

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

SHOW RACISM THE RED CARD



Today we have supported the Charity 'Show Racism the Red Card' with a non-uniform day. The sun was out and it was great to see students wearing red in solidarity for this important cause. I would like to thank the student parliament working party who are leading on equalities across the school for organising and promoting this event.



HALLOWEEN CAKE SALE



Yesterday we had a fantastic cake sale, the money raised has gone towards the house charities. Thank you to families for supporting this sale through providing ingredients.



COVID



A few words about Covid. Rates in the school have risen this week and the half term is a welcome circuit breaker for students and staff. We are asking all students to take a Lateral Flow Test before they return to school on Monday 1 November. We have been asked to promote that 12 – 15 year olds can access pre booked covid vaccinations from vaccination centres over the half term.

DRAMA TRIP

Thank you to Ms Clifton and Mr Pate for organising the theatre trip to see 'Everybody's Talking about Jamie' yesterday.

Someone from the general public contacted the school to say how impressed they were with our students' behaviour and how they were fantastic ambassadors for the school.

MOCK EXAMS

Year 11 and Year 13 will sit their mock exams in term 2. I strongly encourage students to start revising over the half term holidays. Mr Fernandes will be sending a letter to Year 11 explaining how these mock exams could be used if covid rates disrupt learning over the winter months. We are not anticipating any further lockdowns but student absence may be higher in the winter months. One thing we have all learnt over the last two academic years is that we need to be prepared for possible disruption.

Finally, I would like to wish you a relaxing and safe half term break and thank you for your continued support.



MRS S KING



DUKE OF EDINBURGH- SUCCESS!



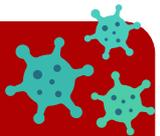
CONGRATULATIONS DYLAN, ALEX AND JOE

Congratulations to Dylan , Alex and Joe who all undertook their D of E Gold Residential this summer at a Water sports course in Dorset. They mixed with 32 other young adults from all over the country (and didn't catch COVID!) during the week and undertook a range of activities.

KEY DATES

- 1 November - Start of Term 2
- 4 November - Year 8 Subject Evening (Remote)
- 11 November - Sixth Form Open Evening
- 22 November - Y11 & Y13 Mocks start
- 3 December - Inset Day

LATERAL FLOW TESTING



Throughout the October half-term school holiday, please encourage and support your children to continue testing at home and report results twice a week on Test Register and to the NHS. All results should be reported, even if the result is negative or void. This will support keeping the maximum number of children in school, to minimise disruption to their education and to you and your household.

To support a safe return to school, your child should take an additional test at the end of the half term break, so they will have tested on two consecutive days before coming back to school – either on Saturday and Sunday or Sunday and Monday morning

VACCINATIONS

Details of arrangements for obtaining vaccinations for those 12-15 year olds who were unable to receive their vaccination at school have been sent in a separate letter.



HALLOWEEN CAKE SALE

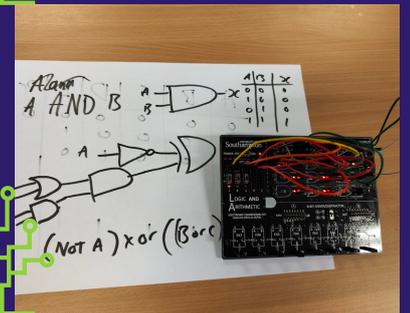
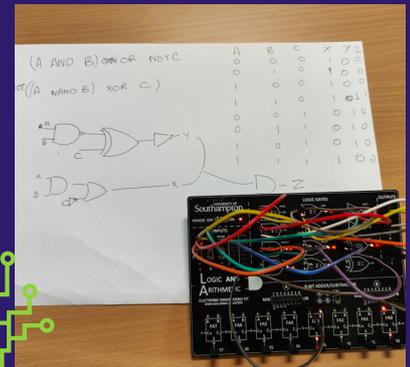


BFS COMPUTER SCIENCE

We had an amazing Computer Science last lesson of the term with Y13. Students designed their own circuit, truth table and implemented on the Microcontroller board. Engineers apply Maths and Computer Science to use components like these to design and build complex systems such as smart phones and computers. Students thoroughly enjoyed working with microcontrollers. Y13 students also enjoyed Binary and Hexadecimal conversions using LED switches.



MRS RAMANANDI



CYBERFIRST GIRLS DEVELOPMENT DAY 30 OCTOBER 2021



CYBER FIRST YR8 GIRLS COMPETITION 2022

This is a fantastic opportunity for girls in years 8 and 9 to discover cyber! It's a free one-day event; however places are limited to 50. Book now to avoid disappointment. It will be on site at UWE, Bristol. Elaine Brown will be on site to meet and greet girls if they are being dropped off and collected by parents.

Booking details are here.

<https://www.qa.com/training/courses/cyber-security/cyberfirst/cyberfirst-girls-development-days>

There is another fantastic opportunity for girls in year 8 to take part in Cyber First Y8 Competition 2022. The qualifying round occurs between 29th November and 8th December. Teams made up of 4 Year 8 girls can enter with no limit on the number of teams. The tasks can be completed in the pupils' own time during the week mentioned. For more information visit <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/cyberfirst/girls-competition>

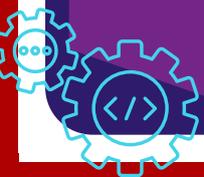
The key dates

Registration opens: 18 October 2021

Qualifier round: 29 November - 8 December 2021

Finals: 5 February 2022

Finalists Event Day: TBC



BFS SEN

End of Term Lunch Club!

We made puppets, friendship bracelets and Halloween decorations and even had a hot chocolate as a treat!!!

Lunch Club is on every day in LRC 1 for KS3



BFS SCIENCE



Year 11 literally tugged on the heartstrings yesterday performing heart dissections during their Science lesson. Everyone was fascinated by the different arteries, veins and ventricles, just as they aorta be! Great work from the whole class doing the practical (as well as some lovely moral support) means they won't skip a beat come exam time!



BFS ART



MRS STOKES

EMBROIDERY CLUB!

An exciting new crafting opportunity starting in Term 2...
Embroidery Club!

Starting Thursday 11 November and running every Red
Thursday with Miss Horton and Mrs Stokes from 3:15-4:00 in
DF34.

No experience necessary, you will create your own design
and work on a hoop that you will get to keep and take home.

Sign-up sheet will be on the Art notice board outside DF34
after half term. Spaces are limited to 15 so first come, first
served. Get signed up ASAP!

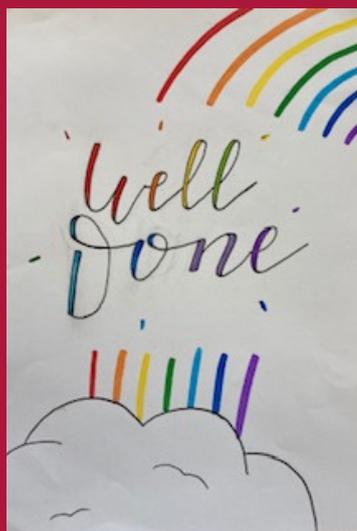


KS3 POSTCARD CHALLENGE

The Art Department have chosen winners from the KS3 postcard challenge set earlier this term. We had some amazing entries, but have whittled the final winners down to the following students:

Rosie, 7TG5, Noel 7TG5, Austin 7TG7, Eloise 8TG7, Molly 8TG3, Tilly 8TG5
Freya 8TG3, Louisa 8TG3, Eleanor 8TG2, Finn 9TG1, Harry 9TG3, Rose 9TG1, Olivia 9TG1,
Emily 9TG3, Jacob 9TG3, Martha 9TG1, Jasmine 9TG7

These entries will be professionally printed and sent out throughout the year as part of the department's reward scheme, to recognise students that show fabulous effort and hard work in their art lessons.



BFS SIXTH FORM



MR SMITH

ENRICHMENT

We are pleased to have launched our new Enrichment Programme. Students are able to choose from 33 different enrichment opportunities which focus on volunteering, mentoring, sports, creativity and subject-interest. Many of these programmes are also designed to increase the involvement of our students with those in the lower school - such as our Peer-2-Peer Mentoring groups, our English, Maths and Science buddies (who support younger students in their lessons) and our EAL mentors (who read with younger students who have a home language other than English). New programmes include our Chess Club, Book Club, Model United Nations team, Philosophy reading group and Mixed-gender Football and Netball teams. Students have signed up this week and groups will start after October half-term.

JOIN US - COME TO OUR OPEN DAY

BFS Sixth Form Open Evening

JOIN US ON 11 NOVEMBER 2021 FROM 5.30PM

For further information please visit www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk



"The teachers and staff at BFS are some of the most enthusiastic caring people I've ever met, and it's they who make the school community so great" Ben, Year 12

THE CREATION OF HALLOWEEN

2000 years ago the Celts (Britain, northern France and Ireland) celebrated the new year on November 1st as it marked the beginning of winter. Since winter was associated with death, the Celts believed that, on New Year's Eve, the boundary between the living and the dead became blurred and the festival of "Samhain" was born. On this day, they predicted futures, lit bonfires and wore costumes mainly consisting of animal skins and heads to ward off ghosts. This sounds very familiar despite the name Halloween coming a lot later.

By 43 A.D, all Celtic land had been conquered by the Roman Empire and by the 9th Century Christianity had spread, incorporating annual Catholic traditions into Celtic culture. Pope Gregory III designated November 1st as a time to honour all saints and those who have passed. This became known as All Saints Day.

Christianity played a huge role in the creation of Halloween as they tried to incorporate their religion into Celtic life as much as they could; trying to make Christian celebrations more appealing for the Celts. All Saints Day was celebrated similarly to Samhain with parades, bonfires and devil and angel costumes on November 1st.

This festival was also known as All Hallows day so the traditional Samhain festival became known as All Hallows Eve and eventually Halloween. Britain stopped celebrating All Saints Day after the repression of the Catholic Church, however, this celebration lives on in other European countries.

Trick or treating only became a part of Halloween with the assimilation of American culture. In the 19th Century, the American's saw Halloween as an opportunity to socialise with neighbours and so trick or treating was born. Britain soon caught on and this leaves us with the modern day Halloween which many of us know.



JULIETTE, Y12



THE SIGNIFICANCE OF 2ND WAVE FEMINISM

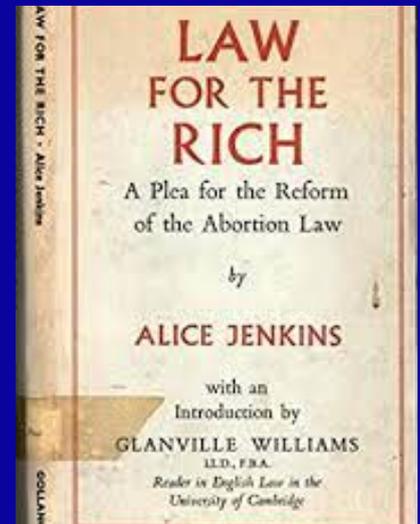


LUCY, Y12

Feminism has existed for decades and is often sectioned into waves so the work and success of the movement can be acknowledged and analysed individually. The 1st wave involved fighting for basic rights, such as the right to own property and to vote. The 2nd wave occurred after WW2 from the 1960s to the early 1980s and primarily involved fighting for reproductive rights and positions in the workplace. Since then, we have had the 3rd and present 4th wave which have – like the others – been successful. However, many argue that no wave has been as monumental and significant as the 2nd wave.



In the UK, amendments were made to the constitution a lot more quickly than in the US. A pressure group called 'Abortion Rights' was formed by the merging of the ALRA and the NAC. The ALRA was instrumental in the passing of the Abortion Act 1967, which legalised abortion on certain grounds. This amendment was strongly supported by former leader of the Liberal Party, David Steel. A core member and founder of this organisation, Alice Jenkins, published a book 'Law for the Rich' in 1960, which highlighted the double standards women faced and the classism rooted in the medical industry, such as the way middle and upper-class women were able to persuade their doctors financially for abortions. Her work was significant in this expansion of reproductive rights for British women.



Meanwhile in the USA, the equal rights amendment (ERA) was in motion and would guarantee equal legal rights for all American citizens, aiming to end legal distinctions between the sexes. Initially, most women – regardless of class – were in favour of the ERA until groups of middle-class women began to claim it would force women into work who would prefer to live as housewives. A significant force which almost led to this act not passing was Republican politician and self-described housewife Phyllis Schlafly who led a rival organisation named 'STOP ERA'. Luckily, many influential Feminists including Gloria Steinem, Betty Friedan, Bella Abzug, and Shirley Chisholm were all in support of the ERA, having both more substantiated arguments and political influence. The ERA was eventually ratified in 1972 although its success throughout the entirety of the USA is still very complex and questionable.

Despite the ratification of the ERA, some feminists (like Gloria Steinem) were still concerned about the lack of reproductive rights for women in the USA. A large proportion of Steinem's activism was through her journalism and literature, such as the magazine 'Ms.' and her popular essay 'If Men Could Menstruate'. She said, "opposing women's right to control our own bodies is always the first step in every authoritarian regime" and insists that nobody is 'pro' abortion it is more about being 'pro-choice'. Abortion was finally legalised in the USA in 1973. Though there have been many successes during and after 2nd wave Feminism, feminists have not since reached the political influence they had in the early 1970s. Furthermore, there is still an overwhelming number of women who do not have the same basic rights, let alone reproductive rights, as those in most first-world countries, demonstrating the necessity for this movement to continue in the future.



Empowered
Women
Empower
Women





MENTAL HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING

Mental Health & Safeguarding Support, Advice & Information



Ms Townsend, Mental Health & Safeguarding Manager



Miss Hastings, Medical and Mental Health Officer

COME AND HAVE A CONFIDENTIAL CHAT WITH YOUR SCHOOL NURSE

tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

TUESDAYS
DF38

APPOINTMENT ONLY:
9-10:40
1:20-3

WALK IN:
11:40 - 1:20



Relationships
Bullying
HPV
Friendship Issues
Staying Safe
Divorce
Sleep
Anger
Contraception
Smoking
C-Card
Condoms
Healthy Eating





BRISTOL PARENT CARERS

Bristol Parent Carers invite parents and carers who have children/young people (0-25) with special needs, disabilities or life-limiting conditions to:

- Meet others and share experiences
- Get advice and information
- Get free refreshments and a friendly atmosphere
- Relax with a 10 minute therapy session.
- No need to book, just go along, travel and childcare costs can be reimbursed with receipts for details, TEL 07306 650222 or email rosie@bristolparentcarers.org.uk

<https://bristolparentcarers.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0b2be1e3a3cf948286502d5f&id=979a49c8a7&e=b3d48b5fc1>

CENTRAL BRISTOL

22ND SEPTEMBER 2021

6TH OCT 21

3RD NOV 21

1ST DEC 21

12TH JAN 22

2ND FEB 22

Meets on a Wednesday from
10.30am - 12.30

AT: Phoenix Social Enterprise
5 Russell Town Ave, Redfield
Bristol, BS5 9LT

Car Park Chargeable, on-street parking nearby. Buses: 36, 36a, 6, 7, 42-45. Lawrence Hill Railway Station



Meets on a Wednesday from
10.30am - 12.30

AT: Southmead Community
Centre, 248 Greystoke Ave,
Southmead, Bristol, BS10 6BQ

Free Car Park, Buses 2, and 76

NORTH BRISTOL

29TH SEPTEMBER 2021

20TH OCT 21

17TH NOV 21

15TH DEC 21

19TH JAN 22

16TH FEB 22



SOUTH BRISTOL

30TH SEPTEMBER 2021

21ST OCT 21

25TH NOV 21

16TH DEC 21

27TH JAN 22

17TH FEB 22

Meets on a Thursday from
10.30am - 12.30

AT: The Inns Court Centre, 1
Marshall Walk, Inns Court,
Knowle, Bristol, BS4 1TR

Free Car Park, Buses: most direct service is
the M1 with 91 and 96 stopping nearby



Come and join us for a chat!