



Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 23 April 2018

Monday

Tennis
KS4 Latin
Chamber Choir
Homework Club

Tuesday

Tutor and lunchtime—DofE drop in
Y9 Textiles Club
Y7/8 Boys Cricket
Y7/8 Girls Rounders
School Show Rehearsals
Science Club
Y12 Young Enterprise
Philosophy Club
Spanish Film Club
Homework Club

Wednesday

Y9/10 Boys Cricket
Orchestra
Y7/8 Girls Rounders
Folk Band
KS3 Art Club (limited spaces)
Digital Leaders
Flying Start
Homework Club

Thursday

All Years Mixed Athletics
Programming Club
Craft Club
Jazz Band
French Film Club
Junior Jazz Band
Public Speaking Club
Homework Club

Friday

KS4&5 Composition Workshop

All clubs run from 3:15-4:30pm with the exception of KS4 Latin which finishes at 5:20pm, and Philosophy Club which runs from 3:10-4:00pm

Words from the Headteacher

A month is a long time. It seems like yesterday that the school was under a foot of snow but now the trees that line the avenue are heavy with blossom. Picture postcard wouldn't be an unfair description and it certainly suited the sunshine of the week. It struck me that I never consider just how empty the trees are during the winter months until spring has sprung. With the sun comes the opening of the field to students and the endless questions regarding shirt sleeve order. For now we persist with our normal uniform expectations (see later in this newsletter) as it'll take a while for the chill of all that snow to disappear from memory.

Preparations for Year 11 and 13 continue apace. Students are covering the final bits of content and revising thoroughly so that pertinent information, even that stored away back in Year 10, is readily accessible and applied appropriately on the day of the exam. We're practicing exam questions, analysing what it is that the examiner wants, ensuring that every mark is eeked out. There is a real purpose about the school at present, testimony to the desire of our students to be successful. I hope that all students are working equally hard at home. Hard work will pay off, ensuring that students are able to feel proud of themselves come judgement day.

I had the pleasure of covering a Year 11 English class this week and I was reminded of just how rigorous and demanding the subject is (as they all are of course). I say it was a pleasure, indeed I remember the subject fondly from my own school days, however I found myself perspiring slightly (I say slightly) when asked to evaluate two writers' attempts to influence and engage their audience! The students floated serenely through the task, surefooted and able to identify the relevant points, ideas and perspectives. I was touched when in spite of my pale imitation of Mr Thomas, students thanked me for my efforts as they left the room.

Ben Sillince
Acting Headteacher



Treble Bass at the Old Duke

Editors note: Last week's newsletter contained an incorrect date. Treble Bass performed at the Old Duke on Saturday 14 April. Tom Covill provides his report below.

The afternoon of Saturday 14 April saw the sun come out for the first time in weeks and it signified something wonderful; the return of Treble Bass at the Old Duke! And what a treat it was for the people of Bristol! The eclectic mix of jazz from Nina Simone's classic "Feeling Good" to "Starlings" by Treble Bass' very own Matthew and Izzy. Despite the lack of space, people couldn't help but dance and smile. If you want to experience the happiness that Treble Bass brings to people, then come on down to the BFS Showcase concert in May!



Key dates for next week

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

Monday 23 April 2018	UKMT Team Maths Challenge
Tuesday 24 April 2018	Y7&8 Boys Cricket vs Clifton High, away
Wednesday 25 April 2018	Year 9 PSHE Day Community Involvement Project visit St Katherine's House Y9&10 Girls Rounders vs Oasis Brightstowe, home Y9 Boys Football final, vs St Bede's, away
Thursday 26 April 2018	UKMT Individual Maths Challenge Y10 & 11 Boys Cricket vs Clifton High, away
Friday 27 April 2018	DofE Bronze Practice Expedition (finishes on Saturday 28 April)

Year 9 boys semi-final

We played on a difficult pitch to really do the beautiful game justice; but the boys stood up to the challenge and marauded across the pitch to comfortably win 6-0 against Merchants Academy.

Goals came from a Buster Reed hat trick, a close range finish from Kyle Widger and lovely top corner effort from man of the match, Karim Elsharif. We saw a range of excellent performances by a highly motivated team (to make up for slipping up in last year's semi-final!) They move on to the final vs St Bede's on Wednesday 25 April at St Bede's School 15:40 kick off.

Appointment reminder

Parents/carers are reminded that they should be providing at least 24 hours notice, in writing, for any appointments which mean their child has to come out of lessons.

Where possible all appointments should be arranged outside the school day. When this is unavoidable please email admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk in advance, detailing the time of the appointment, the time of collection, and the anticipated time of returning to school.

Focus on... Uniform

With the warm weather looking set to stay for a while (and in any case we can assume that we have had this year's quota of snow), please remember that the full uniform policy is on our website; www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/uniform

Please read it carefully and ensure you send your child to school each morning meeting these standards. Please pay particular attention to the guidelines on jewellery.

Blazers and ties remain part of the uniform all year round. They should be worn at all times, but the blazer can be removed during break or lunch if students are outside enjoying the best of the weather. In the event of extremely high temperatures, the Headteacher may declare 'shirt sleeves order', but this is communicated during the first lesson. Aside from these occasions, students should always expect to be wearing these items.

And finally...

Please remember to send your child to school with a water bottle! Keeping hydrated is vital as the weather warms up, but it is also far better for the environment if they use their own bottle rather than a disposable plastic cup or bottle.



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