



Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 6 March 2017

Monday

KS4 Fitness
Classics Club

Tuesday

Latin GCSE Year 2
Year 8 Parkour
All years Girls' football
Trampolining—GCSE only
Textiles Club (Y9 & 10)
Art Club
School Musical
Italian Club
Science Club
Flying Start Challenge
Model United Nations
Year 10 Young Enterprise
D of E Drop-In

Wednesday

Latin GSCE year 1
Girls' basketball (Y10 & Y11)
Y7, 8 & 9 Boys' Football
Orchestra
Year 9 Punk Band
Outdoor Club
Commercial Dance
A Level & GCSE Drama Rehearsals
Year 12 Young Enterprise
Warhammer School Alliance

Thursday

Y10 & 11 Boys' Football
Y9, Y10 & Y11 Badminton & table-tennis
Street and Hiphop Dance
Jazz Band
Junior Jazz Band
Dressmaking (Y9 & Y10)
Programming Club
French Film Club

Friday

Sports Academy

Words from the Headteacher

One of the many successes of our curriculum this year has been our Pathway 3 and Employability sessions. These provide the opportunity to focus on the world of work and career pathways. A small group of students have been working to launch a 'Spring Fair'. This takes place on Saturday 1 April at the school, between 11am and 2pm. There will be a variety of stalls and activities and the proceeds go to charity. I encourage everyone to attend and support; it promises to be a fantastic day.

This week has been all about World Book Day. Some departments take these things more competitively than others. Needless to say, the exhibitionist amongst us all has verily exploded forth in a bloom of literary colour. This year's highlights (photos are on the website) included the physical elements from a Brief History of Time, including Doppler effects and big bangs, and a cast of favourites from the Roger Hargreaves classics replacing our English staff for the day. I rearranged two meetings on account of the fact that I lacked the mental fortitude or resilience to hold a meeting with a Wolf and Snow White at the same time. My inventiveness knows no bounds; I came as Mr Jones, from the famous book, "Mr Jones, the Headteacher of Bristol Free School", by Mr Jones. I tend to roll out an outfit on a two yearly basis, much like La Biennale di Venezia.



Teresa Robinson, our esteemed and fantastic RET Maths lead practitioner, has been running a cross-trust maths challenge. It is open to all 5 schools and features some particularly stinky numerical problems. Only two students managed to achieve a 'Gold Award', and they are both at BFS. Our budding Fields Medal winners are Dan Brazil and Archit Kulkarni. We also achieved four bronze medals; with Hannah Warren, Sophie Gordon, Pippa Stephenson and Maisie Witherden cracking the code and defeating the fiendish conundrums. Well done to all!

Lastly, a brief update about the site. Block D (the other really big building) will be completed on April 24. This increases the footprint and space of the school significantly. It also means we will be making some changes to the locations of lessons, departments and offices. I will provide much more detail on this soon. Once we have moved, Skanska will begin construction of our new science labs, the dining hall alterations and the PE changing rooms. Having explored fully the possibility of an additional 4G pitch and facilities at the bottom of the site, we are now unable to take this forward. Bristol City Council have sold the land to St Monica's Trust. We are disappointed not to be getting the facilities we had hoped for and can only speculate as to why Bristol City Council took this decision. It is a proverbial double-edged sword: at the same time as selling the land they have funded much of the expansion of the site because of our increase in student numbers.

We have now turned our attention to developing what we have on site, working closely with the Greenway Centre, Combe Dingle and with St Monica's Trust who are eager to get the school using their sports facilities; they have a large cricket pitch and are exploring the possibility of a running track. At this early stage I am impressed with the level of engagement from the Trust as they seek to become 'good neighbours' with the school, and I am optimistic about the future. Every cloud has a silver lining, and if this one leads to a cohesive and community-minded relationship between the fantastic young people of this school and the lovely elderly folk of St Monica's, then the benefits will become clear to all.

Lost Property

A reminder that all uniform, PE kit, book bags and lunch boxes need to be clearly labelled with the student's full name. Lost Property has grown at a rate of knots – your help to keep it under control is greatly appreciated.

Eruptive Events

AEN Geography had a lot of fun erupting an island of volcanoes this week. We concluded that adding loads huge amounts of vinegar creates the most mess...and that the smell of vinegar is very hard to get rid of!



Bristol City Museum Art Trip

On Tuesday the Art department enjoyed a day out to the Bristol City museum and the Royal West of England Academy. Students had the opportunity to engage with some of the artworks they have been studying about for their natural forms project such as Damien Hirst's skull spin painting. At the RWA they visited the exhibition 'Strange Worlds' which displayed a broad range of work inspired by the writings of Angela Carter, for them to gain inspiration for their new projects.



Key dates for next week	
Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates	
Monday 6 March	
Tuesday 7 March	Poetry Slam Final, Colston's School, 4pm
Wednesday 8 March	Y10 Geography Field Trip to Bristol Harbourside
Thursday 9 March	
Friday 10 March	Enterprise Day Winners Trip Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra Trip, 6:45pm FoBFS Quiz Night—7pm for a 7:30 quiz, Sixth Form.

BASE (Business, Accounting and Skills Education) Competition

A team of 6 Year 12 students (*Ben Owen, Jamil Khan, Ken Carillo, Paul Vianey, Tariq Fry and Ken Carillo*) represented Bristol Free School at the prestigious BASE competition at the University of the West of England. A challenging business scenario was given to the students; using their business and accountancy skills they were asked to present their recommendations to four leading business representatives and an audience of 150 people. The team's presentation was professional and very articulate, in addition the way they handled and answered the questions from the judges was admirable. Comments made from the judges and ICAEW staff consisted off 'how mature the students were, and how they really embraced the whole day and stepped into the shoes of a chartered accountant.' As always the students were a credit to Bristol Free School. Congratulations to everyone involved!



2 Litre Bottles WANTED!

Outdoor Club would love to recycle your empty 2 litre plastic bottles... into a GREENHOUSE! A beautifully decorated drop off point can be found outside the LRC. Watch this space, to see the transformation.



Duke of Edinburgh Awards Photos

Photos from the Awards Ceremony on 8 February are now available in the Gallery on the website.

5 ways to wellbeing

Over the next 5 weeks we'll be sharing a list of five simple actions that scientific evidence shows can improve well-being in everyday life. This has been created by [nef](http://nef.org.uk), a think tank commissioned by the Government's Foresight Project on Mental Capital and Well-being to review the work of over 400 scientists from around the world.

Number 1 - Connect

Connect with people around you. With family, friends, colleagues and neighbours. Do this at home, at work, in school or in the local community. Positive social relationships are critical to our wellbeing so invest time in developing them. Whilst online social networking has its place, nothing is better than connecting with others in the real world.