

Weekly Update



Words from the Headteacher

Our final open event took place yesterday, in and around the torrents of rain. I have said this many times before but good things are worth repeating. The hard work of the staff and students in accommodating these events is a credit to everyone who helped Bristol Free School come in to existence. Both the open morning and the evening were well attended with over 200 family groups braving the evening's weather to visit BFS.

BFS's sports fixtures have begun in earnest and we now have the luxury of travelling to away fixtures in the new minibus. I took the liberty of being the first member of staff to drive the bus to a fixture and felt very proud to be able to deliver the Y9 rugby team to St Bede's. Sadly we lost but on the same day our netball team notched up a victory. Perhaps I am not the lucky mascot I ought to be! Keep an eye on the fixtures page on the website which lists upcoming fixtures as well as recording the match results of past fixtures.

The wet weather is upon us and too many students are arriving in School without waterproof coats and sporting footwear which is not weather proof. Several girls are wearing shoes which meet our uniform expectations but not the weather's. Walking around with wet feet all day is not pleasant. May I ask that parents take a look at the suitability of their child's footwear and adjust it accordingly; black leather- uppers is the best option.

With the gloomy weather come the shortening days and students who travel to School by bicycle must make sure that their machines are road worthy, they wear a helmet and wear high visibility clothing whilst on the bike. Front and rear lights are also necessary especially when students are travelling home following an extra-curricular club.

Preparations for Academic Monitoring are underway. Academic Monitoring takes place after the October holiday but to ensure that it is a useful experience for students, staff and parents, much groundwork needs to be carried out before we return after the break. Students are being briefed in the next fortnight and will begin the task of drawing together a list of curriculum targets from their teachers. Parents will receive a letter from Mr Jones giving full details about the whole process.

Richard Clutterbuck

Blooming Marvellous

Your help is needed to plant 1000 daffodil bulbs on Monday 14th October from 3.30 pm onwards at the School. We need a small army of volunteers to dig and plant the bulbs and your help would be really appreciated to ensure a bright start to spring 2014. Please bring your trowels and we look forward to seeing you at the School.

Friends of Bristol Free School (FoBFS).

Term 1 – Key Dates

October	
Tuesday 8	Y8 & 9 netball vs Colston's (home)
Wednesday 9	Y7 rugby tournament at St Bede's
Thursday 10	Hip Hop and Street Dance Workshop
Tuesday 15	Y7, 8 & 9 netball vs Redland Green School (home)
Wednesday 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AGM of FoBFS Y7 rugby tournament at Oasis
Thursday 17	Y9 rugby vs City Academy Bristol (home)
Friday 18	Drama Workshop (for invited students)
Monday 21	Cross country event
Thursday 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y8 rugby tournament at Henbury School Y9 theatre trip to Bristol Old Vic
Friday 25	End of Term 1: 3.00 pm

Annual North Bristol Triathlon

Louis St Clair (Y9) took part in this event last Saturday at Tockington Manor School, South Gloucestershire. The triathlon consisted of a 400m swim, followed by a 21km bike ride and then a 5km run. There were some 400 competitors of all different ages and competence, most running for various charities and including some very respectable talented runners. Although the lower age limit was 16 years, four scouts were accepted to take part as the Cabot District scouts and their parents were marshalling the course together with their collection buckets, raising funds for a trip to Nepal in a year's time. Louis was the youngest competitor and did very well. Not only did he complete the event, but did so in a respectable time of 1 hour 38 minutes.

Well done Louis!

Physical Education Faculty on Twitter!

If any students or their parents/carers currently use Twitter or are able to do so, then why not follow the Physical Education Faculty for notices, fixture updates, match reports and team photos?!

BFS_PE

Hip Hop and Street Dance

We are pleased to be able to offer a one off, free, Hip Hop and Street Dance class with a professional dancer. This is a chance to learn some new skills after school on Thursday 10 October from 3.30 to 4.30 pm. Students from all year groups are invited to sign up on Monday 7 October to secure their place. Miss Rose will be announcing further details.



Home Study Timetable

Attached with the newsletter is a copy of our home study timetable which we use across all year groups. It provides an indication of the scope and quantity of homework set, along with suggestions for supporting your son or daughter at home.

Y9 rugby vs Redland Green School

The dark grey sky that greeted our arrival at the RGS pitch steeled the Year 9 rugby team for the challenge ahead. We were almost back to full strength though still missing some key players. Throughout the first half the RGS team dominated possession though some strong defence and courageous tackles fearlessly knocked in by Dan Manikum-Cole and Jacob Jenkins prevented more scores for RGS. Once the second half began BFS came out with a fresh energy and a stronger mindset. Some passing spells were proving the quality in the BFS team. Eventually we found a glimpse of the team's potential. An inspired cross kick from Jamie Mitchell-Cotterell was collected by Ksawery O'Donovan at a full sprint finding the open gaps of space unprotected by the RGS defenders. His electric pace was too much to handle, finishing the move with the victorious dive to hit the floor and score the try which was then converted by Max Hedger. We certainly learnt a lot from their well disciplined style of play and the organised structure of the RGS team. The BFS team will build on this and look forward to our next game and hopefully grab some more scores.

Match report by Max Hedger (Y9)



**Friends of BFS Inaugural Annual General Meeting
20:00 Wed 16 Oct in the BFS Learning Resource Centre**

All are invited to attend and please remember that previous experience is not compulsory.

If you wish to join the committee or stand for any position and help *make a real difference to the life of the school*, please email fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk.

For a draft copy of the proposed constitution, please email fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Further details on FoFBS activities for the year at <http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/fobfs.php>

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 7 October

- Tuesday:**
Basketball
Comic Book Philosophy
Dance Club (Y7 & Y8)
Film Club
Games Club
German Club

- Wednesday:**
Book Club
Choir
Italian Club
Science Club

- Thursday:**
Craft Club
Creative Writing
Dance Club (Y9)
Duke of Edinburgh (Y9)
Model United Nations
Orchestra

- Friday:**
Band Academy

Homework Club will run every day except Friday.