

Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing
23 May

Monday:

Latin Improvers (Y8 & Y9)

Tuesday:

Latin (Y10)

Makers Club

Maths & code-breaking Club

Girls' rounders (Y7 & Y8)

Boys' cricket (Y7 & Y8)

Folk Band

Textiles Club (Y9)

Wednesday:

Orchestra

Latin (Y11)

Science Club

Young Enterprise (Y10)

Athletics

Jazz & Commercial dance

NewPals for Nepal

Gardening Club

Drama performance

rehearsals: Macbeth

Thursday:

Art Club

Hip-hop/Street dance

Fencing

Community Problem Solving

Club

Warhammer & Sci-fi/Fantasy

Board Gaming

Chess Club

Boys' cricket (Y9, Y10 & Y11)

Girls' rounders (Y9, Y10 &

Y11)

Model United Nations

Friday:

Band Academy

Study Club will run every day
except Friday.

Words from the Headteacher

Giant Steps

Last Saturday was blessed with beautiful weather and I was fortunate, along with a crowd of students, colleagues and friends of the school, to spend the late afternoon watching the school jazz band 'Treble Bass', perform at the Old Duke in King Street. The ensemble wowed the crowd with a set of standards alongside some modern classics; garnering a rapturous reception for each number. It was fantastic to see the extended BFS family out in force; from the Chair of our Board of Governors to parents and students from Years 7 to 11. My daughter, Penny, loved every song and had a great time dancing during the performance. It's unusual to see her dance to anything which isn't entitled "Let it Go"; a sure-fire testament of the foot-tapping sensibility and rhythm of the performance. A huge vote of thanks to Mr Pate for organising, and to the incredible musicians: Ellen Corbett; Shaye Stewart; Jahmai Depusior; Matthew Ghosh; Isabel Phillips; Christopher McWhan; Thomas Covill; Molly Cockerill; Alex Blacker; Abby Foster; Izzy Tucker; Amy Leather; Charlotte Baker and Angus Snowdon. The quality and depth of the music seems to improve in waves of sound and colour. The subtlety and nuances on show at the Old Duke were hugely impressive and if I had to pick a favourite, it was the insouciant rhythm and rolling cadence of the Nancy Sinatra classic "These Boots are made for Walking". It was great to hear the walls of such a historic venue echo to the sounds of Bristol Free School students, a formative experience if ever there was one. Well done!

School has been much quieter this week now that we have moved headlong into the exams season. Year 11 are incredibly focused and working hard as they gradually chalk off each exam. Their conduct has been exemplary and they are attending revision sessions in their droves as they seek to extract every possible last ounce of content, skills and knowledge. They are setting a brilliant example to our Year 10 cohort of how to cope with the pressure of exams: calmly and diligently.

Fixture of the Week

Our Key Stage 3 Rounders teams headed deep into enemy territory to take on the serried ranks of St Bede's. The fields of Long Cross resonated to a syncopated symphony of bat on ball. The Year 7 outfit put on a display of sharpness and precision, with Evelyn Thompson and Martha Haines smashing the ball to cow corner and orbiting the outfield at warp speed. Polly Garton patrolled the park; Evelyn Thompson just missed a hat-trick with sharp catching from her bowling to send the belittled batters home again. The Year 9 team worked as a seamless outfit, driving the ball from base to base, leaving the hapless runners stranded in a no-mans-land of weak hitting and pedestrian pace. Anna Fraser threw in from the deep with power; Sydney-Mae Browne opting for the novel technique of catching the ball with her head; three times. It's not a strategy she will be using in future. Accurate bowling from Zoe Toye closed down the opposition before they got started and Holly and Phoebe Neville lurked in the depths of the diamond to limit the occasional long hits from St Bede's. The end result was two resounding wins; the latest in a stellar season. And Sydney-Mae is fine.

Paul Jones



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Community involvement project

Over recent years the pastoral support team has run a community involvement project, encouraging some of our students to feel the positivity of helping others, to develop an awareness of older generations and to build confidence in their own communication skills.

Initially the project ran, with support from FoBFS, at Osbourne Court, Stoke Gifford. This year the project is running at Westbury Fields. This week the students, from Year 9, took part in some singing and then helped serve tea and biscuits in the lounge. The residents enjoyed teaching Sunah Dad, Nadiyah Ahmed and Olivia Manikum-Cole how to play scrabble whilst Evie Morgan and Jess Withers enjoyed a game of dominoes and heard from the residents about times gone by.

Miss Young and Miss Montier are supervising the project and felt immensely proud of all the students.



'Your Green Future'

This week our STEM Day winners and our nominated STEM Students of the Term were invited to visit the University of the West of England for its annual 'Your Green Future' event. Working together in small groups, students had to design and model their ideas for an innovative and eco-friendly building, design a sustainable product for use all over the world. There was also the chance to visit a careers and further education fair where we met companies and charitable organisations who are all focussed on sustainable products, as well as an all singing, all dancing Meccano robot!

All students were commended for their effort and enthusiasm, with BFS winning the sustainable product challenge with a water powered car, brilliantly titled H₂GO!



Match Results		
Fixture	Score	Player of the match
Y9 & Y10 boys' cricket vs Redland Green School	BFS won by 8 wickets	George Fowler (players' player) Cyrus Shafi (coach's player)

Key dates for the next week	
Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates.	
May	
Tuesday 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water sports for small group of Y8, 12.30 – 4.00 Community involvement project at Westbury Fields, 2.20 – 4.00 Y7 & Y8 boys' cricket vs St Bedes (away) Y7 girls' rounders vs Henbury (home)
Wednesday 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 & Y9 girls' rounders vs Cotham (away) Parent information evening for new Year 7, 6.30, by invitation
Thursday 26	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y8 & Y10 girls' rounders vs Cotham (home) Y9 & Y10 boys' cricket vs St Bede's (away)
Friday 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y9 PSHE day Y10 bronze DofE practice expedition starts Non uniform day in support of Cancer Research UK, for Y7, Y8, Y9 & Y10 End of term 5, 3.00
Saturday 28	Y10 bronze DofE practice expedition ends

If anyone can help with printing of posters and tickets for the Summer BBQ, please email fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk or tel: 07414887923, many thanks.



Jazz Band at the Old Duke

Please note:

Due to contractual delays revised access arrangements to the school will be effective from 6 June.