells.'



'In Science I've had a good experience. I have learnt all the phases of the Moon and why we have them also days, weeks and years. Planets, lunar and solar eclipses was fun to learn. We also learnt how to use a microscope, that was probably the best!'



'I have really enjoyed science in Year 7 because I understand how difficult it has been for teachers and they have done a great job.'