

Weekly Update

**Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing
15 June**

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

Monday:

4 – 5 pm: Introduction to Latin

Tuesday:

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

Wednesday:

All Years Mixed Athletics
Composition workshop (Y10)
Commercial Jazz Dance Club
Film Club
Philosophy and Science Club
Science Club
Young Enterprise (Y10)
Magic Card Tricks Club

Thursday:

Art Club
Boys' cricket (Y9 & Y10)
Chess Club
Street/Hip-hop Dance Club
Games Club
Gardening Club
Girls' rounders (Y9 & Y10)
International Film Club
Maths Club
Student Newspaper
Technology Open Workshops (Y10)
Warhammer Club
Tennis (Y7 & Y8)

Friday:

'Band Academy'

Study Club will run every day
except Friday.

Words from the Headteacher

Making sure that students are ready for the experience of public exams is vital. For a student it is not solely the exam paper which counts - being comfortable and familiar with the environment in which they sit the exam should not be underestimated. By Friday 26 June every student at BFS will have experienced full exam conditions and be able to call on that experience when sitting their actual public exams be they GCSEs or A Levels. On Monday this week students in KS3 sat exams in the core subjects of English, mathematics and science. Year 9 started the process with Year 7 concluding the KS3 exams yesterday sitting their second paper in Maths. The big changes from previous years were the use of exam invigilators and the hosting of the exams in the Sports Hall. What is routine in other schools is still a novelty at BFS. Late on Friday 5 June, staff laid out the exam equipment transforming the Hall in to BFS's first ever exam hall and our invigilators arrived on Monday to put exam papers out for the very first time. The students in Years 7 to 9 have been superb all of this week and have put down a marker for Year 10 (who begin their exams on Monday 22 June). They lined up in good order, bringing the correct equipment and adhering to public exam conditions. Year 10 will have a fuller programme of exams incorporating English, maths and the sciences as well as their foundation subjects chosen through the pathways process. Once the exams are finished for Year 10 they will be working in small groups through a series of exam surgeries. The outcome of these groups will be a number of subject specific action points which the students will carry with them through to September and Year 11. We may well be a year away from the GCSEs of 2016 but all of the preparation we carry out with the students now will ensure the right conditions for success the following summer; no stone will be left unturned! Organising and orchestrating exams is no mean feat and requires plenty of effort and expertise. Through my years of teaching the organisation of exams has developed in to a fulltime, year-round role. Making sure that you have the right person in post is vital. Bristol Free School is lucky to have Miss Chim, who joined us in September as our Assessment and Exams officer. She has built everything to do with exams from scratch and this last week is evidence of how expert she is at running exams. Our students' exams, be they internal or public, are in very safe hands and I would like to thank Miss Chim and her invigilators formally through this newsletter for getting our exam season off to a flying start.



Our 'real' exam hall



See separate flyer
about the end of year
BBQ

Richard Clutterbuck

You may be aware that Bristol City Council is proposing to close Westbury Library. As all public libraries, it provides important resources and is a physical symbol of a commitment to learning and wisdom for people of all ages and all walks of life. To have your say to the possible closure go to <http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/leisure-and-culture/get-involved-libraries-consultation> and click on 'online survey'. You need to select Westbury as the library and tick NO to disagree with it sitting outside of Groups 1 & 2.

Y9 rounders vs Oasis Brightstowe

On Thursday 3 June BFS set out to face Oasis Brightstowe in rounders. Although we were a player down, we went out strongly taking our opportunities batting. Unfortunately, due to tight fielding four of our players were stumped out, leaving the rest to take their risks and opportunities. Then we switched to fielding, and good bowling along with excellent communication helped keep the score even. Although the opposition was slightly ahead of us, we still fought back, taking every chance. In the second innings unluckily the whole team were caught and stumped out meaning we didn't have a good enough chance to get enough rounders. Next we knew we had to field well to ensure that we didn't concede rounders to the other team. Although our use of players on the field was good, it wasn't good enough to win the match. We lost 8 ½ to 11 ½ but we went home on a high note as the coach commented on how excellent our fielding was. The player of the match went to Corinne Thompson.

Sports journalist Corinne Thompson (Y9)

BBC Wildlife Garden Project

Bristol Free School was invited to participate in the BBC Wildlife Garden Project. Last Friday, a small group of students went to the BBC and joined with representatives from other Bristol schools.

We started the day with a bugs and insects quiz, which was won by Briony Haines (Y8). After brushing up on our creepy-crawly knowledge, CBBC presenter Tim Warwood helped us with various activities, including making apple and sunflower seed bird feeders and planting some trees and shrubs. We finished the outdoor activities by filling the BBC's newly constructed pond, and spent some time with Tim who provided autographs for everyone.



Term 6 – Key Dates

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

June	
Tuesday 16	Y7 & Y8 girls' cricket competition at Frenchay Cricket Club
Thursday 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y10 GCSE Drama students going to 'Woman in Black' workshop and performance, London Y8 & Y9 small group trip to University of Bristol Dove Project research visit
Monday 22	Start of Y10 exam week
Tuesday 30	Summer Soiree
July	
Wednesday 1	Y10 GCSE Art trip to Tate Modern, London
Thursday 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6 degrees: Career in Medicine workshop Science Fair (Y8), 3.00 – 5.00 pm Full Governing Body meeting
Friday 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Fair (Y7), 3.00 – 5.00 pm FoBFS end of year summer BBQ
Monday 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Start of Y10 work experience week Trip to WW1 battlefields departs PGL Beam House trip departs
Wednesday 8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip to WW1 battlefields returns PGL Beam House trip returns
Thursday 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspiration week starts New Y7 parent information evening
Friday 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Y7 induction day Trip to Barcelona departs
Tuesday 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip to Barcelona returns
Wednesday 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Aspiration week finishes Volunteers' meeting
Thursday 16	Sports Day
Friday 17	End of term 6: school finishes at 1.45 pm