



80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings 6 June 2024



"That road to VE Day was hard and long and travelled by weary and valiant men. And history will always record where that road began. It began here, with the first footprints on the beaches of Normandy."

President George Bush, on the 60th Anniversary of D-Day



This year is the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings; the largest seaborne invasion in human history; and one that led to Victory in Europe (VE day) and the defeat of Nazi Germany. We owe the men and women who took part in the invasion of occupied France, in Normandy, the very freedoms we enjoy today. This week we remember those British, American, and Canadian soldiers who gave their lives during the landings; as well as honouring the veterans who, in their nineties and hundreds, are still with us.

A series of solemn and spectacular events honoured the bravery and sacrifice of those who fought in one of the most pivotal moments of World War II. This year's ceremonies began on 4 June and RET's CEO, Colin Mackinlay, was awarded the extraordinary honour of being the Commanding Officer of TS Royalist, the flagship of the Sea Cadets, for these historic celebrations. The TS Royalist led the procession, escorting a ferry carrying Normandy Veterans from Portsmouth across the Channel. This poignant journey not only bridged the generations but also served as a vivid reminder of the past sacrifices made for freedom and democracy. As the veterans made their way across the water, the skies came alive with the Royal Air Force Battle of Britain Memorial Flight performing a flypast. Simultaneously, Royal Navy ships stationed in Portsmouth Harbour sailed in formation, their sirens sounding in unison, in a powerful display of military precision and respect.



The evening of 5 June saw the Commonwealth War Graves Commission's Bayeux War Cemetery transformed with a spectacular light show. This event also featured a vigil held by Cadet Forces and members of the Armed Forces. In a touching tribute, the names of the 25,000 fallen personnel commemorated at the cemetery were read aloud.

On 6 June, the focus shifted to the British Normandy Memorial in Ver-sur-Mer, where the UK's national commemorative event took place. This solemn ceremony included the traditional acts of remembrance such as the playing of the Last Post and observing a two-minute silence. This provided a moment of grateful reflection about the sacrifices made in June 1944.

We hope that, as the younger generations who have benefitted from the sacrifices of D-Day, we will continue to learn the lessons of history, and join with the Normandy Veterans and many others in saying:

We will remember them.

GEOGRAPHY

BRISTOL HARBOURSIDE & RIVER HOLFORD

This week our Year 10 students have been out and about over three days conducting fieldwork for their Geographical Applications exam. All students conducted fieldwork at Bristol Harbourside to investigate how successful the regeneration project has been. They developed human geography fieldwork skills in interviewing, land use mapping, environmental quality surveys and field sketches. It was wonderful to see our students' confidence in interviewing members of the public - they did BFS proud!



Students have also been enjoying the sunshine while conducting physical geography fieldwork in the beautiful Quantock Hills. We have been investigating how the characteristics of the River Holford change from its upper to lower course. Our students got stuck into the physical geography fieldwork and produced some fantastic field sketches as well as getting their feet wet collecting data in the river.



We are really impressed with how our students made the most of being out in the field and developing new skills. This is one of the most enthusiastic cohorts we have had on these fieldwork trips. We are proud of how they worked together in groups and gave their best effort on both trips. Well done!

KEY DATES

Monday 10 June

Y10 Naples Trip Information Evening

Wednesday 12 June

KS3 Poetry Slam

Y9 Reading Buddies at Badock's Wood Academy

Y12 Trip to Cardiff University

Y9 HPV Vaccinations (for those missed in Y8)

BEP STEM Day

Thursday 13 June

Y12 Biology Folly Farm Trip

Y12 Economics UWE Talk (at BFS)

Y10 Subject Evening

Friday 14 June

Y12 Biology Folly Farm Trip

Y10 DT Trip to Harry Potter Studios

We are
HIRING

Library Manager

Teaching Assistant

Male Teaching Assistant

Teacher of Computer Science

KS4 Academic Mentor

NEW LUNCH MENUS

Dining Hall Menu

Sixth Form Cafe Menu



ATTENDANCE - MORNING REGISTRATION

AM Registration from Term 6

The Department for Education have asked all schools to ensure that the cut-off point for arrival to school is no later than 30 minutes after the school has started.

For BFS, this means our cut-off point for registration closing will be 9.00am. Any arrival after 9.00am (without prior communication from home) will result in an unauthorised absence mark. 8 or more unauthorised marks within a ten-week period may result in a penalty notice being issued. We expect all students to be on-site at 8.25am ready for a 8.30am start to the day.

READY to
LEARN

90% attendance



is like leaving a football match in the 81st minute (and missing all the injury time goals)

Studybugs 

© Studybugs 2024



NOTICES AND EVENTS



MR HARRIS
Whole School
Reading Coordinator



Year 7 and 8 Reading Age Assessments

Across the next two weeks, all students in Year 7 and Year 8 will undergo their final reading age assessment of the year (Accelerated Reader "STAR test").

- This will take place during English lessons, supported by their teacher who will instruct students.
- It is an online, multiple-choice assessment, accessed via the Accelerated Reader portal.
- Students do not need to revise or complete additional preparation for this assessment.
- It is adaptive, meaning the questions increase or decrease in difficulty based on student responses.
- For accurate results, students will need to spend approximately twenty minutes or more on this.

Please encourage your child to give this assessment their best effort. The outcomes will be used as part of the diagnostic process to allocate additional support where needed and to help inform curriculum planning for the upcoming academic year. Therefore, active engagement from all students will help support this process.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr Harris (Whole School Reading Coordinator) via school reception.

Year 10 Subject Evening SEND Appointments

At the Year 10 subject evening on Thursday 13 June there will be the opportunity to book an appointment with Mrs Jenkins, SENDCo. To ensure the meeting is focused should you wish to have an appointment please

1. Email SEN@bristolfreeschool.org.uk (no later than midday on Wednesday 12 June)
2. Put "Year 10 subject evening" as the subject
3. Put the question/query you would like to raise in the body of your email
4. The appointments will then be arranged around your subject appointments and will appear in your list of appointments on Thursday 13 June



MRS JENKINS
SENDCO

**BOOK AN
APPOINTMENT**

Year 9 and 12 Youth Talks

Parents and carers are invited to attend Youth Talks on Monday 17 June at 4.30pm.

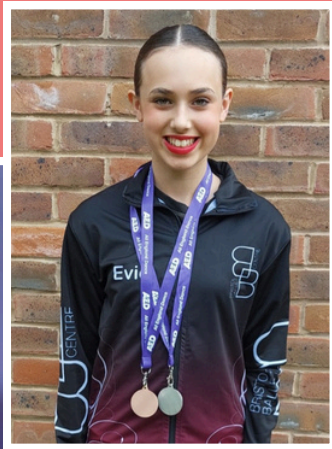


Monday 17th June 4:30
Drama Hall, D Block
All welcome

An opportunity to hear year 9 and year 12 students speak in the style of mini Ted Talks

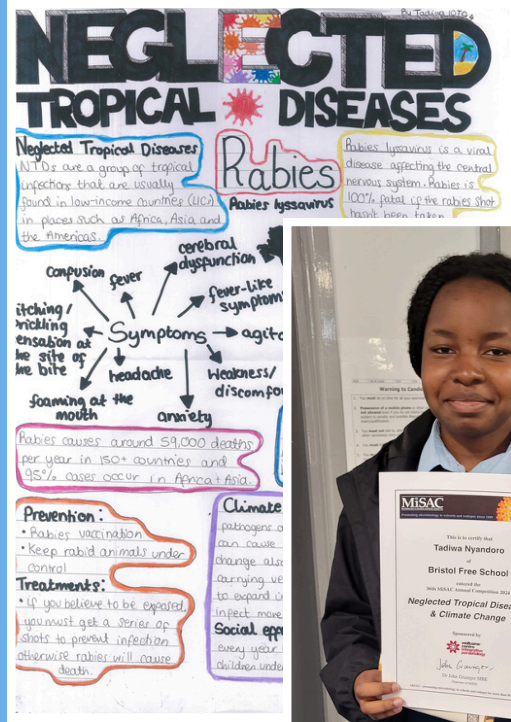
CONGRATULATIONS

Evie, Y8, danced in the All England Dance Regional Finals in half term. Her group won 2nd and 3rd with honours and are now through to the All England National Finals in August. An amazing achievement, well done!



WELL DONE

Tadiwa, Y10, entered the 2024 MiSAC Annual Competition on Neglected Tropical Diseases and Climate Change, sponsored by the Wellcome Centre for Integrative Parasitology. This was an extremely tough international competition with a very high standard of entry. Tadiwa was narrowly beaten to placing but remains our BFS champion!



NATIONAL THANK A TEACHER DAY

The UK-wide celebration of all teaching and support staff is back. National Thank a Teacher Day will be celebrated on Wednesday 19 June! As always, we will be celebrating all the amazing teaching and support staff at BFS - from the reception staff to the classroom assistants and librarians. They deserve the spotlight for everything they do to keep things running smoothly.

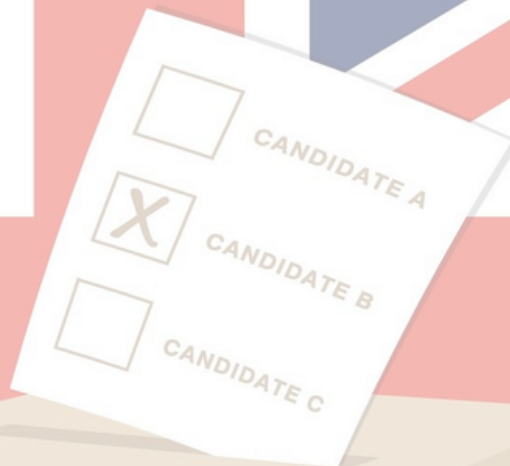
Want to make someone's day? If you know a special teacher, dedicated support staff member or even a whole school team, let them know how grateful you are by sending a free e-card at www.thankateacher.co.uk or email your message to newsletter@bristolfreeschool.org.uk to have say a public thank you in the newsletter!



Mock General Election 2024

The BFS Mock General Election will be taking place on Thursday 4 July.
Party policies will be released soon.

**YOUR VOTE
MATTERS**



Who will you vote for?

WATER BOTTLES

It is important to ensure that your child has a refillable water bottle with them in school at all times.

We are seeing more and more students presenting themselves to Student Services complaining of headaches only to establish that they have not had a drink since breakfast and that they do not have a water bottle with them.

Please do remind them of the need and benefits of drinking water regularly throughout the day in order to function properly and perform to their full potential.

LOST A BOTTLE?



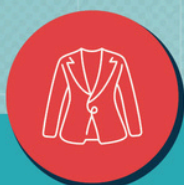
We have many water bottles in Student Services waiting to be reclaimed!

**Back to school information
now available at:**

MONKHOUSE.COM



**NEW SEASON
SAVINGS**



**SCHOOL UNIFORM
UPDATES**



**THE LATEST
NEWS**

**Your official
uniform supplier**

monkhouse[®]
schoolwear specialists



HOUSE NEWS



House Competition

Choose a writing task and get creative. House points are available for everyone who participates. Entries to be handed in to the library with author's name and tutor group clearly included by Wednesday 19 June.

what will you write about?

National
WRITING
Day

- Imagine you are inviting someone around for dinner. They could be from the past, present or future. Why would you invite this person? What would you ask them? What would you serve them to eat? Who is this person to you?
- Write a story about a futuristic world where technology has taken over.
- Create a dialogue between two people who have opposing personalities/opinions.
- Listen to music or watch a video/film clip and free write whatever comes to mind.
- You have just won a prestigious award. This might be in sport, drama or for a ground-breaking discovery, you choose! Write an acceptance speech for this award.
- Imagine your own world. What is in your world? Who is in your world? Where is your world? How did your world come to be? Write about your world.
- Write a Haiku about anything you wish without giving away what this object, event or thing is. Show and tell your Haiku and have others guess what you may be writing about.

A haiku is a Japanese verse poem that has three lines, with each line having a certain number of syllables: 5,7,5.

good luck!

House Points

Well done to Ashton House who were awarded the most house points this week!

DON'T FORGET

You can take part in the creative writing competition to earn more house points!



1

**ASHTON
HOUSE**

1185 POINTS



2

**DURDHAM
HOUSE**

1014 POINTS



3

**BLAISE
HOUSE**

948 POINTS



4

**CANFORD
HOUSE**

872 POINTS



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD

Y9 Qualifying Expedition

We are thrilled to bring you an exciting update on the recent Duke of Edinburgh's Award Expedition that took place just before half term. This expedition showcased the remarkable dedication and camaraderie of the participating students. Against the backdrop of glorious sunshine, these young adventurers embarked on a challenging journey, walking an impressive 13 kilometres each day. We are proud to announce that every single student succeeded in qualifying for their well-deserved Duke of Edinburgh's Award (once they have completed the other sections).



From the moment the expedition commenced, the enthusiasm and determination of the students was palpable. The stunning weather only added to the already uplifting atmosphere, creating an ideal environment for exploration and personal growth. As the groups ventured through landscapes, their spirits soared, spurred on by the warmth of the sun and the prospect of overcoming challenges.

Evenings brought well-deserved leisure and recreation time, fostering bonds and friendships among the students. The sound of laughter and friendly banter echoed through the campsites as water fights erupted, rounders matches unfolded (using water bottles as bats), rugby balls flew, and footballs were kicked around. It was heartwarming to witness the students embracing not only the adventure but also the opportunity to connect with one another in a meaningful way. No mobile phone to be seen!



It is worth noting that the assessors present during the expedition were quick to offer their compliments. They praised the participants for their pleasant attitudes, behaviour and enthusiasm. These words of recognition are a testament to the students' attitude to the Duke of Edinburgh ethos. The assessors recognised the passion and commitment exhibited by each group, which undoubtedly contributed to the remarkable success achieved by all. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all the participants for their impressive accomplishments, and we would also like to express our gratitude to the assessors, organisers and supporters who made this expedition possible. It is through their dedication that these young individuals were able to embark on this transformative journey.



THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S AWARD



#BFSAmbition



#BFSOpportunity



#BFSCommunity





MISS MCMURDO

BFS ENGLISH Review

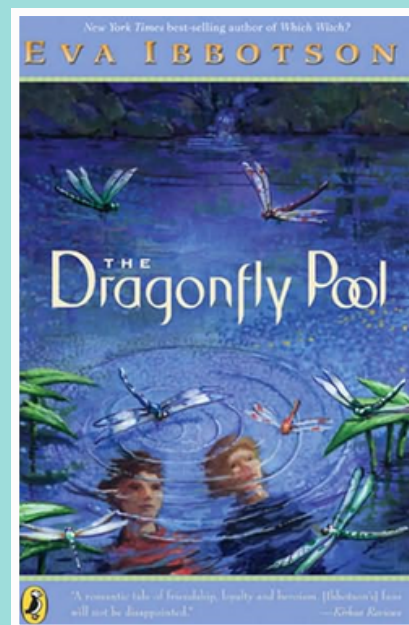
10 House Points!

The Dragonfly Pool by Eva Ibbotson Review by Lauren, Year 7

Have you ever wondered what it is like to live in a paradise place? Have you ever wanted to read a book and feel transported back in time? Well, the Dragonfly Pool is the book to read! This book is about a girl called Tally, who doesn't want to be cooped up in a boring boarding school, but it turns out to get a lot better. She goes to Delderton, a school of adventures, humour, and history. Afterwards, she goes on a trip to Bergania, a paradise place where she meets a boy and discovers an everlasting friendship.

Reading the part where she is in Delderton feels like being transported back in time when the Second World War was about to start. Therefore, it contains Hitler, a cruel man who wants all the power. At the school, it feels as if I had never heard of such a place before and sometimes, I want to jump into the pages and explore through the story in real life. In the Dragonfly Pool, it sounded like the world of pure imagination, beauty, and peace. It was the greatest place to be. In addition, I really enjoyed the characters and the plot. The group of friends have personalities that fit so well together as they get themselves through a lot of adventures big and small but all of them are exciting. The only thing wrong with it is that you can't put it down.

This book is the wonder of landscapes. It has a mix of all the types of books together: humour, secrets, mystery, adventure, and hope. What more can one book contain? This is the book, which makes your mind wander, grow, light up automatically even when you haven't even read far through it. Please take my word for it. It is a great book. It is one of the best books I have ever read and will blow your mind. So, what are you waiting for? Read it and use the word of mouth to make this book more popular. This is a must read.



Author in the Spotlight Derek Landy



The library has recently topped up its stocks again and now has the full series of Derek Landy's award winning 'Skulduggery Pleasant' (accompanied by gasps and cheers from Year 7 readers who witnessed its unboxing, and declarations of praise for the fiction by Year 8s who rushed to the desk to admire the set in its full glory).

If you are looking for a riveting read, 'Skulduggery Pleasant' truly does have something for everyone. This 15-book series (yes, 15 books) covers multiple genres, having 'a foot in adventure, a foot in horror, a foot in comedy, in crime, in fantasy, and in science-fiction'. The series kicks off with 12 year old Stephanie inheriting her horror writing uncle's estate upon his death. It quickly becomes clear that her uncle was not just writing fiction however and Stephanie is thrown into a world of evil and mysterious intrigue. At her side, to assist and protect, arrives jokester Skulduggery Pleasant, a former wizard turned detective who just happens to be a skeleton.

This series has been winning awards and capturing the imaginations of young (and not so young) readers since 2007. Come to the BFS library to take a look and borrow this series.



MISS EVANS

BFS FOOD TECH

Cupcake Decorating

Year 10 have been looking at decorative techniques using piping and chocolate skills. Congratulations to Mia and Mylo who won best in show.



BFS PRESENTS

MUSIC AND DRAMA SUMMER SHOWCASE

TUESDAY 2 JULY
Tickets available soon



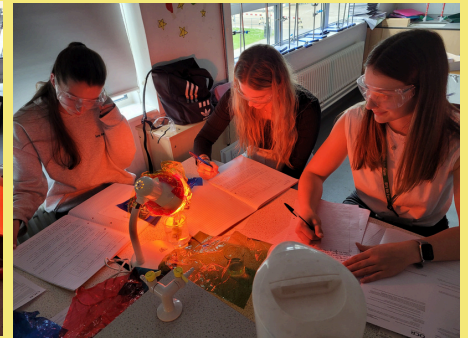
BFS SCIENCE



MISS HAWES

Year 12 Biology

Year 12 have been developing their practical skills by investigating photosynthesis in pondweed. They investigated which colour (or wavelength) of light was best for plant growth



BFS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Future Quest

Year 12 had a visit from Future Quest - Healthcare this week to deliver a workshop on Physiotherapy. Students learnt about what physiotherapy is, basic understanding of the human body and discussed real-life case studies where they took part in roleplay to develop their communication. In addition, students were able to speak to a current physiotherapy student from UWE to find out about student life, finance and the holistic approach to being a physiotherapist. Students thoroughly enjoyed the experience; what they have learnt will aid them with their studies and help them to consider future career opportunities.

www.fqhealthcare.org.uk



BFS SPORT



MISS SLATER

Sports Leaders



Our incredible Sports Leaders in Year 8, 9 and 10 planned, led, and supported Westbury-on-Trym Academy's sports days, held at the end of term 5. The Year 10 leaders planned four sessions for the children to rotate around in the morning. This was a mix of running, jumping, throwing and an obstacle course. The Year 9 leaders delivered these sessions, and the Year 8 leaders were team leaders creating all sorts of imaginative ways to motivate and inspire the children to have fun. The afternoon track events were supported by all leaders and the atmosphere on both days was electric!

We have had some lovely feedback from staff and parents alike. These students are an asset to BFS and we are so proud of them.

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 10 June	Y9/10 Athletics	Redland Green School
Tuesday 11 June	Y7-10 Rounders v Cotham	Golden Hill Sports Ground
Tuesday 11 June	Y7 Div 2 Tennis v Redmaids	Coombe Dingle Sports Complex
Wednesday 12 June	Y7/8 Boys Tennis	Ashton Park School



PE Parents - We Need You!

Team PE want to expand their provision for the next academic year, but we cannot do it without the help of volunteers. If you are able to come and help us, we would be really appreciative of the support so that we can run clubs all year long as well as fixtures!



We are also interested in hearing from you about national fixtures and which ones you would like your students to take part in. National fixtures will need to be facilitated by parents, especially if they are in an evening, past 5pm, or on a Saturday. But we would like to be able to increase this provision also.

If you are able to help, please email your expression of interest to Mrs Ballard or Miss Slater and we will be in touch. We look forward to hearing from you and working with you in the coming year!

Do you have a coaching qualification in any of the following sports? Netball, rugby (level 2 or above), football, hockey, cricket. Do you have any experience and/or qualifications in dance or table tennis?

Are you available on weekdays from 3.15-4.15pm next academic year?



EXTRA CURRICULAR



MRS MONELLE

Year 7 Ready Steady Cook Club

In Year 7 Ready Steady Cook Club this week the students made some spicy fajitas whilst practising newly acquired skills.



Menstrual Health Day

On the last day of term 5, BFS celebrated Menstrual Health Day 2024. More than 120 students joined Sixth Form volunteers, Mrs Eynon and Mrs Gilbert during their lunchbreak to continue the conversation and to break the silence around periods. Students shared their ideas on a 'Period Friendly World', took part in a game matching country to nicknames given to periods, entered a raffle prize draw and took away some free period products.



MRS EYNON

"Boys won't act silly if girls talk about it"



"Anything you can do, I can do bleeding"

#nopinktax

#unstoppable



careers notices

Employer Talks



For the final employer talk of term 5, we welcomed PSCO Kingscott and PC Sarah Bond from Avon and Somerset Police. We had huge numbers of students ranging from Year 8 to Year 13 attend the talk which was fantastic to see.

Students were introduced to a variety of roles in the police force, including the differences between PCSOs and PCs. They spoke to students about the day to day life of working in the police force, and routes into the police. The primary way to train to become a police officer now is through a degree apprenticeship. This is a 3-year programme that is fully funded and means you get a degree at the end of your qualification. We had lots of students ask questions about their experiences of policing. Thank you to everyone who attended!



For this week's employer talk, Dr Phillipa Wilson talked about careers in clinical psychology. Phillipa has been working in clinical psychology for 20 years, and has a wealth of experience in this area. She started by talking to students about what clinical psychology is and how it is different from other areas of psychology; she also busted the myth that clinical psychologists are the same as psychiatrists - in fact, they are not! She talked through the role of a clinical psychologist which involves the use of psychological ideas to improve the mental health and wellbeing of patients in a health care setting.

Phillipa then explained the route into working in this area, which is quite a lengthy process. Firstly, a degree which is recognised by the British Psychological Society is required followed by work experience as an 'Assistant Psychologist'. A doctorate in clinical psychology is then required which is a three-year paid training programme which, if completed, means you are qualified to work as a clinical psychologist. Thank you to everyone that attended and to Phillipa for taking the time to speak to our students.

Thank you

Upcoming Careers Day

We have a careers day on Monday 8 July where we would like a range of employers to come in and help with talks or mock interviews for our Year 10 students. Please get in touch if you, or someone you know, would be willing to come in and talk to our students about your career. Students have requested careers in the creative industries (film, TV, music production etc), roles involving languages and history, veterinary science, banking and marketing in particular.

**HELP
NEEDED**

Coming up...

Friday 14 June:

Digital Marketing and eCommerce

Friday 21 June: Application Engineer
(Women in STEM advocate)

Monday 8 July:

Year 10 Careers Day



BFS Fund



Staff and Governors at BFS are determined to ensure that every student at our school has access to an enriched education with inspiring curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. Through our BFS Promise, we offer a huge range of additional opportunities for all our students as they progress through the school.

Funding in schools has been under increasing pressure for several years now and we work tirelessly, with less resources, to provide the best possible experiences for your children. It is increasingly challenging to continue to deliver and improve on the additional experiences and opportunities we offer.



With this in mind, we are re-launching the BFS Fund to help us provide some of those extras that make all the difference to school life, that we otherwise may not afford. BFS fund will go towards improving our school environment and sustaining our wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities.

Initiatives include:

- Improvement of social spaces e.g. landscaping and outdoor furniture and equipment for social times
- Grounds development projects such as sports spaces and outside environmental classroom/garden
- Collapsed curriculum days and visiting agencies
- Special visitors/speakers/authors
- Performing arts workshops and visiting theatre groups
- Additional/specialist arts, crafts & technology materials
- Resources for extra-curricular clubs and activities such as gardening club
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities



DONATE



What do we ask parents to contribute?

We suggest £10 a month as a voluntary contribution but if you would like to pay more (or less), we are very happy to receive any amount that parents can afford, and think is appropriate. We are also very pleased to receive one-off donations. Any donation will be much appreciated and will make a difference.



COMMUNITY AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



Year 8

SUMMER ROWING CAMP

ONLY £160*

Dive into the world of rowing by joining our junior camp for an unforgettable summer of skill-building, teamwork, and fun!

Tuesday - Friday
6-9 August, 2024

City of Bristol Rowing Club
Hanover Place, Bristol, BS1 6TZ

REGISTER NOW

bristolrowing.co.uk | juniortr@bristolrowing.co.uk

*If you are suffering financial hardship, please reach out to us via email. We are here to help.



Bristol School of Art

exhibition

SGS WISE Campus - Private View
Friday 14th June 2024
6pm - 8pm

General Opening
Monday 17th - Friday 21st June
10am - 4pm

bristolschoolofart.co.uk | [bristol.schoolofart](https://www.instagram.com/bristol.schoolofart)

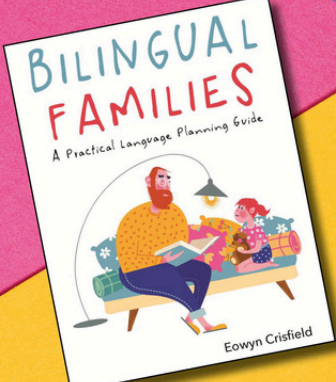

Free event for bilingual families!

15 June 10.30am


- Do you have a bilingual family?
- Are you raising your kids in more than one language?
- Do you need practical tips?

Ask the expert!

EWYWN CRISFIELD,
bilingual family expert,
answers your questions!



Windmill Hill Community Centre




Sign up free here! 


www.multilingual-matters.com/events

Back to school information now available at:

MONKHOUSE.COM

Sign up to our newsletter to unlock your school information as well as our lowest offers across essential uniforms and additional accessories.

-  **NEW SEASON SAVINGS**
-  **SCHOOL UNIFORM UPDATES**
-  **THE LATEST NEWS**

Your official uniform supplier  **monkhouse®**
schoolwear specialists