Welcome to our third edition of our sixth form newsletter. We have enjoyed seeing our Year 12 students who have been able to come in for their face to face meetings and are looking forward helping them embark on the UCAS process over the next few weeks. The aim of this edition to help you make the most of the time available to you over the summer and to inspire you with some further Alumni stories from past students.

The KS 5 Team.

We are really looking forward to seeing you back in September and hope you have a great summer

(Mrs. Gibbons, Ms Thomas, Ms. Thompson, Mrs. Luurtsema, Ms. McKay, Mr. Smith)
Section 1 - Study Ready
How do you make the most of the summer holidays?

Year 11 students

We are really excited to be welcoming you to CGS Sixth form in September. However, will you be study ready? Please see our checklist below of things you could do over the summer to give you the best possible chance of succeeding as you embark upon this next extremely important part of your education.

1. Have you logged on to Doddle and completed the Transition work for the options you were hoping to study? (If you are an external applicant, please contact Carole Luurtsema on c.luurtsema@coxgreen.com and tell her which options you have applied to study, and we will contact staff and forward you the transition work)

2. Have you taken advantage of the Eton College Future X programme on Resilience? -please see student emails for details of how to log on)

3. Participated in the Transition week for Year 11 (Week beginning 6th July) where you can attend online taster lessons and talk to your teachers about further work you could do to prepare you over the summer holidays. Letters will be going out about this very soon

4. Thought about the direction you might like to take after you leave CGS – There are lots of ways you can do this and some great online resources to help – here’s one below from the UCAS website.

 Click for more info > https://www.ucas.com/careers/buzz-quiz

Please Note: There are many websites and companies on offer that you can search for on the internet, here are a few samples of virtual work experience opportunities -any that are chosen by the parent/student and any data shared by yourself is with your consent and not shared by Cox Green School so the parent/student is not covered by the Cox Green School privacy policy.
**Section 1 - Study Ready**

How do you make the most of the summer holidays?

**Year 12 checklist**

We are so proud of the work and effort you have been putting into

1. Have you completed a RAG sheet for each subject you are learning? This will allow you to identify your weaker areas and revise them more effectively over the summer – if you haven’t had the sheets – please contact your subject staff

2. Are you up to date with the work being set for you on Teams – are all deadlines met? If not, make sure you try and do this before the start of the summer and talk to staff about any problems you might be having.

3. Have you logged onto the Personal Statement page on Teams and looked at all the material selected to help you with this process? If you came into school, you would have collected the Personal Statement handbook which is invaluable in this process.

4. Have you had a go at writing your first draft of your personal statement and got feedback from a member of staff so you can start improving it over the summer?

5. Are you checking the Personal Statement page on Teams and school e-mails for regular updates on opportunities available to you – Carole is updating these on a daily basis – don’t miss out on a good opportunity!

6. Have you looked online for additional ways you could prepare yourself for university study? Have you heard of a MOOC? It is a Massive Online Open Course and very often they are compiled by universities so have real expert contributions. Future Learn (see below) is one example of this. You can search it for courses on all kinds of topics which are delivered very often by respected academic professionals. Investigate and see what you can find. [Click link for more info](https://www.futurelearn.com/)

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Independent university guidance webinars every Tuesday

**UNI TASTER TUESDAYS**
Weekly university guidance webinars #UTDIAG

Guest universities – Q&A – Tuesdays at 9.30am, 12pm and 3pm

I am pleased to announce that the popular series of UniTaster Tuesday events will continue for the rest of the year.

During these events, different guest universities join me to deliver impartial sessions on important aspects of university guidance alongside a moderated Q&A. Events are up to an hour in length and are hosted at 9.30am, 12pm and 3pm every Tuesday, with different topics and subjects each week.

Please forward details of this free university resource to your students

Bookings for future webinars, as well as recordings and resources from events previously hosted are now available on the new UniTaster Tuesday event hub at [https://www.unitasterdays.com/tuesdays](https://www.unitasterdays.com/tuesdays)

In addition to general university guidance topics such as personal statements and student finance, subject specific events are available here too, including an introduction to studying Medicine, Law and Engineering.

Supporting both Pre and Post 16 audiences

The live events are for post-16 students and school groups, but recordings of events are also available (with no registration required to view), which you can use and direct pre-16 audiences to as well.

[Browse Events]

Looking for something from a specific university instead?

In addition to the UniTaster Tuesday events, over 500 events are listed on the online events area of UniTasterDays as well - including virtual open days, online webinars and live chats offered by universities UK-wide.

Click here for more info - [https://www.unitasterdays.com/search.aspx?UID=true](https://www.unitasterdays.com/search.aspx?UID=true)

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UCAS Hub

Year 12’s I would like you to engage with these sessions offered via UCAS please – help for your applications, university/course research and advice around interviews. Please set reminder alerts on your phones so you don’t miss out! Or, you should make yourself an account on the Hub for reminder emails – this account you will then link to our school for your future uni application (buzzword will be provided in the next couple of weeks).

Thanks Mrs Luurtsema

Carole, we’re LIVE with the experts – on Facebook, and now in the UCAS Hub!

We know it’s not just your 2020 applicants who have questions. So, as well as offering Facebook lives in the countdown to Confirmation and Clearing, we’re running a series of sessions to support your 2021 applicants.

Streamed live in the UCAS Hub, students can ask questions, make notes, and access the tools they need to continue their research and application.

What’s coming up?

- 9 & 16 June – How to best represent yourself to universities
  Both in your personal statement and interviews.
- 10 & 17 June – Unpicking league tables
  And advice on how to use them.
- 23 June – Q&A with Universities of Oxford and Cambridge
  For the chance to find out what exactly is required to get in.

The full list of Hub lives can be viewed on ucas.com, along with details of the subject matter experts who will be delivering them.

How do my students get involved?

All your students need to do is join us live in the UCAS Hub at the right time.

Students not yet signed up to the Hub? It’s quick and easy – here’s how.


Link to sign up - https://www.ucas.com/what-are-my-options/create-your-ucas-hub-today

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Bath University Outreach programme 2020

Find Your Way is a free, online e-mentoring programme aimed at academically-able Year 12 students who are considering applying to University. The 6-week programme offers you the chance to receive personalised, 1:1 support and a real insight into student life from an undergraduate mentor as you make important decisions about their plans for when they leave school or college.

Click link for more info > https://www.bath.ac.uk/campaigns/summer-of-outreach-2020/

We’ve had students who have taken advantage of this programme in the past and found it illegible to help them decide on...

UCL School & College Newsletter June 2020

UCL began hosting their summer 2020 activities online last week. Whilst they may have cancelled their face-to-face activities for the time being they have a jam-packed summer of virtual events ahead, and there are still opportunities for students to get involved.

Click link for more info > https://dmtrk.net/1MZL-6WYC1-08JTYIEDB2/cr.aspx

University of Buckingham - Transition events

Watch and listen online as eight of the country’s leading experts discuss how university entrance will be affected, what students should expect, and what they can do to transition to this important stage in their academic career. Join them on the afternoon of Wednesday 8th July.

Our leading experts from universities, UCAS and education will be discussing all these issues and answering your questions: Click for more info > https://www.buckingham.ac.uk/event/fifth-festival-of-higher-education/

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Online Learning in Biology, Anatomy and particularly for those thinking of applying to medical school in the future

Just a reminder about a live online sessions every week for students aged 14+ interested in Biology, Anatomy and particularly for those thinking of applying to medical school in the future. (For a small fee).

The sessions are twice a week and teach students all about anatomy and the human body, all live from their specially built operating theatre.

Students can see some of the highlights of the programmes by visiting this link:

https://www.premedprojects.co.uk/premed-projects-live-tv

LIVE every Tuesday & Thursday at 10.00am BST.

“In each live episode we'll unpick the pathology of a new patient. Each episode we take a new patient and follow their journey from hospital admission to operation, explaining as we go, the fascinating world of the human body”

- Downloadable exam linked worksheets
- Boost your science & maths exam performance with our curriculum-linked content. GCSE, National 5’s, A-Level, higher’s, BTEC, IGCSE and IB matched.
- Interviews from clinical staff
- Interact with us LIVE in the studio in real time with exam linked Q&A sessions
- UCAT tips and advice
- Personal statement training
- Certificates for UCAS applications
- Catch up anytime, on any device, anywhere
- Live close up dissections of real and anatomical specimens

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Eton College Learning Platform

Don’t miss out on our once only Eton Future X opportunity. We were lucky to be invited to enjoy FREE access to the prestigious Eton College Future X platform. Until 31st July, Eton College have invited our Year 11 and Year 12 students to complete one of their learning modules free of charge.

Year 11

Year 11 have had the opportunity to complete the Future X course on building resilience – an extremely useful skill during this period of remote working, and a useful way of helping to put you in the right mind set to start school in September. The students below have all completed the course and earned their certificates.

Milly Gibbins, Jessica Engleman, Freya Lewin, Matthew Reed, Ben MacDonald, Ametz Parcell-Arrregi, Steffi Pereira, Arun Kaul, Ella Bampton, Vlad Teisanu, Aron Cheung, Jessica Harris, Cameron Armstrong.

We have another 19 students who have enrolled and are in process of completing course – make sure you don’t lose out on this opportunity

Year 11 students: Are you Study Ready for September? Apart from completing the above Eton College Future X course on resilience, there is a lot you can do to prepare yourselves for your Level 3 courses in September. All departments at CGS have set you transition work. If you log into Doddle and select the subjects you have applied to study, you will see the transition work set for you. If you would like any more help with this, please contact a member of the Sixth form team (see front page of this newsletter) who will help you get an answer to any questions you might have.

Year 12

Year 12 had the opportunity to participate in the Academic Writing course on the same Future X platform. The following students have completed the course and earnt their certificates:

Lucy Langdale, Michael Humphreys, Adam Aziz, Nikolaos Douranos, Rafaela Balan

We have another 12 students in Year 12 who have also enrolled in the course and are in the process of completing it.

Make sure you don’t lose out on this opportunity – each course takes about 7 – 10 hours to complete and is only available until 31st July.

Year 12 Students. Your teachers are currently planning your summer work for you at the moment. Make sure you use your lesson time on teams to clarify any issues you might have.

How to sign up to your EtonX course:

Visit the EtonX website and click Sign up. > https://signup.etonx.com/

2. Choose Sign up with Access Code.

3. Enter your Access Code.

4. Follow the on-screen instructions. Please sign up with your school email address.

Congratulations! You can now get started on your course.

Year 11 access code: (See Student E-mail addresses)

Year 12 access code: (See Student E-mail addresses)
Finding it hard to decide on a direction after CGS? We thought perhaps you would be inspired by people in who’s footsteps you are following. Have a look at some of the amazing stories our former students have to tell since they have left CGS

**Name:** Tracey Norris

**Year you left Cox Green 6th Form:** 1979

**A Levels taken:** None. I have done many courses and achievements related to the products I work with.

**My Story:** I was a very poor student all through my schooling, looking back I am sure I had some mild learning difficulties, that and a very tricky home life.

I did however try really hard and when I was given lots of time I did manage to learn. I left with GCSEs and no O’levels and due to this I was not even considered for 6th form. College was not an option as I needed to earn money for the household. From 16 to 23 I had so many jobs, receptionist, waitress/bar, petrol station, I was always very sad that I had to look at the end of the job pages for the unskilled and uneducated jobs.

That however all changed when I was 23. I started as a receptionist, then team lead. I did that for a few years and then gained a position in a technical team as an admin assistant (I thought I had made the big time).

I had to learn to use a database that was very difficult, however I did and I was good at it. One of my colleagues put me on courses and helped me and taught me so much. I stayed with this company for 13 years. Due to what I learnt I now had the skills to gain a job as a professional. I have worked as a technical specialist for IBM for 20 years and earn a very good salary.

I guess my point is there is life after school and if you apply yourself you can make it.

My boys went to CG and they both did well and went on to Uni, they had a very different home life to me and a desire to learn.

Every year I take an intern and they do have to pass an entrance exam. I never take the cream of the crop I try and take youngsters that show me their personality and some thing in their CV that stands out.

I am sure the new one in September will be the 10th and 8 of them have come back and stayed with IBM, not in my team, mainly security. I always remember the person that gave me chance and I want to repay that wherever I can.

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**Name:** Megan Black

**Year you left Cox Green 6th Form:** 2018

**A Level Subjects taken:** Maths – B, Chemistry – C, Physics – C. I also took Fine Art at AS level - C. I have completed a Level 3 Applied Science course at Reading College – this was mandatory as per the apprenticeship. In a few months, I am also going to complete my Registered Laboratory Technician qualification through the RSC (Royal Society of Chemistry).

**Further study undertaken:** I am currently near the end of my apprenticeship, due to complete my final exams in August. I have secured a job within AWE and when I graduate, I will go from being a Laboratory Technician Apprentice to a Materials Characterisation Scientist (yay!). I plan to complete my registered Laboratory Technician qualification through the RSC (as mentioned above) and this will be an additional qualification so that if I choose to move jobs, I will have a respected professional qualification behind me. I also endeavour to complete a degree at some point as well as any other additional qualifications that come my way.

CGS were incredibly supportive when I decided to go down the route of an apprenticeship instead of going to university and I am still grateful for their support as without it, I may not have the career I have today. Furthermore, even though I did not need my A-level grades when securing the apprenticeship (I needed 9 a*-C at GCSE instead) but the 6th form team ensured that I still pushed myself to achieve the best A-Levels I could, and wouldn’t let me give up! For anyone thinking of doing an apprenticeship – just go for it! It has been amazing to earn money while I work and gain the qualifications and secure the job that I have, and I can honestly say I love my job.
Section 2 - Work Ready

Finding it hard to decide on a direction after CGS? We thought perhaps you would be inspired by people in who’s footsteps you are following. Have a look at some of the amazing stories our former students have to tell since they have left CGS

Name: Ed Port

Time at Cox Green: July 2016 - May 2018

Course Studied: Btec Sport Diploma and IT

Highlights: Winning the East Berks National Schools Cup and scoring the winner in the final to get our first silverware and Beating Birmingham City 1-0 at Windsor.

Cox Green helped you prepare for: Cox Green helped me move out to America and be one of the most technical and tactically aware players on the team, which straight away gave me the confidence to play some of my best football.

Current University/Work place: University of Nebraska at Omaha in America

Studying/working as: Studying General Administration with a Minor in Kinesiology.

Key achievements: NJCAA All-American first team, NJCAA Assist record, Broke 4 School Records, 2 time national Semi Finalist, 2019 Conference Player of the year, and 2019 GCC Athlete of the year.

Name: Jamie Boot

Left Cox Green: 2019

A Level subjects taken: Maths, Further Maths, Business Studies

Further Study: Accounting and Finance Bsc, University of Bath. I am considering future careers in investment banking and corporate law

Message about Cox Green School: One of the best things about Cox Green is that the teachers really care about the students; they invest a lot of their own free time and effort to help students progress. However, on top of helping students academically, staff do very well at creating a bond with them that makes classes more enjoyable and encourages more interactive learning. This also helps pupils to feel safe and comfortable enough to talk to teachers about problems at school or elsewhere.

Name: Robert Bryant

Time at Cox Green: September 2017 - July 2019

Course Studied: Level 3 Btec In Sport

Highlights: Having the opportunity to play Football on a daily basis, taking part in the Gothia cup, meeting new people with similar interests, and very supportive staff.

Cox Green helped me prepare for: Gave me the results to go to University

Current Uni/Studying: I’m at Oxford Brookes University doing Sport and Exercise science, work experience with Oxford United as a performance analysis.

Key Achievements: Getting a placement at University, Securing a work experience placement with Oxford United, Excellent results at cox green, football level 1 coaching badge, Level 7 referee qualification, confidence boost

What’s Next: Completing my 3 year degree and looking forward to further work experience in the sports industry.
**Section 2 - Work Ready**

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**Name:** Kristen Dance

**Year you left Cox Green 6th Form:** 2017

**A Level Subjects taken:** Media Studies, Government and Politics, English Lit, EPQ

**Further study undertaken:** Events and Festival Management at Bucks New Uni – graduated this year

**Further information around the career you are now in or aspire to if you are still studying:** Worked with a wedding planner in London, now work at CGS as a TA until COVID disappears and events are up and running again! Saving to go travelling and maybe do some events aboard. The teachers at Cox Green were really supportive in helping you find something that was for you, especially the careers advisor. Whether that was uni or an apprenticeship. They were all really supportive in helping us get to the next stage.

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**How to become a Doctor with Medic Mentor**

Medic Mentor is a non-profit national medical organisation for applying students, medical students and doctors. We specialise in helping applying students get into medicine, and award students with merit-based scholarships to study medicine at university. Medic Mentor is run by a UK-wide network of volunteer doctors who provide UCAS support and teach medical students how to become successful future doctors and NHS leaders. It is an organisation that re-invests in the wellbeing and morale of our UK’s doctors. So by getting involved in Medic Mentor, not only can you learn how to successfully become a doctor, but you are also supporting our medical students and doctors, whilst getting into medical school.

Click link for more info > [https://medicmentor.co.uk/](https://medicmentor.co.uk/)
Section 3 - Life Ready

We know remote working is not the same as working together in school. Here are some ideas to help you look after yourself and others

As this is our final edition of the academic year, we would like to take the opportunity to highlight and praise some of the great work students have been doing while in lockdown

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<th><strong>Best work life balance</strong></th>
<th><strong>Philosophy</strong></th>
<th><strong>History</strong></th>
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<td>Jamie Middleton – has been complimented by all teachers for keeping on top of work and making positive contributions to subjects, but has also taken advantage of lockdown situation to take up and learn two new hobbies.</td>
<td>Jasmine Mankoo, Jamie Middleton, Carys Peters, Bethany Surgue, - excellent attendance on Teams classes and positive contributions showing great thinking skills.</td>
<td>Lucy Langdale and Saketh Sriram – for asking the most challenging questions demonstrating fantastic understanding. Megan Knight, India Humphries being excellent communicators</td>
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<td><strong>Spanish</strong></td>
<td><strong>Business Studies</strong></td>
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<td><strong>External Recognition</strong></td>
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<td>India Humphries was awarded Mrs Prestigious Spotlight Award for her excellent customer service</td>
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