



Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 8 May 2017

Monday

KS4 Fitness
Classics Club
Fencing
Philosophy Club

Tuesday

Latin GCSE Year 2
Boys Cricket (Years 7&8)
Girls Rounders (Years 7&8)
Textiles: Year 10 Open Workshop
Italian Club
Science Club
Flying Start Challenge
Year 10 Young Enterprise
Art Club
Photography Club (Year 12)
Music Tech/Production Club

Wednesday

Latin GCSE Year 1
Athletics
Orchestra
Folk Band
Outdoor Club
Warhammer School Alliance
Commercial Dance
Shakespeare Production
French Film Club
Year 12 Young Enterprise

Thursday

Boys Cricket (Years 9&10)
Girls Rounders
Street and Hiphop Dance
Jazz Band
Junior Jazz Band
Doc-Soc
Textiles Club (KS3)
Programming Club
Book Club
LGBTQ+ Club

Friday

Sports Academy

Words from the Headteacher

And so it begins: the GCSE Exams started this week in Art. Students undertook 10 hours of work in response to a brief, working from scratch to create a final piece. They were able to work in the light and airy new spaces; an artist's studio if ever there was one, and the guidance from Miss Dawson and Miss Marsh has been fantastic.

Our exam and revision timetable is out. What Year 11 parents need to know in the briefest of terms is this:

- Up until half-term all students are in school all the time
- They either have a special revision session or they are in normal lessons
- If in normal lessons they will either have taught activities or be able to revise, at the teacher's discretion and depending on what is pressing
- After half-term it's a case of being in when they have an exam (!) or a scheduled revision session.

Full details are in the letter, including a causal link to the Year 11 Ball and our expectations of this year group, all framed in this way because we know what works and we know that you trust us to get it right.

As our Year 11 begin the slide towards the end of the key phase of compulsory education, our Year 10 are poised to take over the mantle of eldest year group in the school. We will be launching our new prefects soon (not literally) and look forward to seeing them grow into the role of ambassadors, mentors, supportive peers and generally fantastic young people. The first hurdle is the end of year exams. Each paper is a formal GCSE test, drawn from the limited bank of past paper resources under the new specifications. It acts as a marker, an indication of how students are coping after the first formal year of their GCSEs. We use careful question level analysis of the cohort and individuals to focus and refine our teaching next year. It is the first time students get a sense of what a full GCSE looks and feels like; it's a daunting test and they are very important exams. Theoretically, it gets easier from here on in; students learn more, know more, practise more and are better prepared.

Meanwhile, somewhere north of Bristol where the roads have turf in the middle and the schools perch precariously in a primordial rural landscape, our Year 9 unbeaten football team extended their incredible run of success. They overcame Castle School in the Bristol and South Gloucestershire final. It was a tight game, as befits this clash of the two tika-taka titans, with BFS winning by a goal to nil. It is a phenomenal achievement for this year group and we stand in awe of their achievements. The heroes of the hour all get a mention

Jude Hall
Matthew Peacock
Ciaran Hally
James Panso
Bryn Ruck
Callum Whittaker
Ayman Benarous
Jacob Wright
Lucas Morgan
Angus Fraser
Mason Allen
Charlie Manikum-Owen
Jack Donoghue
Leon Workman
Oliver Baker





Save the Date

The FoBFS family BBQ will be taking place on Friday 7 July. The burgers are ordered and the games being organised.

Further information will follow nearer the time, but please put the date in your diary as the more the merrier!

Open Days

This week saw the last of our Open Days for this school year. Visiting families with children in Year 5 were the first to see our new extended site and facilities and it was fantastic to be able to share it with them.

The tour was longer than it has been previously but our expert student guides took it in their strides, after only a week in the new block themselves to learn where everything was.

The next Open Days will be in September and the dates announced soon. This heralds the start of the admissions process and is accompanied by a presentation by Mr Jones.

Industrial Cadets Award

On Tuesday 2 teams of 6 girls from Year 8 went to Airbus Filton to embark on the *Industrial Cadets award*. During the day they did some team building activities including constructing the tallest possible giraffe from newspaper. There were some interesting innovations including a periscope to promote height! The students met with a range of different types of engineers, who introduced them to the range of people and skills involved in building aircraft. They also helped the students develop a plan to tackle their challenge over the next 10 weeks.

During the project they are going to work as a design consultancy and will have an hour's session a week collaborating with Airbus mentors Terry, Camina and Neil to try and redesign an area of the school. They will then present their ideas as a 3D model, display and written report to judges at Airbus in competition with the other teams across Bristol. This is a big project and all the students will qualify for the prestigious Industrial Cadets and Crest awards when they present their findings at Airbus in July. The students involved are:

Team 1:
 Emma Ashworth
 Lena Richards
 Amy Thouless
 Flo Spear
 Zena Witherden
 Sophia Flower

Team 2:
 Martha Haines
 Brooke Mallinson
 Hope Conibear
 Becci Matthews
 Pip Ramsden
 Emily Stapleford

Key dates for next week

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

Monday 8 May 2017	Spanish Exchange visitors in Bristol Students, Curriculum and Standards Governors Meeting
Tuesday 9 May 2017	Spanish Exchange visitors in Bristol—trip to City Centre GCSE Drama Students dress rehearsals all day U13&15 Boys Cricket vs Clifton High, home at Coombe Dingle
Wednesday 10 May 2017	Spanish Exchange visitors in Bristol Year 12 Drama exam rehearsals
Thursday 11 May 2017	Spanish Exchange visitors in Bristol—trip to Blaise Castle Finance, Buildings and Premises Governors Meeting Staffing and Development Governors Meeting Y7&8 Girls Rugby Sevens Competition
Friday 12 May 2017	Spanish Exchange visitors in Bristol

BFS Dance Club

Miss Freitag has returned to teach BFS Dance Club and is offering dancers the opportunity to enter for a Medal Day on Saturday 15 July 2017 from 9:30am until 1:00pm. Dancers will perform a set routine in groups of 2 or 3 in front of an adjudicator for a Medal engraved with their name on it together with a report.

Miss Jess Norris will be helping to teach at the classes this term and competes at all the UDO UK Dance Championships as a freestyle dancer. She is very current and up to date with the latest dance trends. She specialises in Hip-hop, Popping, Locking and Wacking.

Classes recommence on Wednesday 3 May 2017 every Wednesday and Thursday during term time, from 3:15pm—4:30pm, so don't forget your trainers and join in to learn a mix of Hip-Hop, Street, Tutting, Popping, Locking and Breaking as seen by artists on the latest commercial music videos. Bust your moves to Nicki Minaj, Little Mix, Justin Timberlake as well as some "Old Skool anthems!"

