



Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Dear Parents, Carers, and Guardians,

In Chapel this afternoon we reflected on the importance of Easter, and of light emerging from shadow. It was a celebration of all that has been achieved across our Winter, of the optimism of Spring, and the excitement of Summer to come.

We will hit the ground running next term with high expectations over study, support, behaviour and uniform. We will also remain alert and sensitive to pupils facing challenges emotionally, socially or academically. Following on from the bulletin of 19 March and the ongoing media coverage arising from the murder of Sarah Everard, we have reminded pupils that we are committed to providing a safe and equal education for all. Integral to our Methodist foundation is the importance of inclusion and respect. We have reassured pupils that if they have any concerns about themselves or others, we are here to listen. Similarly, we are ready to engage with those who have experience or insight into ways our community may be able to do better.

We remain a school community that has not recorded any positive Covid tests since the end of lockdown. If a pupil has a positive test result at any time in the break, please let us know at CSG@truroschoo.com. We will monitor carefully any government announcements over Easter, but are not planning to provide updates for families on any changes to our covid-safe measures until Monday April 19, before term begins. Do be assured that in planning that communication, we will have reviewed this term's approaches in light of any updated guidance and the local and national context by that time.

Finally, with regard to the 5th Year and Upper Sixth, a schedule of next term's formal assessments is being distributed to you today by Dr Pope, including steers over revision topics to focus on. Some details from exam boards were not released until this morning, and we were determined still to be able to factor them in to our planning on your behalf.

My very best wishes to you all for a happy Easter. Your children are a credit to you in how they have navigated this term, and the school is immensely grateful for your ongoing support.

Mr A Johnson
Head



Easter service



1st Year Easter ear competition



1st Year Easter ear competition



Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

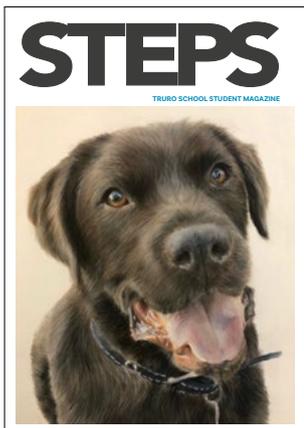


New student magazine launched

Thanks to the hard work of the student magazine team (pictured above) we are pleased to launch STEPS.

Head Girl Jenny commented, "When we moved to online learning, we found new ways of sharing ideas and celebrating achievements both big and small, personal and professional. There seemed to be so much happening inside and outside of school such as sponsored walks for charity, incredible artwork, learning to bake and exploring a new way of living. We realised that there was more to celebrate besides academic achievements and we wanted to create a space where we could share them all. With this in mind we decided to create STEPS – a student magazine run by sixth form prefects that would showcase all of the wonderful things we do besides purely academia."

The inaugural issue of the half-termly magazine is out now but the team invites submissions from across the year groups for future issues: "We'd love to hear what you're up to whether you've written a short story, started a band, raised some money for charity, helped in the community or been somewhere local you'd love to share. We are open to any and all submissions that celebrate what you've been doing besides academia. Please email us at steps@truroschoo.com with your achievements and what you would like to see in upcoming editions!"



Diary Dates

Friday 16, Saturday 17, Sunday 18 April

Drama: 4th Year Drama Club Filming 'The Yielding', Location: Burrell Theatre, 10am

Monday 19 April

Staff Inset Day

Boarders return

Tuesday 20 April

Summer Term begins

Week A

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Co-curricular clubs and activities for the first week of next term can be viewed on pages 9-10 of this bulletin.



Friday Bulletin

Oxbridge success



Congratulations to Isaac, Alistair, Louis and Romano who were offered places at the University of Oxford and University of Cambridge.

In what has been an unprecedented year for all, it did not prevent our students from continuing to challenge themselves through applying to the University of Oxford or the University of Cambridge. This was, arguably, the most demanding application year to date with significant changes to the application process which meant that each stage of the application was adjusted (including pre-interview, at-interview assessments and interviews) to be completed via online platforms. This created a new challenge for all who were offered an interview. However, each pupil took it in their stride, turning each new task into a chance to learn and strengthen their digital skills in order to portray their exceptional subject knowledge.

Mrs Eleanor Collinge commented: 'I am delighted to announce the success of four of our pupils who have been offered a place at either Oxford or Cambridge. I am also unbelievably proud of each pupil who followed the Oxbridge programme through as the resilience and strength shown has been impressive. Part of the challenge of applying to either Oxford or Cambridge is knowing that the outcome of an application can help to identify which type of university, teaching style and learning environment will help you to thrive as a student. For those offered a place, it is the beginning of a working relationship with tutors (often who have interviewed you) who you will go on to study under next year. For those who were not offered a place at this time, the application is never in vain as the outcome helps to show that other outstanding universities will instead provide an even better environment for you to thrive in beyond the Sixth Form. Similarly, due to the

rigorous application process, each application made to Oxford or Cambridge ensures that you have applied to your other chosen universities in a competitive manner. For those that applied this year, they have already found great success in receiving offers from some of the top universities in the country.'

It is not expected that all students who take part in the programme will go on to apply to study at Oxford or Cambridge, but the personalised approach that starts in the 5th Year ensures that students are able to make an informed decision on which degree path and university is best for them. If you are in the 5th Year or Lower Sixth and are interested in applying but have not yet contacted Mrs Collinge, please don't hesitate to get in touch – elc@truroschoo.com.

The students who have received an offer of a place are:

Isaac Dale (Oxford, Engineering)
Alistair Sutton-Freckelton (Oxford, Biochemistry)
Louis Pender (Cambridge, Engineering)
Romano-Rosencrantz Bezzo-Codetta (Cambridge, Music)

As well as the success with our Oxbridge applicants we are also delighted to announce that all students applying to the USA and Canada have been offered places at their chosen university. In a year which has seen SATs going test optional, the number of international students worldwide applying to US colleges has risen exponentially. For example, NYU saw 100,000 applicants to their freshman classes this year alone. With such competitiveness we are delighted that our students all received their offers – we will be sharing more details about this story next term.



Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Sing2G7 Launches

We are delighted to share news about an exciting new children's outreach project, Sing2G7, featuring a song written by Sir Tim Rice.



The Sing2G7 project is led by Truro Cathedral in partnership with Truro School, the Diocese of Truro, Cornwall Music Service Trust, Cornwall Council and in collaboration with Y7, the Youth Summit which precedes and feeds into G7. Free sheet music, tutorials, music resources and Key Stage 2 education resources around G7 themes will be available shortly on the Sing2G7 website.



Truro Cathedral transformed into a Covid-safe film set this Saturday, as 35 choristers, Sir Tim Rice and a pro bono professional film crew of seven navigated the challenges of social distancing to capture footage for an exciting new short film.

The film will feature Truro Cathedral Choristers singing a brand new song, written especially for them, by their patron Sir Tim Rice, with music by Peter Hobbs and a special arrangement by Joseph Wicks. The song video's release in early May will launch an innovative, international outreach programme, Sing2G7, which aims to bring the voices of thousands of children from Cornwall, UK and the rest of the world, to the heart of the G7 Summit through song and to make the Summit relevant to their young lives.

Free sheet music, tutorials and other music resources will be available on the Sing2G7 website. There will be lots of creative ways to unite together in song, whether virtually or, Covid-permitting, in person.

Director of Music, Christopher Gray, says: 'The song, Gee Seven, is a real toe-tapper. Music has the power to unite us across oceans and cultures and our boys and girls are so excited to reach out again to their peers all over the

world. For teachers, who are thinking about how to engage children in G7, we hope the song provides a fun, musical springboard and that the G7 Education Pack makes their lives a tiny bit easier, as they plan for the Summer term.'

Sir Tim Rice says, 'I've been an admirer and supporter of Truro Cathedral and its outstanding choir for many years. I was delighted when the choir asked me for a song to mark the first ever G7 conference to be held in Cornwall, which I've written with composer Peter Hobbs, entitled, 'Gee Seven'. I wanted to write a song that is fun and toe-tapping so that children enjoy singing it. If there is a message, it's that in the context of history and science, we are very, very small and this is just our moment in time. We're saying to G7 leaders, you just happen to be our leaders in this moment, so watch it. The final verse says, if you don't get it right, we'll run you out of town...and we might. We know the narrow lanes of Cornwall better than you do.'

Sing2G7's aim is to make children's voices audible to world leaders. Girl chorister, Chloe comments, 'I think it's really important for young children to learn that they have a voice and to use it and that if they do, they have the ability to be heard!'

Free Key Stage 2 education resources around G7 themes and the concept of leadership are being created by Truro School and will be available to download early in the Summer Term, via the Sing2G7 website www.sing2g7.org. Teachers are encouraged to sign up now via the website, to get early notification as soon as the resources are ready to go.

Read the full press release on the [Truro School website](http://www.truro-school.com) or visit www.sing2g7.org to find out more.

You can also watch their ITV broadcast at <http://bit.ly/Youtube-ITV-Sing2G7>



Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Rowing the length of the Thames for charity

1st Year pupil Felicity has completed a very impressive challenge, rowing the length of the Thames (346km) in 30 days, raising £666 for Great Ormond Street Hospital.

Felicity's intention was to raise as much money as possible for GOSH, hoping for £1 for every kilometre she rowed. She far exceeded her initial fundraising target.

Felicity had never used the Concept 2 rower before and it took her two days to actually sit down and work out how many kilometres a day she was going to have to row to meet her goal. She set the fan to 5 (drag factor of 126) and with a slow start of 4km the first day and 2km the second day, she soon realised that she was going to have to up her game to 3 rows a day of 4km each row.

As the days turned into weeks, Felicity got stronger and faster, completing 4km in 23 minutes, and with great tenacity and a big heart for charity she completed the gruelling task. A huge well done to Felicity!



1st Year Drama on the Terraces

The 1st Year drama club made the most of yesterday's sunshine with a rehearsal of 'The Wind in the Willows' on the Terraces, aka the garden of Toad Hall.





Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Message from the Director of Sport



I have been so impressed with the Truro School pupils since their return to school in early March; they have adapted to the testing and face masks fantastically well and picked up where they left off before Christmas. It has also been lovely to see how much they have enjoyed being back at school (although some will never admit it!), spending time with their friends, joining in with all manner of clubs and even seeing us teachers again...!

In the PE dept, we adapted the mantra of 'let them play' in our games lessons. Having missed so much of the curriculum through various lockdowns, we decided to give the whole school a choice of all the options and to pick a new one every week. The feedback has been

brilliant and we will be continuing this for the Summer Term. It has meant no games reports this term but I feel it is a trade worth doing; the freedom to explore different activities, spend time with friends and enjoy different teachers has proven successful. This has been reflected in attendance for clubs and practices, with fantastic numbers across all of the clubs we have on offer (especially belgies...!).

We have just put together the clubs and practices for next term's sports and activities, with 67 options across all the year groups. There may be more added as we go along but I am very thankful to all the staff who help run clubs and give up time to challenge, engage and keep our students active. We will remain in single year group bubbles and we will be reviewing this every two weeks from when we return.

I hope you and your family have a lovely Easter break. I will be spending time in the garden, I have orders from my two daughters for flowers and a bike track... Happy Easter.

Mr Dan Sanderson, Director of Sport





Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

Boarders' Easter



Boarders had an eggcellent weekend when the boys' and girls' houses set up Easter egg hunts for each other around the school grounds, and they didn't make it easy!

They then went to the Cookery School to bake some Easter treats like hot cross buns and marshmallow Rice Krispy nests, and not forgetting traditional Cornish pasties. Delicious!



Friday Bulletin

31 MARCH 2021: TRURO SCHOOL NEWS AND UPDATES

In the news

Independent Education Today heard about our recent boarding refurbishment and contacted us for more information... you can read their article on page 49 of their digital magazine here > <https://ie-today.co.uk/digi-mag/>

Boarding boost

Swapping the chatter of students for the noise of diggers and decorators, some schools have taken advantage of the hiatus to improve their boarding facilities, Nicky Adams discovers

A two-minute walk from the main campus of Truro School in Cornwall, a small gaggle of boarding students have been sitting out the pandemic in the school's Malvern boarding house, which was opened in 1946. Over the years the house has been improved by degrees, but in November last year it underwent a substantial refurbishment, bringing it bang up to date for 21st-century boarding.

TOP: Nightingale House at Sedburgh School accommodates self-isolating pupils, but will house female boarders from September 2021 ABOVE: Woodbridge School has one co-educational boarding house stay at school, even while it was part-closed for day students," explains Truro's head of girls' boarding, Sarah Mulready, "and the girls are really enjoying this updated environment. They've made the best of a peculiar situation by staying positive and buying each other up, and they've had lots of cooking sessions, Saturday

night snacks feasts and board game sessions." To encourage the feeling of togetherness, the refit of Malvern House has focused on community, with a flowing open-plan living area and a new table that seats 20 at once. A generous American-style fridge-freezer has plenty of space for shared snacks and a coffee machine makes having a chat over a cuppa even more appealing than ever for the 20 girls whose house this is in term-time. The walls are painted a fashionable grey and decorated with colourful student-made accessories and artwork.



ABOVE: Truro School's Malvern House has an open-plan living area

In 2012 the number of boarders in UK schools from overseas first overtook those whose families were

Robin Fletcher, chief executive officer of the Boarding Schools' Association. "Encourages from students wanting



Click on the links below to take a look inside our boarding houses:



MALVERN HOUSE

TRURO SCHOOL



PENTREVE HOUSE

TRURO SCHOOL



TRENNICK HOUSE

TRURO SCHOOL

Please note, this list is for Week 1. More clubs will be added at the start of next term.

Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities - Summer Term 2021 Week 1				
		1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
Monday	AM			Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	Lunch 1	ECO WB ONLY (FLT)		
	Lunch 1	B Natural Pop choir (Chapel)		
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 2			Table Tennis (LAM)
	Lunch 2			
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (C1)	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C2)
	PM - 4pm start	Sock creature club - Room 50 (MED)	Historical Fiction Club (Room 61) NSK	
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Drama		ECO (teams)
	PM - 4pm start	ECO (teams)	ECO (teams)	Cricket (various staff)
	PM - 4pm start	Cricket (various staff)	Football (AW)	Rounders
	PM - 4pm start	Rounders (EBI)	Rounders (SEM)	
PM - 4pm start				
PM - 5pm start				
Tuesday	AM			Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	AM			
	AM			
	Lunch 1	First Year Band AP - AH		
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 1		Table Tennis (LAM)	
	Lunch 2			
	Lunch 2			3rd Year Band PJT (AH)
	Lunch 2			
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (C1)	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C2)
	PM - 4pm start		Feel Good Food' Cookery Club, 4 - 5.30pm (MAT)	Mindfulness (Room 30 KAH)
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Swimming *	Cricket (various staff)	Squash (TS)
PM - 4pm start	Football (AW)		Football (GDH)	
PM - 4pm start				
PM - 5pm start			Basketball	
PM - 5pm start				
Wednesday	AM			Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	AM			B Natural Pop Choir (AH)
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 2			
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (C1)	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C2)
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start			
	PM - 5pm start			
Evening				
Thursday	AM			Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	Lunch 1	DT - Work shop time for project completion (CHB)		
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 2		2nd Year Band SJW (AH)	Chess (ADC) Room 38
	Lunch 2			
	Lunch 2			
	Lunch 2			
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (C1)	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C2)
	PM - 4pm start	Geology Club Room 8 IGK/WMV		Fresh is best' cookery club (MAT)
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Cricket Match (Week A)	Cricket Match (Week B)	Cricket Match (Week A)
	PM - 4pm start	Athletics (various staff)	Athletics (various staff)	Athletics (various staff)
PM - 4pm start	Tennis (till 5.30pm)	Tennis (till 5.30pm)	Swimming *	
PM - 4pm start		Squash	Tennis (till 5.30pm)	
PM - 5pm start	Badminton (LNO)		Badminton (LNO)	
Friday	AM			
	Lunch 1		2nd Year Boys singing group PJT (M1)	
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 1			
	Lunch 1	Squash (LAM)		
	Lunch 2			3rd Year Vocal Group PJT (M1)
	Lunch 2			
	Lunch 2			
	Lunch 2			
PM - 4pm start	Homework club (C1)	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C2)	
PM - 4pm start	Wargaming (Rm53) MHS	Swimming *	Drama	
PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	
PM - 4pm start			Cookery - 'Bake for the Weekend' takeaway cookery kit (MAT)	

Please note, this list is for Week 1. More clubs will be added at the start of next term.

Co-Curricular Clubs and Activities - Summer Term 2021 Week 1					
		4th Year	5th Year	Lower Sixth	Upper Sixth
Monday	AM	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 2			Charity Committee- Breaktime and before school	Steps - Student Magazine 1.20pm Careers Room
	Lunch 2		5th Year Vocal Group MDP (M6)	Careers Clinic- Week A SFC and Week B Gallery	U6th Band GC - (AH)
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C0)		
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	ECO (teams)	Online History Film Club - TEAMS - 4:30-5:30pm	Online History Film Club - TEAMS - 4:30-5:30pm	Online History Film Club - TEAMS - 4:30-5:30pm
	PM - 4pm start	Football (ACB)	ECO (teams)	ECO (teams)	U6 Vocal Group GC (M1)
	PM - 4pm start	Rounders (SJM)	Cricket (SBA nets) (various staff)	Football (GDH)	ECO (teams)
	PM - 4pm start		Swimming * (JLR)	Army Fitness (JW)	Fitness Suite
	PM - 4pm start		Army fitness (ALO)		
PM - 5pm start					
Tuesday	AM	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	AM				
	AM				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 2				
	Lunch 2		Volleyball (DJS)	L6 Vocal Group MDP (M1)	
	Lunch 2				
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C0)	L6 Vocal Band AP (AH)	
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	DT - Modelling and making - LRC		
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Cricket (various staff)	Rugby (TME)	Fitness Suite	Tennis
PM - 4pm start	Basketball (LS)		Tennis (SJM)		
PM - 4pm start			Psychology: the fun stuff (nonpsychologists welcome) - (84)		
PM - 5pm start	Squash (TS)				
PM - 5pm start					
Wednesday	AM	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	AM				Swimming *
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 2				
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C0)		
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	Wargaming (Rm 17) MHS	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Swimming *	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	Badminton	Badminton
	PM - 4pm start		Fitness Suite		
	PM - 4pm start		Football (GDH-AW)		
	PM - 5pm start				
Evening	Aspiring Healthcare Professionals (Online) SEF 7.30pm start				
Thursday	AM	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)	Girl Choristers (Chapel)
	Lunch 1	4th Year Band MH (AH)			
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 2			Critical Thinking - room 85	
	Lunch 2				
	Lunch 2				Badminton (LAM)
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C0)		
	PM - 4pm start	4th Year Vocal Group MH (M1)	DT - Modelling and making - CHB		
	PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))
	PM - 4pm start	Drama	Squash	Fitness Suite	
	PM - 4pm start	Athletics (various staff)	Athletics (various staff)	Athletics (various staff)	Athletics (various staff)
	PM - 4pm start	Cricket Match (Week B)	Badminton (LNO)		
PM - 4pm start	Badminton (LNO)				
PM - 5pm start		Squash			
Friday	AM		5th Year Band MDP (AH)	Swimming *	
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 1				
	Lunch 2	Coding Clinic (JJK week A, ALO Week B)	20+ questions Maths Club - Room 19 (MED/BVH)	Supra-Curricular Club - C3 - ELC	
	Lunch 2	Young Enterprise (all welcome) (CT & JMW)			
	Lunch 2				
	Lunch 2				
	PM - 4pm start	Homework club (Library)	Homework club (C0)		
PM - 4pm start	Tennis (till 5.30pm)	Tennis (till 5.30pm)	Hockey (DJS)	Fitness Suite	
PM - 4pm start	High Performance Fencing (invite only (LRJ))				
PM - 4pm start					



Hello from Truro School Cookery...

Exciting news for the Summer term! Our Friday 'bake for the weekend' cookery kits are back by popular demand and are now available to everyone; all pupils from 1st Year to Upper Sixth as part of our cookery club programme, and also to all of our families as part of our Cookery School Community!

Each week you can make a bake or cake from Maria's treasure trove of recipes without any planning or shopping. We supply all the weighed ingredients, recipe card and a link to an online video to follow at home. Whether you fancy a bit of solitary baking therapy or are looking for a weekend family activity our baking kits are the answer.

A taste of things to come

Raspberry and elderflower tray bake

Butterscotch cookies

Feta and sun-dried tomato scones

White chocolate and pecan blondies

Ginger fairings



Starting on Friday 23rd April, this ten week course of kits will cost £80 and will be added to your end of term bill. Each week your kit will be ready to collect by your son or daughter from 3.45 pm in the cookery school.

To book a place email your son or daughters name and year group to cookeryclubs@truroschoo.com by 19th April.



Cookery School Recipe

Easter Simnel Cake



Ingredients

- 525 g dried mixed fruit
- 1 small orange
- 1 lemon
- 180 g soft butter
- 180 g soft brown sugar
- 3 eggs
- 180 g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon mixed spice
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 50 g ground almonds
- 500 g marzipan
- 2 tablespoons apricot jam
- 1 egg white

Method

1. Preheat the oven to 170 c
2. Grease and line an 18 – 20 cm deep sided cake tin.
3. Place the dried mixed fruit into a large bowl.
4. Grate the zest of the orange and lemon into the bowl then cut each fruit in half, squeeze out the juice, and add to the bowl.
5. Mix thoroughly and set aside for the fruit to plump up in the juice. Ideally, do this the day before.
6. Place the soft butter and sugar into a large mixing bowl and cream together until the mixture is light and fluffy. You can use an electric hand whisk to do this.
7. Crack the eggs into a small bowl and beat together lightly with a fork.
8. Gradually beat the eggs a little at a time into the butter and sugar mixture. Don't worry if the mixture seems a little curdled.
9. Sift the flour, baking powder, mixed spice and salt over the bowl and fold in carefully using a metal spoon.
10. Stir in the ground almonds, followed by the fruit and juice mix.
11. Carefully spoon half the mixture into the base of the prepared cake tin.
12. Cut off one third from the block of marzipan and on a work surface dusted with a little icing sugar roll it into a disc to fit neatly into the cake tin.
13. Lay the disc of marzipan over the cake mixture and press down lightly, then spoon the remaining cake mixture neatly over the top.
14. Bake in the centre of the oven for approximately 1 hour until the cake is golden and springy and a metal skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean.
15. Leave the cake to cool in the tin then unwrap and remove the lining paper.
16. Sieve the apricot jam into a small saucepan and warm over a gentle heat.
17. Taking another third of the marzipan, roll out to form a disc which will fit neatly on top of the cake.
18. Brush the top of the cake liberally with the apricot jam then lay the marzipan on top, trimming the edges if necessary. You may choose to crimp the edges to give a decorative effect.
19. Use the remaining marzipan to make eleven or twelve even sized balls to represent the twelve Apostles – depending on whether or not you choose to include Judas!
20. Use a little of the egg white to attach the balls evenly around the top of the cake.
21. Lightly brush the top of the cake and the balls with the remaining egg white and place under a heated grill for a few minutes until the marzipan is lightly browned in places. This will only take a few minutes so watch the cake to make sure it doesn't catch!
22. Store in an airtight tin ready to serve over Easter.

Maria's Hot Cross Bun Ring with Spiced Honey Butter



FEATURED IN KEEPING CONNECTED 02



Method:

1. Warm the milk until steaming then remove from the heat and add the butter. Stir gently until the butter has melted then leave to cool to hand temperature.
2. Place the flour, cinnamon, sugar, yeast and salt into a large mixing bowl.
3. Beat the egg with a fork and add to the flour along with the warmed milk. Mix with a table knife until a sticky dough is formed.
4. Tip the dough onto a lightly floured work surface and knead until smooth and elastic. The finished dough should bounce back when pressed with your finger.
5. Place the dough back into a clean oiled bowl and cover with oiled cling film. Leave to rise for at least one hour until it has doubled in size.
6. Tip your dough back onto a lightly floured work surface and knead again to knock out any large air bubbles. Make the dough into a large disc then tip the dried fruit into the centre and fold the edges of the dough over. Carefully knead again until all the fruit is evenly distributed throughout the dough.
7. Divide the dough into 11 equal pieces (to represent the 11 faithful apostles!) and shape each piece into a smooth ball.
8. Arrange the balls onto a lightly floured baking tray in a neat circle leaving a small gap between each.
9. Cover again with oiled cling film and leave for a further hour until doubled in size again. Heat the oven to 180 c.
10. Mix the plain flour with enough water to make a thick paste then transfer to a disposable piping bag.
11. Snip off the corner and use the paste to pipe crosses over each bun. The easiest way to do this is to pipe one large circle around the ring then put a line across the middle of each bun.
12. Bake for 20 – 25 minutes until golden and hollow when tapped underneath.
13. Whilst the buns are cooking make the spiced butter by beating together the butter, spices and honey using an electric hand whisk. Spoon into a small bowl to serve in the centre of the ring.
14. Finally, gently warm the honey, cinnamon and ginger for the glaze - the easiest way to do this is in a small dish in the microwave – then brush over the hot cross bun ring taking care to coat all sides.

Ingredients:

300 mls milk

50 g butter

500 g strong white bread flour

1 teaspoon cinnamon

85 g caster sugar

2 sachets easy blend fast action dried yeast

1 teaspoon salt

1 large egg

100 g dried mixed fruit

For the crosses

75g plain flour

For the glaze

2 tablespoons honey

$\frac{3}{4}$ teaspoon cinnamon

$\frac{1}{4}$ teaspoon ground ginger

For the spiced honey butter

200 g softened butter

1 $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons cinnamon

$\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ginger

4 tablespoons honey