

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Head Teacher Message

At BFS we are committed to providing our young people with a strong careers programme. This is tracked by something called the Gatsby Benchmarks.


The eight Gatsby Benchmarks serve as a framework for world-class careers provision, providing young people with a range of meaningful, work-related experiences and guidance.

As part of our careers programme, we will be holding a Careers Day for Year 10 and Year 12 students on Monday 8 July.

Days such as these are often the ones that students remember most and have the most impact on them. Many of our students do not get the opportunity to talk to people who work in a wide range of sectors and we are committed to providing students with a wealth of opportunities that they may not ordinarily get.

Miss Norton, our Careers Leader at BFS, has organised for all Year 10 to experience a mock interview and we are looking for employers, employees, retired people and volunteers to help us. As an interviewer, the School will provide you with all the resources you need to conduct the interviews so there is no preparation required. It will be an excellent way for you to support BFS and use your skills and experience to help our young people prepare for the world of work. I really hope that you can help us.

Please email for more information:
careers@bristolfreeschool.org.uk



Wednesday 19 June is 'National Thank a Teacher Day' and, 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 all deserve the spotlight for everything they do to keep things running smoothly.

We encourage all students to show their appreciation by sending a free e-card at www.thankateacher.co.uk or email your message to

newsletter@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Finally, a massive well done to Year 11 who sat their last core exam today and many will start their summer holidays. We look forward to seeing them on Wednesday 26 June for our Leavers' Celebrations.

*Enjoy this week's
newsletter.*



MRS S KING

KEY DATES

Monday 17 June

Youth Talks Event 4.30-6.30pm
Y7 Poetry Slam

Tuesday 18 June

GCSE PE Parent Information Evening

Wednesday 19 June

Y8 Big Bang Fair at NEC Birmingham
Y9 Reading Buddies at Badock's Wood Academy
Y10 Success Together Event 5-6pm
Y12 NHS Healthcare Experience Day at UWE

Thursday 20 June

Sixth Form Transition Day
Y9 Battlefields Parent Information Evening

Thursday 20 - Saturday 22 June

Y10 DofE Silver Qualifying Expedition

NEW LUNCH MENUS

[Dining Hall Menu](#)

[Sixth Form Cafe Menu](#)



FOOD TECH

The Food Tech Department is running low on containers for students to take their handmade goodies home in. If you have any decent sized food containers such as ice cream tubs, quality street boxes, or takeaway tubs, we'd love to have them!

Please send any you can spare to the Food Department. Thanks so much for your support!



ATTENDANCE - ILLNESS

The Chief Medical Officer, Professor Chris Whitty, has issued the following advice for minor illness and school attendance:

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above.

If you need further guidance about illness and attendance, please follow this link to the NHS advice: [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

Illness should be reported daily, either through the free app Studybugs or 0117 959 7200 (option 1).

85% attendance



is like trying to win at rugby sevens with only six players

READY to LEARN

Studybugs

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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.

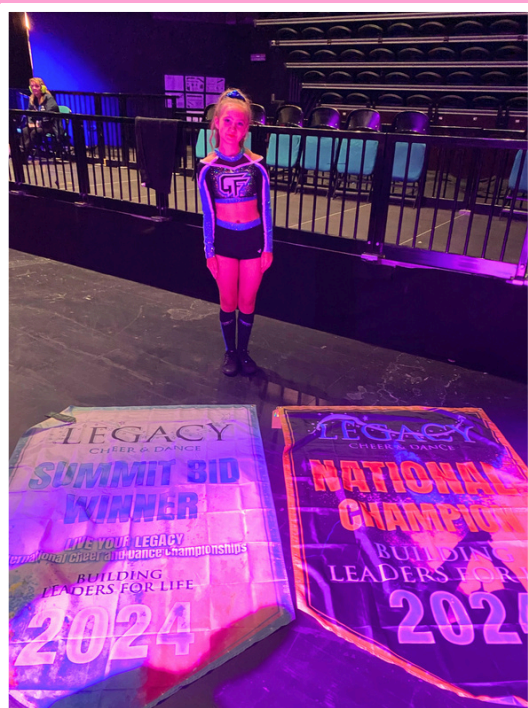
Please encourage your child to give this assessment their best effort. The outcomes will be used as part of the diagnostic process to allocate additional support where needed and to help inform curriculum planning for the upcoming academic year. Therefore, active engagement from all students will help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

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

CONGRATULATIONS

Lexi, Y7, attended the Legacy Cheer and Dance National competition in Birmingham with her program, Gymfinity Cheer Team Midnight U12 L2.

Lexi and her team came 1st and won a fully paid bid to the youth summit in Orlando USA 2025!



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

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 say a public thank you in the newsletter!



Second-Hand Uniform

Please consider donating outgrown uniform to the School. We are in need of good quality, clean second-hand uniform, especially in smaller sizes. Thank you.



PARKING ON CONCORDE DRIVE

Please be considerate when picking up your child/ren from school and be aware of the importance of driving and parking safely. This is to ensure our neighbours are not inconvenienced and students are not put at risk.



Please do not park on double yellow lines or over driveways and stick to the 20mph speed limit.

Thank you for your understanding and help to keep all in our community safe.



LOST PROPERTY

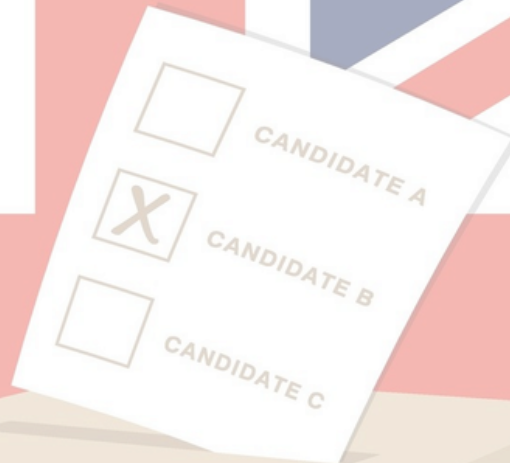
These bags have now been at Student Services for a few months and no one has claimed them. They have also gone through lost property and still no claimants. If any of these bags look familiar or they belong to your child, please send them to Student Services to collect.



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?

BFS PRESENTS

MUSIC AND DRAMA SUMMER SHOWCASE

TUESDAY 2 JULY

Tickets available on ParentPay



What has been happening in... **Business and Economics?**



Year 10 Business GCSE



MRS MORGAN-JONES

consumer income - when economies doing well, people earn more and have more disposable income.

change in tax - a fall will boost consumer demand.

level of economic activity - if there's a recession, demand will fall.

interest rate - if rates fall, borrowing and demand will increase.

change in exchange rate - if pound gets weaker, foreign demand will rise.

economy & business:

demand rises → later may benefit → risk required → impact of high demand -

- consumer income rises
- inflation may rise
- unemployment may fall
- interest rates may rise
- the pound may become strong

demand falls → later may suffer → risk increased

Economy = the way people spend and make money

Students have been working through a topic on understanding external influences on business, where they have been introduced to a range of factors such as technology, legislation and the economy, many of which are outside of the immediate control of the business.

Economy

Recession: A period of economic decline during which aggregate demand falls below aggregate supply, leading to a fall in general price levels.

Unemployment rate: % of the working population out of work.

Interest rate: the number of people out of work and seeking work.

Consumer income: the amount of money that people and firms have.

Value added tax: Pay on value added goods & services. Added to price of products. Also paid by businesses when buying from suppliers.

Income tax: Pay on income from wages, savings or investments.

Corporate tax: Businesses pay corporation tax on any profits that they make.

Stamp duty: Pay on purchases of land and property.

Stamp duty reserve tax: Pay on purchases of shares.

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Here are some examples of their work on the economy and how the economic climate affects business.

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Learning about the economy equips students with valuable knowledge and skills that are relevant in the business world, as well as how it impacts their lives now.



MR FEARON

Year 12 Economics

In Year 12 Economics, students have been working in groups, using their creative skills to research and gain a wider knowledge of the UK economy. Students have made posters exploring Portakabin, a UK-based business that specialises in creating bespoke pre-fabricated buildings, often used by schools and healthcare providers. Their posters are both informative and fun...and have made a great display in their classroom!

Economics A Level : Case Studies

PORTAKABIN

Portakabin: A UK-based business that specialises in creating bespoke pre-fabricated buildings, often used by schools and healthcare providers.

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Year 12 BTEC Business



GEORGE, Y12

This year has been full of new information that I have never learnt before. I am someone who did not take business for GCSE and yet have still fully enjoyed the Level 3 BTEC Business course so far.

BTEC Business can be challenging at times but never too difficult to the point where I did not understand what I was doing. It has a good mix of coursework and exams, so you will not become tired of doing either one. The course has four units and at this point (halfway), we have completed 2 units: Exploring Business (coursework) and Developing a Marketing Campaign (Exam).

The First unit, Exploring Business, is about businesses and how they work. One way to explain impacts on a business is through PESTLE, which stands for Political, Economic, Social, Technological, Legal and Environmental. This is used throughout the BTEC Business course. There is also SWOT which is used to analyse a business. It stands for Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. The second unit is Developing a Marketing Campaign for a given business. This is an exam which lasts 3 hours (that sounds like a lot, but it really isn't). It was really interesting to study a variety of businesses and think about what to focus on in the marketing campaign, planning what it would look like and keeping within a set budget. You will be surprised how much influencers cost!

I believe BTEC Business is a great course even if you did not take GCSE Business as it can be especially useful to have knowledge about how businesses work. I am looking forward to the next two units, one on business finance and one on recruitment. I would personally highly recommend this subject, especially if you are thinking about taking economics as they pair extremely well together as there is a lot of crossovers of information between them.



HOUSE NEWS



House Competition - STEM's Version

Thanks for the many, many entries to the Taylor STEM competition! You all **Masterminded** so many that it took nearly a **Fortnight** to get through them all!



With news this week that there has been another **Swiftquake** at the Edinburgh dates of the Eras tour, be sure to see a full performance from 8TG7 of their version of Shake It Off, over on the BFS Instagram account.

We are currently experiencing a bit of a **Cruel Summer**, so thank you for cheering us up with your amazing lyrics, STEM facts and quiz answers! Hopefully the rain and wind will be over by August!

Ms Board will be awarding all the House Points this week!





ASHTON



BLAISE

HOUSE NEWS



CANFORD



DURDHAM

House Points

Well done to Canford 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!



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!



MISS MCMURDO

BFS ENGLISH

10 House Points!

'The Girl Who Speaks Bear' by Sophie Anderson

Review by Cara, Year 7

Have you wondered what it would feel like to receive a gift from the forest you live by? Were you ever shocked when you found out about your unexpected past? Then 'The Girl Who Speaks Bear' is just the right book for you!

Reading this book made my head feel full of vast imaginations of all sorts, especially after the main character, Yanka, had grown bear legs. I like books where it all ends well and the stories have truth in them. I really enjoyed it, and I would strongly recommend it to you!

This is the book about Yanka feeling like she doesn't fit in the village and was desperate to find clues of her past. And with the help of her trusty herd of friends, she got what she wished for. This book has everything: mysteries, adventure, excitement, drama, exoticness, creativity and humour! What more could you ask for?

This is one of my favourite books I have ever read. I love the setting of the forest and nature too. This book is a must-read! Therefore, I really enjoyed it. This is the first book of a series, and it is great. Read the others as well!



Reading Buddies at Badock's Wood Academy

Year 9 students visited Badock's Wood Academy this week for the start of our Reading Buddies programme. The Year 9 students helped the younger children with their reading and represented BFS brilliantly.

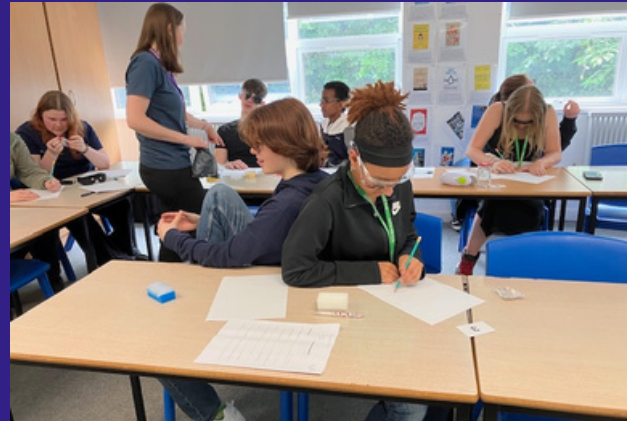


#BFSCommunity

BFS HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Future Quest

Year 12 students were given the opportunity to take part in an occupational therapy workshop led by Future Quest. The session involved an overview of what is an occupational therapist, practically exploring some of the equipment that is used and developing key skills needed for a healthcare role. The students enjoyed learning how to use equipment such as a sock aid, jar opener and a button aid hook. It was a fantastic insight into the profession.



BFS STEM

BEP Inspiring Innovation Event

On Wednesday, a group of STEMtastic students visited the University of Bristol to attend an afternoon of exciting activities focussed on innovation and invention. We were kindly hosted at the School of Chemistry and started the trip with a fascinating talk from Professor Sabine Hauert about her career in robotics. Each group then moved through a carousel of activities including composite materials with the National Composites Centre, aerospace engineering with Airbus, archaeological chemistry, VR and AR technology, radiation detecting robots, plus my personal favourite, a rave forest!



MS BOARD



All of our students had a fab time and complimented the exhibitors. We are now looking forward to presenting and sharing our experiences with peers and STEM teachers in the coming weeks!

A huge thank you to the University and BEP for inviting us to the day, it was incredible!

#BFSOpportunity

BFS ART & PHOTOGRAPHY



BFS

GCSE & A LEVEL

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY

EXHIBITION

A SHOWCASE OF WORK BY Y11 AND Y13 STUDENTS

2ND 3RD 4TH JULY

DRAMA STUDIO

BFS SIXTH FORM

Y12 Cardiff University Trip

On Wednesday 12 June, Year 12 went on a trip to Cardiff University. This trip followed a rigorous exam period for Year 12 and so was a great opportunity for students to take a break from their studies and spend some time considering their post-18 options.

Students had two talks from staff at Cardiff University which included details about the benefits of going to university, application processes, student finance and student life. Students were then given a tour of the University by some of their student ambassadors.

In the afternoon, students were given some free time to explore Cardiff city centre. Our students were exceptionally well-behaved and asked the ambassadors lots of interesting questions. We are now looking forward to Careers Day on Monday 8 July, where students will spend more time thinking about post-18 options including apprenticeships.



EXTRA CURRICULAR

British Sign Language Club

A few of our Year 12 students have been teaching the basics of British Sign Language in an after-school club. Thank you to Phoebe, Leah and JJ for giving back to the school community!

“ I've been really pleased to run this club - it's helped me build up my communication and public speaking skills. Phoebe, Y12 ”

“ BSL Club is super fun and Phoebe makes it so we aren't all bored sitting there in silence copying her. I'm super sad that it's finished. Lenora, Y7 ”



Well done!

“ I love BSL Club because it's so fun and the Sixth Form teachers are really nice. I am also so sad that it is closing but glad that I got to learn BSL. Daisy, Y7 ”



BFS SPORT



MISS SLATER

Well Done!

Shout out of the week to Sidney, Y9, who attended the Avon Schools Athletics Championship on Saturday, running and competing in the 800m and finishing in a time of 2 minutes 32 seconds! Great effort Sid!

You should be super proud of your achievements and well done for representing BFS on a Saturday!

#BFSAmbition

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Tuesday 18 June	Y7/8 Athletics	Redland Green School
Monday 24 June	Girls Hardball Cricket U13	Bristol Grammar School
Monday 24 June	Y7/8 Boys Division 1 Tennis	Coombe Dingle Sports Complex



Rounders Success

'We have had lots of rounders fixtures for the girls happening over the course of the last term, finishing up this week with our last games against Cotham! We walked away with 3 wins and 1 loss, playing from Year 7 through to Year 10.

We eagerly wait to hear if any year groups are through to the next round! Great work teams, you've absolutely smashed it this term!

FANTASTIC!



careers notices

Employer Talks

Today we welcomed Kirk Hullis to talk to students from Year 8 - 12 on careers in digital marketing. Kirk has worked in marketing for many years now, in both agencies and in-house digital marketing teams, and now works freelance.

Kirk introduced our students to the concept of marketing and how it is done in its more traditional form 'offline marketing'. He then explained how marketing has been transformed with improvements in technology and the introduction of social media meaning that opportunities for digital marketing are vast and Bristol in particular has a huge number of digital marketing agencies. Kirk talked about the many ways that marketing is done online, including through social media/influencer marketing, display ads, search engine optimisation and in app advertising. He also talked about a number of different job roles that are available in digital marketing, some of which benefit from studies in computer science and maths, such as web developers and analysts, but others that rely more on people skills and communication such as account holders.



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 21 June: Application Engineer
(Women in STEM advocate)

Monday 8 July:
Year 10 Careers Day

#BFSOportunity



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

WE ARE HOSTING OUR SECOND NORTH YOUTH VOICE FORUM!

NORTH YOUTH VOICE

WE WANT YOU ALL TO GET INVOLVED, AND MAKE NORTH BRISTOL A BETTER PLACE. AFTER ALL, YOU'RE THE ONES LIVING IN IT!

THIS YOUTH FORUM IS BEING HELD AT THE GREENWAY CENTRE, FROM 6:00-8:00 PM. FOOD IS PROVIDED!

19TH OF JUNE

AGES 11-18

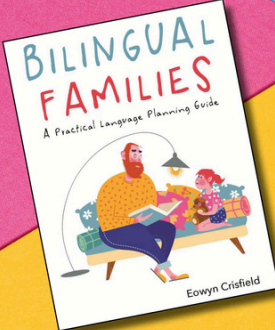

Free event for bilingual families!

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!

EOWYN CRISFIELD, bilingual family expert, answers your questions!



Windmill Hill Community Centre

Sign up free here!



www.multilingual-matters.com/events



ONLY £160*

SUMMER ROWING CAMP

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.

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**