

Weekly Update



Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing
11 July

Monday:
Latin Improvers (Y8 & Y9)

Tuesday:
Makers Club
Maths and code-breaking
Club
Girls' rounders (Y7 & Y8)
Textiles Club (Y9)
Folk Band

Study Club will run on
Monday and Tuesday only.



Words from the Headteacher

With the end of term a blink away, we are hurtling through our preparation for next year. Even though the summer holiday sprawls out in endless waves, creating childhood memories which last even longer, it's chastening to consider that next term is only 14 school days away. This week we welcomed in our new Year 7. They were a kaleidoscope of colours; representing all of the local primary schools, different shades of blue, green and red, with sweatshirts soon to be replaced by the formality of secondary uniform. We managed to fit all 196 into the Drama Hall, comfortably, with an initial assembly followed by a range of lessons and activities across the school. Lunchtime was a big hit, at least in part due to the sausages, chips and ice cream – not on the same plate; Chef Chris hasn't yet tried the 'Blumental' approach. Each student went about their day in the way I would expect and hope; with pride, respect, hard work and happiness. We are expecting the same in September. Thanks go to Miss Nowak for her visits and transition work, and to Mr Green, the new Head of Year 7, who welcomed the students. In the evening the Drama Hall was packed with parents, eager to glean the key bit of information that will make the transition easier. I'll be putting a copy of the presentation up on our website for Monday.

Fixture of the Week

After charging their way through the semi-finals last week, eight Year 9 girls and one last minute replacement in the form of a year 8, Millie Chaplin, headed to Bath University to compete in the rounders finals as part of the summer school games. The day began with an opening ceremony, including a parkour demonstration and an inspiring speech from an Olympian, before going into the sporting competitions.

BFS were victorious throughout the group phases, comfortably winning all their games and qualifying for the finals to line up against the unbridled might of Cathedral School. However mighty they were, they were no match for the BFS machine who took them apart, piece by piece with a display of unkempt power-hitting and crushing superiority, winning 21 to 9.5, with the player of the final being Holly Neville.

It's worth letting Miss McInnes sum up her highlights:

"The team motivation, support and encouragement for one another was commendable – other teachers commented on how much they deserved to win, how nice it was to see a girls sports team with a great attitude to being active and enjoying sport, but moreover determined to show the best versions of themselves both as individuals and a cohesive team. They demonstrated great sportsmanship behaviour and respect for the officials and opposition throughout – they were an absolute credit to the school and left me feeling one very proud teacher to have had the pleasure to witness their achievement."

Paul Jones





Treble Bass

Last week BFS Jazz Band "Treble Bass" performed in a series of concerts at the Colston Hall. The band performed three songs in each concert on the main stage as well as being invited to perform a full 45 minute set in the foyer. Our talented musicians did an absolutely fantastic job, wowing audiences each night and receiving lots of praise from the public, as well as the many primary school students involved in the concert.

Chris Green, the concert organiser from Bristol Plays Music said: "Wow! You are amazing. What a fantastic sound you make... such slick, polished performances. We have had so many comments from the audience who were blown away by your talent, your ensemble and how you work together to create such fabulous music. Your choice of repertoire was so engaging. You looked smart and you clearly work together musically, listening to each other and celebrating so many musical skills within your band. We are sure your musical future is very bright and can't wait to see you headlining Bristol festivals and beyond." Massive well done to all students involved - (a very proud Mr Pate). For more pictures and videos see @bfs_music.



| Key dates for the next week | |
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| Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates. | |
| July | |
| Sunday 10 | Barcelona trip departs |
| Monday 11 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y10 Work Experience week starts Y9 bronze Duke of Edinburgh award assessed expedition |
| Tuesday 12 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y9 & Y10 boys' cricket vs Bristol Brunel Academy (home at Coombe Dingle) Y9 bronze Duke of Edinburgh award assessed expedition |
| Wednesday 13 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curriculum Enrichment activities 9TG2 & 9TG6 trip to Laser Tag (evening) |
| Thursday 14 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Barcelona trip returns (early hours) Curriculum Enrichment activities Y11 valedictory assembly, 11.45 – 1.15 Y11 summer ball |
| Friday 15 | PGL Beam House trip departs |
| Sunday 17 | PGL Beam House trip returns |

Peer Mentors

Our peer mentors have been very busy recently. They have visited a number of our feeder primary schools to talk to the students who will be starting here in Year 7 in September.

We are expanding the peer mentor role with peer mentors being known as "Wellbeing Ambassadors" and having additional responsibilities to promote wellbeing. In preparation for this the group of peer mentors spent a day at Hamilton House which included activities based on the NHS's recommendations as the five steps to wellbeing. The programme covered an introduction to wellbeing and positive thinking, a mindful movement session, head and hand massages, preparing and eating a healthy lunch, reflection and discussion about wellbeing in relation to school attainment and outcomes.



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