

Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 4 May

All after school activities finish at
4.30 pm unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday:

Animal Club
Boys' cricket (Y7 & Y8)
Girls' rounders (Y7 & Y8)
International Games Club
LitSoc (Y10)
Makers Club
Orchestra
Textiles Club (Y8, Y9 & Y10)

Wednesday:

All Years Mixed Athletics
Composition workshop (Y10)
Commercial Jazz Dance Club
Film Club
Science Club
Young Enterprise (Y10)

Thursday:

Art Club
Boys' cricket (Y9 & Y10)
Chess Club
Street/Hip-hop Dance Club
Football Fan Forum
Games Club
Gardening Club
Girls' rounders (Y9 & Y10)
International Film Club
Maths Club
Student Newspaper
Technology Open Workshops (Y10)
Warhammer Club

Friday:

'Band Academy'

Study Club will run on
Tuesday, Wednesday and
Thursday.

Words from the Headteacher

The Employability Chartermark was launched by Colin Skellett, Chair of West of England Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP), at the 'Building Bridges: Work into Schools' conference on 2 October 2012, which was attended by over 100 businesses. The simple but ambitious task of the West of England LEP is to foster the growth of the economy and in particular jobs. One of the LEP's explicit objectives is to deliver a well-motivated workforce with the skills to meet business needs. A consistent message emerging is the need to improve the employability skills of young people entering the labour market – at all levels, from school, college and university. Crucially this is not about qualifications, but other skills and attributes a young person needs to land his or her first job. The Employability Chartermark is awarded to education institutions and businesses in recognition of their commitment to, investment in, and delivery of work-readiness in young people.

On Thursday 23 April we were visited by a team of assessors from the Employability Chartermark. They spent the day evaluating our application for the Chartermark, not only looking at our provision (6 degrees of aspiration) but the outcomes, namely how our students have responded to the programme of careers education, information and guidance. Bristol Free School, with only four year groups and turning four years old in September has been awarded the Chartermark. In spite of not having any students of an eligible age for employment the School has been deemed an organisation which is preparing people for the labour market. I am extremely proud of everyone's efforts, spearheaded by Mrs Collis, with added value from Mr Collis and Ms Huzzey and the BFS staff. Nonetheless, credit must go to our students who, quite frankly, blew our assessors away with their understanding and commitment to the purpose of 6 degrees of aspiration. Well done, I am a very proud Headteacher.

Friday 8 May is an extra-ordinary non-uniform day. The purpose of the day is to raise money for the victims of the earthquake in Nepal. The tragedy has resonated with BFS as we have recently forged links with a school in the region. Mr Williams has provided further details of the links and why it is so important to us later in this newsletter.

Finally, there are two opportunities taking place in Henleaze, details of which are included below:

Firstly

Henleaze Food & Craft Market

Eastfield Inn, Henleaze Rd 10am-2pm - 2nd Saturday every month - next one on 9 May. Over 25 local artisan stalls selling organic veg, fruit & herbs from Wrington Walled Garden, fresh eggs, gourmet sausages, cheeses, freshly baked breads, pastries, cakes, veggie bakes, local honey and preserves, Indian snacks, handmade chocolates/sweets and more. Plus handmade crafts, felt, artwork, photography, children's clothes, baby knits, needlework, bags, scarves, hand painted furniture, jewellery, cards, plants, giftware and more. Large pub and garden plus play area, serving teas, coffees, drinks and hot food.

Secondly

HENLEAZE TENNIS CLUB OPEN DAYS

Saturday 16 May and Sunday 17 May 2015: Fitness & Fun, Cardio Tennis, Family Time, Free Coaching (adults, juniors, mini ages 6-10), Teenage coach and hit, Free Play! BOOK online at www.lta.org.uk/GBTW and search for Henleaze or call Caroline on 07872 450937.

Richard Clutterbuck

Hustings event

A group of enthusiastic BFS students turned up to Orchard School to take part in a Bristol North-West hustings event. With the general election soon approaching we were all keen to know what our local politicians' plans were. A topic that was a recurring theme was education; from University fees, asked by our student Joel Grimmer (Y10), to school league tables. The panel of four, Labour, Conservatives, Lib Dems and The Green party were all very confident and they persuaded us into thinking their ideas were right. However, when our student Thomas Covill (Y9) asked the question "If you were to be part of another party, which one would it be?", they all went into their shells and came out with answers like 'the common sense party'. In conclusion, we all really thrived on being given the opportunity to see our local candidates and at the end we came down to shake their hands, ask any other questions and have our picture taken with them. It was an inspirational day for all of us and one that we won't forget.
Dan Whetton (Y9)



Girls' touch rugby tournament

On 29 April a team of 11 girls from Years 7 to 9 set off to compete in a touch rugby tournament. After a quick briefing, we quickly got going into the game. In the first game we faced Henbury. The two teams settled into the game and familiarised themselves with the rules; the possession was quite even with long periods of passing but players finding it difficult to gain ground. BFS gradually took the lead, identifying the space on the pitch and closing in on the opposition. The second game was against Abbeywood, which was the most even match on ability. However the use of our quick sprinters and good dodgers meant that we managed to grab more tries and earn a second win. The third game, against Bradley Stoke, paved the way for our team's best performance. All players demonstrated agile side stepping, awareness of each other's positioning resulting in accurate, quick off loads, creating many opportunities to break through the defence and score multiple

tries. After we had finished playing every team, the organiser suggested we played each team again but this time we played with more stringent rules. We finished the competition as reigning champions, having won every game played.

Shree Himalaya Secondary School, Nepal

We are in the early stages of establishing a cultural link and partnership with a school in Nepal. The school is located in the Singdi district, near Pokhara and about 100km from Kathmandu. We have recently received letters from the students there and we are in the process of strengthening our links further, as both schools begin building new Sixth Forms. Unfortunately, the recent earthquake rocked the entire country and severely damaged the Singdi district. 80% of homes are damaged, and although, as far as we know, no-one at our partner school has been severely injured or killed, the school building has been badly damaged and is in need of immediate attention. With this in mind, we are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 8 May, to raise money to help rebuild the school. For £1 students may wear non-uniform that day and know they are helping rebuild Shree Himalaya Secondary School in Nepal.



has been brilliant ... full report to follow next week...



Term 5 – Key Dates

Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates.

May	
Monday 4	Public holiday: school closed
Thursday 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Day • Young Enterprise regional final (afternoon and evening)
Friday 8	Non-uniform day in support of partner school in Nepal
Saturday 9	Young Enterprise team at Westbury-on-Trym Community Fair
Monday 11	6 Degrees of Aspiration keynote speaker: Fiona Lawrence, Head Veterinary Surgeon
Thursday 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGL trip to Beam House, information meeting, 6.30 pm • Y7, Y8, Y9, Y10 girls' rounders vs St Bede's (away)
Monday 18	Trip to Battlefields, information meeting, 6.30 pm
Tuesday 19	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y7 & Y9 girls' rounders vs Henbury (home) • Music Showcase Concert
Wednesday 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Day • New Y7 parent information evening, 6.30 pm, by invitation only
Thursday 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Y8 & Y10 girls' rounders vs Henbury (away) • 6th form parental consultation evening, 6.30 pm
Friday 22	End of term 5