

Weekly Update

**Extra-curricular activities
during week commencing 21
September**

*All after school activities finish
at 4.30 pm*

Tuesday:

Latin (Y10)
Makers Club
Maths and code-breaking Club
Boys' rugby (Y10 & Y11)
Girls' netball (Y9, Y10 & Y11)
Boys' basketball (Y7, Y8 & Y9)
Musical Theatre Club/School
Show

Wednesday:

Orchestra
Latin (Y11)
Craft Club
Science Club
Young Enterprise (Y10)
Boys' rugby (Y7, Y8 & Y9)
Girls' netball (Y7 & Y8)
Boys' basketball (Y10 & Y11)
Jazz and Commercial dance
Jazz Band

Thursday:

Art Club
Community Problem Solving
Club
Cross-country
Girls' basketball
Warhammer and Sci-fi/Fantasy
Board Gaming
Chess Club
Hip-hop/Street dance

Friday:

Band Academy

Study Club will run every day
except Friday.

Words from the Headteacher

Next week is the start of our 'open' season. On Tuesday we are expecting over 90 sets of families across the day to tour the School as parents of Year 6 students and the students themselves decide upon their preferences for places at secondary school. Not only am I looking forward to meeting our visitors over the next three weeks of the 'open' season but also seeing how our students rise to the challenge of acting as tour guides and ambassadors for the School. The rest of our open events are on Wednesday 30 September where we have another open day followed by our open evening and our third and final open event falls on Thursday 8 October with another open day. Please come along if you are interested in sending your child to Bristol Free School – please register via our website.

In addition to our first open event there is a great deal packed in to next week over and above the usual day-to-day running of the School. On Wednesday and Thursday we are carrying out a review of the School involving our senior team and members of the Russell Education Trust, including our CEO Karen Lynch. The purpose of the review is to ensure that everything is in place to secure a great set of GCSE results next summer as well as establishing the School's readiness for a visit from Ofsted. We had our last Ofsted inspection in February 2013 and are due our second visit at some point over the next 12 months. Also next week, we have the second of our Year 7 activity evenings on Friday. These annual events are part of the transition process from primary to secondary school and an opportunity for parents to establish new networks as their children join BFS. Then on Saturday we switch to the other end of our students' age range and introduce the 'Bristol Challenge' for the first time. This event is the launch of our 6th form and will see our Year 11 students descending on Bristol and attempting to complete the 'Game of Phones' challenge. All I can say is watch out for groups of jovial youths in blue tee-shirts with selfie sticks...



Richard Clutterbuck



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Micro Bit

Have you heard of the Micro Bit? The BBC is revisiting the historical past of the BBC Micro and is in the process of providing every Year 7 student in the UK with a small microcomputer which can be used to develop programming skills. To celebrate the launch the Micro Bit and to raise awareness of the digital revolution the BBC is also running a Make It Digital week, a series of programmes relating to technology including celebrations of the past, a look at the future and the BBC3 series 'Girls can Code'. As we enter a period of exceptional technological advances it is important that students understand the impact that this progress might have on their future selves. Read all about it at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/makeitdigital> and catch up on BBC iPlayer and <http://www.bbc.co.uk/mediacentre/mediapacks/microbit>.

Free School Meals

Did you know that for children eligible to receive free school meals the simple act of registering to receive them means that the School receives extra money? The School uses an online system for the processing of applications for free school meals. Please go to <https://myfreeschoolmeals.com/> and click on "Apply". Once you have completed the online application and your eligibility has been confirmed the School will be notified. Please allow five working days from the submission of your application for your child to receive the entitlement in the Dining Hall. The daily allowance for free school meals at Bristol Free School is £2.50. This can be spent at breakfast (between 8.00 am and 8.20 am) at morning break or at lunch-time. This sum allows for the purchase of food only. Drinking water is freely available in the Dining Hall and at other places in the School. If your child wishes to purchase other drinks in the Dining Hall, eg fruit juice, milk shakes then they will need to pay for this, using the School's cashless catering system. If the daily allowance is not used in any one day it does not transfer to the next day. Please note that you need to apply for free school meals on an annual basis. Parents/carers of students in Years 8, 9, 10 and 11 who received free school meals last year need to re-apply (using the system above) to ensure that their child does not miss out from the end of September.

GCSE Geography Field Trip

On Monday our Y11 Geography GCSE students visited Bristol Harbourside to carry out fieldwork investigations as part of their controlled assessments. In spite of the appalling weather students carried out a

range of activities to investigate how the area has been regenerated from derelict docks to a thriving harbourside development. Students enjoyed sketching key features of the landscape, such as the M-Shed and @Bristol and noted how the area has been improved both socially and economically. The students worked hard to collect useful information, and showed fantastic resilience to overcome the disappointing weather. The sight of 90 students interviewing members of the public in a polite and confident fashion highlighted just how well our students represent the School off-site. Now the hard work begins for the students to apply their new found knowledge in their controlled assessments. Well done to all involved. Mr Williams



Term 1 – Key Dates	
Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates.	
September	
Saturday 19	DofE bronze award assessed expedition
Sunday 20	DofE bronze award assessed expedition
Tuesday 22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Day Y10 & Y11 netball vs Henbury (home) Information meeting about trip to Iceland, 6.00 pm
Friday 25	Y7 parents and student activity evening with FoBFS (7TG2, 7TG3 & 7TG5)
Saturday 26	Bristol Challenge: Y11 only
Tuesday 29	Y7, Y8 & Y9 rugby vs Clifton High School (home at Coombe Dingle)
Wednesday 30	Open Day and Open Evening
October	
Thursday 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7, Y8 & Y9 netball vs Cotham (home) Y10 Curriculum Evening, 6.00 – 7.00pm
Thursday 8	Open Day
Thursday 15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y9: meningitis immunisations Y10 RE GCSE students – Explore RE Conference Y7 parents' Transition Evening
Monday 19	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Tuesday 20	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Wednesday 21	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Thursday 22	Y7 Barton Camp (part year)
Friday 23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Y7 Barton Camp (part year) Y11 trip to Iceland departs INSET day: school closed to students