

Weekly Update

**Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing 28
September**

*All after school activities finish
at 4.30 pm*

Tuesday:

Latin (Y10)
Makers Club
Maths and code-breaking Club
Boys' rugby (Y10 & Y11)
Girls' netball (Y9, Y10 & Y11)
Boys' basketball (Y7, Y8 & Y9)
Musical Theatre Club/School
Show

Wednesday:

Orchestra
Latin (Y11)
Craft Club
Science Club
Young Enterprise (Y10)
Boys' rugby (Y7, Y8 & Y9)
Girls' netball (Y7 & Y8)
Boys' basketball (Y10 & Y11)
Jazz and Commercial dance

Thursday:

Art Club
Community Problem Solving
Club
Cross-country
Girls' basketball
Warhammer and Sci-fi/Fantasy
Board Gaming
Chess Club
Hip-hop/Street dance

Friday:

Band Academy

Study Club will run every day
except Friday.

Words from the Headteacher

GCSEs are changing and the metric by which they are reported is moving from letters to numbers. These changes are set to take place over the next couple of years. I am confident that our staff have the most up-to-date knowledge of these changes and how best to react to them. This is largely due to the support we receive from RET and their expert subject advisers. Nevertheless, our next challenge is to ensure students and parents are suitably informed. To that end we have a Year 10 curriculum evening next Thursday in which senior staff will be explaining these changes to parents. Letters will be coming home today with our Year 10 students inviting Y10 parents to the evening. The purpose of the evening is to brief parents on the GCSE curriculum their children have just begun, explain how controlled assessment (formerly coursework) operates and what the impact of the changes to English and Maths GCSEs are likely to be, given that our Year 10 students will be experiencing the most significant changes first. The evening is for parents only and I urge you to attend at 6.00 pm in the LRC on Thursday 1 October.

Yesterday I headed down to the sports ground at Kellaway Avenue to watch our 1st team play Redland Green School 1st team at rugby. Our 1st team is composed of our founding students and one or two Year 10 students. The founding students began their rugby careers at BFS in humbling circumstances; occasionally coached by two members of SLT who are enthusiastic amateurs rather than specialist experts and in the first couple of years having to compete against schools (including RGS) who had a long tradition of rugby and a broad and deep talent base from which to select their teams. Our founding students have stuck together over the years and developed in to a fine team. Nonetheless, RGS has been their nemesis from the first fixture in the autumn of 2011 and each season since. Yesterday was the fifth season the two teams have come together. Until yesterday RGS had won every single fixture, although the gap in victory and standard of rugby between the two teams had closed year-on-year (last year's fixture was won by RGS scoring a last minute try).

Yesterday we won.

By two points.

The game was immense, the tackling ferocious and skill level extremely high. Every player should be extremely proud of himself. Not only did the team play an excellent game of rugby but the spirit they all showed to keep themselves in the game and protect the try line in the last moments of the game was something I wish I could bottle. Well done to each of you and let's try to make it a double next Thursday when we host RGS in the return fixture at Coombe Dingle.



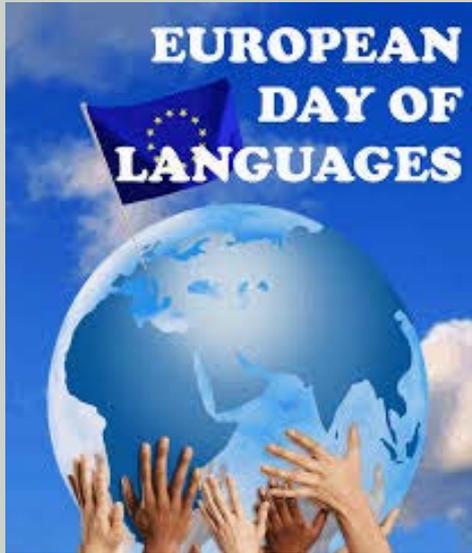
Richard Clutterbuck



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Year 11 netball vs Henbury

Last week the Year 11 netball team faced Henbury in the first netball match of the season. With players from Year 10 playing and despite the fact of not having played for a year we started strong and within the first few minutes of the match we scored. We managed to keep the momentum up, with strong defences and attackers. At half time, we switched the positions and despite the opposition upping their game, we maintained possession and managed to score more. Although we were making quick and decisive passes we needed to work on communication. The player of the match went to Portia Neville (Y11) and the final score was 15-8 to Bristol Free School. Sports journalist Corinne Thompson (Y10)



European Day of Languages

On Monday we will be celebrating the annual European Day of Languages. Students will have the opportunity to try tasters of new languages, enrich their cultural awareness and have fun in the process. In the meantime, bon weekend!

Attendance at school

Attached to this newsletter is the School's attendance leaflet. Please read it carefully to make sure that you are aware of the importance of good attendance as well as the consequence of absence.

Friends of Bristol Free School (FoBFS)

We are always on the lookout for parents and carers who can help with all aspects of supporting the School via the PTA. If you are interested then please come along to a meeting, or drop an email to fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk. The next meeting is on Tuesday (see key dates) and the AGM is on 21 October.



Weekend expedition

Last weekend was the assessed expedition for our Year 11 students who are participating in the Duke of Edinburgh's scheme bronze award. The students hiked from Yatton to Chew Valley Lake over a gruelling two days. All the students have now passed the expedition section and are on track to achieve their Bronze Award soon!



The photo was taken at the end!

Term 1 – Key Dates

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

September	
Saturday 26	Bristol Challenge: Y11 only
Tuesday 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7, Y8 & Y9 rugby vs Clifton High School (home at Coombe Dingle) FoBFS meeting, 8.00 pm at White Lion, Westbury on Trym (non committee members welcome)
Wednesday 30	Open Day and Open Evening
October	
Thursday 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7, Y8 & Y9 netball vs Cotham (home) Y10 Curriculum Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm, LRC
Thursday 8	Open Day
Monday 12	Wessex Watermark Presentation
Thursday 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y9: meningitis immunisations Y10 RE GCSE students – Explore RE Conference Y7 parents' Transition Evening
Friday 16	Y8 & Y9 Sports Academy coaching at SGS College (pm)
Monday 19	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Tuesday 20	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Wednesday 21	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Barton Camp (part year) FoBFS AGM, 8.00 pm, location to be confirmed
Thursday 22	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Friday 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Barton Camp (part year) Y11 trip to Iceland departs INSET day: school closed to students