

Weekly Update



Routes into Languages Speaking Competition

On Thursday 27 March Year 8 students Ahmed Zakout and Christophe Hooper travelled to The Royal High School, Bath for the heats of the Routes into Languages annual speaking competition.

Ahmed kicked the non-native Key Stage 3 category off by giving a two minute presentation in Spanish on *Mis pasatiempos*. His presentation was outstanding, entertaining and fully engaged the 100 plus audience. Later that morning, Christophe wowed the crowd with his account of *Mon École*, in the near-native category. It is highly commendable that both boys presented to such a large audience in a foreign language and I was very proud to be able to witness this first-hand. The boys faced stiff competition and were both awarded certificates of merit for their outstanding efforts. Christophe went on to be declared the overall winner of his category and was awarded a trophy. He will now represent the School in the regional final which will take place at the University of Bath later this year.

Mr Leeson

Words from the Headteacher

At the end of a week which began with a keynote address from Dr Russell Haines, our last week of term has been sharply focussed on all things STEM related. Please see our separate "STEM Special " newsletter.

Students received their interim reports earlier today and will be sharing these with you over the Easter break. Your child's report, together with their targets (which they have been gathering from staff over the last fortnight) will be the focal point of the Academic Monitoring meeting you are invited to attend on the afternoon of Wednesday 23 April.

In addition to their reports, Year 9 students also received a letter today confirming their Guided Choices for September 2014. If any Year 9 student or parent wishes to discuss these further, Miss Slater will be available to meet with you during the Academic Monitoring afternoon I mentioned earlier.

Finally, on behalf of the Bristol Free School community I would like to send Miss Slater the very best of wishes for her wedding this weekend and Miss Di Martino the warmest of wishes as she begins her maternity leave.

Tuesday 22 April is an in-service training day for staff so the School is closed to all students. We return on Wednesday 23 April, blue week with a normal morning of lessons followed by Academic Monitoring in the afternoon. There will be no extra curricular activities at all after school in the first week back.

Have a restful Easter.

Richard Clutterbuck

6 Degrees of Aspiration: calling all business leaders

We are hosting our first **6 Degrees Business Brunch** on Friday 9 May, and you are invited; that is if you, friends, family or colleagues would like to find out more about 6 Degrees of Aspiration and potentially contribute in some way to developing the programme. The event will take place between 8.30 am and 10.30 am at the School and will consist of a series of short presentations from students and past contributors as well as an outline of all the ways in which you can be involved; keynote speaking to hosting a visit to your place of work or even providing work experience placements. Brunch will be provided as well as the opportunity to extend your network into the Bristol Free School community. We hope to see you there.

Please secure your place by emailing r.slater@bristolfreeschool.org.uk. I will be in touch after the Easter break to confirm your attendance.

Miss Slater
Assistant Headteacher

6 DEGREES OF ASPIRATION



Year 7 girls' hockey tournament at Fairfield School

On Wednesday 19 March, the Year 7 girls' hockey team travelled to Fairfield School to play a tournament against Fairfield, City Academy Bristol, Redland Green School and Cotham School. When we arrived the girls warmed up and were quickly split into two groups. Each match was only 6 minutes long so the girls had to work quickly if they wanted to score. The first match played was BFS team A vs Cotham. The girls quickly took possession of the ball, using clever techniques and good use of space to move up the pitch. With some solid defence from Sydney Browne and some brilliant team work, Zoe Toye scored our first goal. The second match played was BFS team B vs Fairfield. Fairfield quickly took possession of the ball but thanks to some great interception from Abbie Yates, Poppy Malcomson and Hannah Warren our team took control of the ball. The girls showed skill in using space effectively and with Millie Silcox in goal the opposition was not able to score. Fairfield also had solid defence and a talented goalie so the final score was 0-0. The third match BFS took part in was BFS team A vs RGS. The 6 minutes of defence and attack proved unsuccessful for both teams and the score ended up at 0-0. BFS team B then played Cotham. The girls showed skill in defensive blocking, especially Millie in goal, who saved some impressive shots, but Cotham took possession of the ball early on and went on to score, leaving the score at 0-1 to Cotham. BFS team B played their third match against Fairfield and the game finished goalless. While this game was being played team B was playing City Academy Bristol, where Poppy quickly scored the first goal. Thanks to some brilliant teamwork and defence from our girls the score finished at 1-0 to BFS. Nearing the end of the tournament the games stepped up. Team B played RGS, who used successful techniques to get the ball around our defenders and into the goal 4 times. The girls stuck at it and made some impressive attempts to score, however RGS's goalie blocked each one. With three games left for team A and one left for B, the girls had a team talk and worked out some clever strategies. The girls first played Fairfield, winning that match with a score of 1-0 thanks to Anna Fraser. The second to last match was team A vs CAB - Zoe helping to win the match with an impressive goal (1-0). The last match for our girls was BFS vs BFS! Team A vs team B was one very confusing game. Both teams were wearing the same uniform so for girls and spectators it was hard to tell who was in what team! Anna

snuck in a goal near the end, finishing the match at 1-0 to team A.

At the end of the tournament the teams came together to share the results. The seven teams were placed one by one, with BFS's team B in 6th place, and BFS team A in joint 1st with Fairfield! The girls then voted their 'player's player' – the player of the match in both teams voted by the girls. In team B Hannah was voted, and Holly Freke and Anna were both voted for team A.

All in all it was a fun afternoon for everyone, and our Year 7s can't wait to play again!

Sports journalist: Niamh Harrison

BBC's '500 Words' success!

Massive congratulations to Max Cramer in Year 8 for, once again, breaking through to the second stage of the 500 Words competition, hosted by Chris Evans. With over 90,000 stories being entered into the BBC's 2014 competition, this is a fantastic achievement indeed! Max's story, 'Behind the Curtain', is an excellent read and we are very excited to see whether it makes its way to the final.

Well done, Max, and well done to all of the students at BFS who entered.

The English Department

Academic Monitoring on 23 April

When you arrive for the academic monitoring meetings please enter the site through the visitor and staff gate on Concorde Drive (no other gates will be open) and then enter the main building through the door by the School's Reception.

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Twitter

The School has a number of twitter pages to enable you to keep in touch with various activities in greater detail than this weekly newsletter allows.

Current pages are:

@BFS_Music

@BFS_RE

@BFS_Geography

@BFS_Science

@BFS_English

@BFS_PE

with further pages being developed in the future.



Bugsy Malone

Performances will take place on four evenings from Monday 19 May, as per the calendar.

Tickets will be available from the School's Reception after the Easter Holidays, costing £2.50 for adults, £2.00 for concessions and free for children under 10 (but they still need a ticket).

We have a different cast for each performance so make sure you get the correct tickets to support your friends and family. On Monday and Wednesday it will be Rhys Mathias and Isabel Phillips in the leading roles while Ibrahim Ibrahim and Beth Morgan take their turn on Tuesday and Thursday. Time is running out and we must make sure we don't lose any rehearsal time. Please encourage all cast members to learn their lines over the Easter holidays and be ready for some intensive rehearsals next term. Don't forget that there is a special all day rehearsal on Saturday 10 May. Further details will follow.

Girls' hockey vs Red Maids' School

The Year 7 team got to their positions eagerly and were soon ready. The game started off quickly. It was an even game, with accurate passing and good use of space. Soon the opposition struck a fast shot which was unstoppable. We soon got our revenge when Holly Neville dribbled up past the defenders and shot superbly into the goal. It was 1-1 at half-time. The opposition swapped a few players who were more refreshed. This meant they got another two early goals, including an unfortunate own goal. It wasn't quite enough though to make the scores even. The player of the match went to Phoebe Neville. The final score was 4-2 to RMS.

Sports journalist: Corinne Thompson