

Weekly Update

**Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing 24
November**

*All after school activities finish at
4.30 pm unless otherwise noted.*

Monday:

3 – 4 pm: 6 Degrees of Aspiration

keynote speaker: Gordon
Lindsay, Broadcom (fibre optics)

4 – 5 pm: Introduction to Latin
Fitness (Y10)

Tuesday:

Basketball (Y10 boys)
Games Club
Makers Club
Netball (Y7 & Y8 girls)
Orchestra
Philosophy Club
Rugby (Y7, Y8 & Y9 boys)
Textiles Club (Y8, Y9 & Y10)

Wednesday:

Cross-country
Dance Club (Y7 & Y8)
Film Club (Y7 & Y8)
Music Technology Club
Science Club
Young Enterprise (Y10)
LitSoc (Y10)
Basketball (girls)

Thursday:

No clubs due to Y9 subject
evening

Friday:

'Band Academy'

Study Club will run every day
except Thursday and Friday.

Friends of Bristol Free School
need your help with manning the
Disco on Friday 12th December.
Please follow the link below to
give your name and email
address.

Many thanks in advance.

<http://doodle.com/caswfgqw2w8upn65>

Words from the Headteacher

The provisional dates for Bristol Free School's 2015 – 2016 academic year are now on the website. They are subject to approval from our governing body at their next meeting in mid-December. Unlike previous years the dates differ from Bristol City Council's term dates, the reason for this is that the council's term 3 (January to February 2016) is very short and will not suit the curriculum coverage for our GCSE students. As a consequence we have extended term 3 by a week to ensure more time for curriculum continuity. I am giving parents early notice in anticipation of any holidays which may be booked during this holiday week and particularly for those students and their parents joining us as our new Year 7 cohort in September 2015.

On a related note, we received notification at the beginning of this term from Bristol City Council's admissions team that we are oversubscribed for our third year in a row having received over 450 applications, 200 of which are first preference. The School is in the process of ranking the applications according to our admissions policy. Once we have completed this part of the process we will send the allocated list back to Bristol City Council's admissions team who will then apply the preferences. The news of our increase in applications together with larger numbers of first preferences is great news for the School but as ever we understand the stresses and strains parents and Year 6 students go through at this time of the year and hope that you are satisfied with the offer you receive from Bristol next March.

May I remind Year 9 students and their parents/carers to make appointments for the Year 9 subject evening on Thursday 27 November. This is an opportunity to discuss attainment and progress so far. Year 9 students are also entering the period in the academic year when they make their GCSE pathways choices. A full programme explaining how this works will be sent out in the form of a letter to parents following the Year 9 subject evening.

The question about what will the next whole school musical be has been asked around the School since 'Bugsy' finished its run last academic year. The wait is now over and I am pleased to announce that students will be donning their quiffs (not loo-brush hairs styles), beehives, biker and baseball jackets and taking to the stage to perform 'Grease'. The word is that auditions take place on Thursday 4 December with call-backs on 11 December and the show will run from 29 April until 1 May 2015. Watch this space as well as the website for news about the cast and crucially when tickets will be available.



Richard Clutterbuck

Bristol Schools' Cross Country Championships

A group of 38 students ranging from Years 7 to 10 set off in the wet and cold for a cross-country race. After warming up the Year 7s set off first. The Year 8 and 9 students kept warm and cheered Year 7 on through to the finish line. Notable mentions go to Jacob Wright who got through to the county round finishing 8th. Also Rihanna Hale (26th) and Olivia Quick (29th) finished with strong positions.

Next up were the Year 8s and 9s. Everyone was nervous (and cold) and after a quick start, the race evened out. Notable mentions go to Corinne Thompson (34th), Phoebe Neville (35th), Zoe Toye (36th), Dan Whetton (36th) and Deago Bailey coming 38th. Last but not least were the Year 10s and the already wet course got even muddier. The race set off at an exceedingly fast pace. Notable mentions go to Emily Yates (20th), Ellie Broderick (22nd), Megan Lloyd (24th) and Ksawery O'Donovan (11th) who just missed out on a place in the county team. Overall, we should be very proud of ourselves because we were up against a large number of schools and although we were cold, wet and muddy we were all pleased with our results.

Corinne Thompson – Sports journalist

Chess Club

Bristol Free School's chess team entered its first tournament this week. The team travelled to Bristol Grammar School to participate in the regional final of the 'Team Chess Challenge'. We entered two very enthusiastic teams of four, captained by Laurence Chandler (Y7).

There will be more opportunity to take part in competitions, and it is hoped that a Bristol Schools' chess league may start in the not so distant future.

All students are welcome to come along to chess club after school on Thursdays and to play chess at lunch times in the Maths area.



Term 2 – Key Dates	
Saturday 22	Trip to Twickenham for England vs Samoa game
Monday 24	Y10 music, visit from Ish Kabibble jazz band
Tuesday 25	Y7: BAE Systems Roadshow
Thursday 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U14 basketball vs Fairfield School and Cotham School (home) Y9 subject evening
December	
Monday 1	6 Degrees of Aspiration keynote speaker: Jonathan Snary, BPP Professional Education
Wednesday 3	Y10 subject evening
Thursday 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> U14 basketball vs Colston's Girls' School (home) Y7 girls' football vs Bristol Met (away)
Friday 5	Cross curricular Enterprise Day
Monday 8	6 Degrees of Aspiration keynote speaker: Heather Franklin, midwife
Wednesday 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Choir performance at Katherine House U14 basketball vs City Academy Bristol and Oasis Academy Brightstowe (away at CAB)
Thursday 11	Y10 art and textiles trip to Royal Academy, London
Friday 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas jumper day in support of Save the Children FoBFS Christmas disco for Y7, Y8 & Y9 Full Governing Body meeting
Tuesday 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inter-tutor group sports competition Y7 (part) Christmas Extravaganza
Wednesday 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christmas lunch Y7 (part) Christmas Extravaganza
Friday 19	End of term 2: school finishes at 1.45 pm
Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates.	

