

# Newsletter

10 January 2020

# Words from the Headteacher

Happy New Year!

We have had a very positive start to the new decade this week and it has been lovely to see our students returning after their well-earned Christmas holiday. I am glad to see students getting back into good habits and routines to ensure a successful year.

This week we have welcomed a number of new staff to the school community. Mr Forrester is our new Deputy Headteacher for pastoral and behaviour and he brings a wealth of experience from a successful career in a range of educational settings. We also have two new science teachers, Mr Ellis in Biology and Mr Lally in Physics. Mr Eldridge will also be joining the team of Pastoral Managers.

On Wednesday, Year 9 and 10 enjoyed an assembly-turned-gig with *The Hara* which was a fantastic alternative medium through which the importance of mental health was discussed with students. You can read the full report from Miss Roberts below.

It was lovely to see such a high turnout last night at Year 11 parents' evening and I hope you found the guidance and support plan useful for the upcoming weeks.

We have a number of parent events coming up this term so I look forward to seeing many of you in school.

Mrs S King Headteacher

### Performance from The Hara

On the morning of Wednesday 8 January, BFS welcomed Manchester-based alternative rock band 'The Hara' to the Drama Hall as part of wider PSHE enrichment. Both Year 9 and Year 10 were treated to an energetic performance from the three-piece, and students were even able to chat to and take pictures with the band at the end of the gig.

During their show, the band members spoke about a range of issues including mental health, online safety and social media. They gave an inspirational talk on the importance of our young people speaking about their feelings and, importantly, seeking help if it's needed. They also delivered a clear message about the dangers of social media and the negative impact it can have on mental health and wellbeing.

This invaluable message, combined with the fantastic music, was well received by students and staff alike. I hope that the event was enjoyable for all and that it supported students' understanding that they are able to discuss their emotions freely with both fellow students and members of staff. And, if the band ever hit the big-time, just remember that you saw them here first!

Miss Roberts



### Clubs for Term 3&4

Please see the website for the clubs running for Term 3 & 4. Clubs will start from Monday 13 January.

https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/extra-curricular-clubs.php

All clubs run from 3:05—4:15pm unless stated otherwise.

Calendar	
13/01/2020	Sixth Form Interviews
	Governors' Meeting
14/01/2020	Year 10 Resilience Day (provided by Off the Record)
15/01/2020	Dr Green; A Level Prose Masterclass
	Sixth Form Interviews
16/01/2020	Y13 Subject Evening
17/01/2020	
18/01/2020	
19/01/2020	
20/01/2020	Sixth Form Interviews
21/01/2020	
22/01/2020	Sixth Form Interviews
23/01/2020	Y9 Options Fayre 6pm - 7:30pm
24/01/2020	Y10 Chinese Cookery School Workshop
	Y9 Webcast with Holocaust survivor, Susan Pollack MBE
25/01/2020	
26/01/2020	
27/01/2020	
28/01/2020	Y8 & 9 Winter Games
29/01/2020	Amazon Ambassador visit p5&6
	Y12 University Aspirations Evening
30/01/2020	Maths Inspiration Trip
31/01/2020	Y9 Options Taster Day
	GCSE Set Works Concert, Victoria Rooms
01/02/2020	DofE Skills Day
02/02/2020	
03/02/2020	Appreciation Fortnight begins
04/02/2020	Sixth Form Interviews (mop-up)
	Y9 Boys & Girls Men/DTP vaccinations
05/02/2020	Y11 Vocational Music Recital Dress Rehearsal, 5:30- 6:30pm
06/02/2020	Y8 Subject Evening - NO CLUBS (early closure)
	Y11 History Trip - Hitler on Trial
07/02/2020	

# Meet the Employer at BFS

As mentioned last term, our Meet the Employer talks have started at BFS. Before Christmas, we welcomed Airbus to give a talk to our KS3 students about the exciting array of careers available with them. It was brilliant to see so many of our younger students (79 in total!) attend the talk and ask some excellent questions on topics such as the production methods of military aircrafts, whether Airbus are developing an environmentally-friendly strategy and whether there will be more jobs in space travel! Airbus also came in and spoke to our KS4 and KS5 students, which was equally well attended.



We also welcomed Co-op Legal Services to give a talk to our KS4 and KS5 students about the different jobs roles and pathways into the legal sector.

Please get in touch with Mr Parry (via the school office) if you are able to offer an employer talk for our students.

# Apprenticeships

Many apprenticeship vacancies will be starting to open over the next few months. Some useful sites to use include:

https://www.gov.uk/apply-apprenticeship

https://www.notgoingtouni.co.uk/

https://www.careerpilot.org.uk/information/apprenticeships

On a local level, Rolls Royce have opened up their apprenticeship applications. For more details please visit:

https://careers.rolls-royce.com/students-and-graduates/apprenticeships-and-school-leavers

# **Online Software Access**

Students can log on to the Microsoft Office 365 website (<a href="www.office.com">www.office.com</a>) using school credentials and access web versions of Microsoft Office products. Files can then be stored on the OneDrive and accessed in school. Students already have access to Google products (Docs, Slides, Sheets) which can be accessed the same way as accessing Google Classrooms - sign in to Chrome - click the 9 dots and select Drive or the file type. Files can then be saved in the Google Drive and accessed in school.