

Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing
27 June

Monday:

Latin Improvers (Y8 & Y9)

Tuesday:

Latin (Y10)

Makers Club

Maths & code-breaking Club

Girls' rounders (Y7 & Y8)

Boys' cricket (Y7 & Y8)

Textiles Club (Y9)

Wednesday:

Orchestra

Science Club

Young Enterprise (Y10)

Athletics

Jazz & Commercial dance

NewPals for Nepal

Gardening Club

Craft Club

Thursday:

Art Club

Fencing

Community Problem Solving

Club

Warhammer & Sci-fi/Fantasy

Board Gaming

Chess Club

Hip-hop/Street dance

Boys' cricket (Y9, Y10 & Y11)

Girls' rounders (Y9, Y10 &

Y11)

Model United Nations

Fencing

Study Club will run every day
except Friday.

Words from the Headteacher

This newsletter is the perfect opportunity to valorise the efforts and hard work of the young people at Bristol Free School and this week's instalment is no different. On Friday and for the following week we are holding our first annual Art and Design Exhibition. The private view is on Friday evening, so it's not too late to hotfoot it across, and you can visit the FOBFS barbecue whilst you're at it. The show features the final pieces and preparatory work from the GCSE groups in Art and DT, encompassing a range of different forms, from portraiture to metalwork. The art work is of the highest standard and having seen the effort which went into the creation of each piece, with students meticulously painting, drilling, sanding, drawing, sewing and sculpting, I am excited to see the final pieces.

This week Deago Bailey (Y9), fresh from his exploits at the rugby sevens, became the first BFS student to compete at a regional level in athletics. He represented Bristol in the County Trials against competitors from South Gloucestershire, North Somerset and Bath. Deago's event is the shot put, which from my hazy school memories involves launching a ridiculously heavy cannonball from the shoulder as far as possible with as much force as you can muster, which in my case wasn't very far or forceful. A lack of experience in the event and at this level did not count against him; technique and determination won the day and Deago has now qualified for the South West Championships. Huge congratulations from everyone at BFS.

Paul Jones



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Year 10 Mathematicians

On Monday some of the Year 10 mathematicians were treated to a day of maths at Bristol University. The day started with a session of creative calculations where many of us were left reeling with the realisation that big calculations which had initially looked offputtingly hard could often be solved with very simple techniques which we already knew.

We moved on to hear a talk about the maths behind social networking, then a useful Q and A session and tour of the university with undergraduates. We were challenged by a tricky team quiz, and the day culminated with a mind boggling lecture about Fractal Maths by the renowned mathematician, Katie Steckles.

Some points we were left pondering were:

- How stunning and yet weird a Mandelbrot shape is?
- Why a normal cube which is not a fractal shape is 3D, but a cauliflower has a fractal dimension of 2.8?
- Why you should never offer to paint the surface area of a fractal shape (you would never finish- it has infinitesimal surface area), but you could fill its volume with paint?
- How many computer games do we know where coders have used fractals to assimilate a natural looking environment?

Gabriel Lombard (Y10)



Science Discovery Prize

This is the second year of Bristol Free School's annual Science Discovery Prize. The prize is open to students in Years 7 and 8

and seeks to promote independent enquiry skills in Science. It encourages students to investigate an area of personal interest. All Year 7 and 8 students have been participating in the award in lessons and at home. Class teachers will choose the most innovative projects to be put forward to the grand final which will be held in the LRC between 3-4.30pm on Monday 4 July for Year 7 and Tuesday 5 July for Year 8 students. The event is open for anyone to attend and vote.

The grand prize this year is a family ticket to @Bristol.

English GCSE texts

In English we are looking ahead to the next academic year, and asking that students higher up the School complete some preparatory reading for their GCSE courses.

Students currently in Year 9 will need to read "Lord of the Flies" ready for next academic year, and students currently in Year 10 will need to read "The Strange Case of Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde".

The School can provide copies. However, past students have found owning their own copies to be very useful.

Mr Thomas

Newsletter | 24 June 2016

Book Aid International

Bristol Free School's continuing commitment to developing literacy levels across the world has been praised by the charity Book Aid International.

The charity thanked all members of the School for collectively raising nearly £300. This will be used to provide libraries and schools across sub-Saharan Africa with a wide range of texts.

Their thank you letter said "Across Africa millions of people are unable to reach their full potential because of a basic lack of books, reading materials and information, and your generous donation will help change that."

Students raised the money on World Book Day by dressing as a favourite character from a book. Others entered our range of book-related competitions. Well done to everyone who helped this incredibly important cause.

Catering assistant

Pabulum, the School's catering company, has an opening for a catering assistant from September.

Please see the School's website for further information.

Key dates for the next week

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

June	
All week	GCSE Art & Design exhibition in LRC
Monday 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 & Y8 boys' tennis vs Redland Green School (away) Wildlife Trust Campaign local environmental project (small group), 12.40 – 3.15 DofE information meeting for students and parents, 6.00
Tuesday 28	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jazz Band performing at Colston Hall, 3.00 – 8.15
Wednesday 29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jazz Band performing at Greenway Centre, 8.45 – 10.00 (am) AEN additional Y7 transition day Community Involvement Project at Westbury Fields Care Home, small group, 2.20 – 4.00 Jazz Band performing at Colston Hall, 6.30 – 8.15
Thursday 30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jazz Band performing at Colston Hall, 5.30 – 8.15 AEN additional Y7 transition day Next year's Y10 GCSE PE group at SGS Wise Campus, 1.00 – 4.00 Full Governing Body meeting
July	
Friday 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INSET day; school closed to students except invited Y10 Art GCSE students