



# Weekly Update

## Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 5 June 2017

### Monday

INSET DAY

### Tuesday

Latin GCSE Year 2

Boys Cricket (Years 7&8)

Girls Rounders (Years 7&8)

Textiles: Year 10 Open Workshop

Italian Club

Science Club

Flying Start Challenge

Year 10 Young Enterprise

### Wednesday

Latin GCSE Year 1

Athletics

Orchestra

Folk Band

Outdoor Club

Warhammer School Alliance

Commercial Dance

Shakespeare Production

Year 12 Young Enterprise

### Thursday

Boys Cricket (Years 9&10)

Girls Rounders

Street and Hiphop Dance

Jazz Band

Junior Jazz Band

French Film Club

Doc-Soc

Textiles Club (KS3)

Programming Club

Book Club

### Friday

Sports Academy

## Words from the Headteacher

It's been very warm this week. Students and staff have been sweltering under the intense heat of the early summer sun. Barely a week ago we were complaining about how damp and miserable it was. Thankfully, now we can complain about how ridiculously hot it is instead. As of Thursday of this week students were (are) no longer expected to wear their blazers to school. This is an entire *two days* earlier than our stated half-term change. In addition to this, because the mercury nudged up over the 25 degree mark, we went to shirt sleeve order: I allowed students to remove their ties. This, however, is temporary and we expect students back in ties after half-term. Any change to this will be announced to students during period one, following a complex meteorological assessment. Either way, they must come to school in the correct attire. After half-term, this means everything but their blazer. As my Mum used to say, somewhat magnanimously, usually on dishing out a dry cracker or some other wondrous treat, "don't say I never give you nothing".

Year 11 have been sitting exams for the past fortnight; gradually the heavyweight papers have made an appearance; Science, Maths, English, have been slipping past. The consensus from students is that these papers are hard, but that they feel as ready as they can be. They now have a well-earned interim break, punctuated by some focused revision sessions in school. Following hot on the heels of the half-term will be the second run of exams. The final paper is 26 June and we have our valedictory assembly on 27 June. *Tempus fugit irreparabile*.

High summer and hot weather means the athletics season is upon us. This week we took a large number of students to RGS for the Bristol Schools Championships. 6 boys and 6 girls from each year group competed in individual events against students from secondary schools across Bristol, with their individual points contributing towards a team total.

Students competed in one out of three track events each: 100, 300, 800 and 1500 metres and one out of three field events: javelin, shot put or the long jump. There were some stellar results. Buster Reed won the 300 metres, Evie Thompson came second in the 1500 metres and the shot put. Jasmine Firth won the 800 metre race by some distance. Overall, the Year 8 girls came second in the relay.

In Year 10, Phoebe and Holly Neville monopolised the podium with first and second in the 300 metres, and Phoebe jumped much further than anyone else in the long jump. Hannah Warren and Zoe Toye took first and second in the javelin. Deago Bailey doubled up with a win in the javelin and the 300 metres, Lewis Mills hurled the shot put into the stratosphere and both relay teams made the top 3. It was a super return on a day of superhuman feats.



**Electronic communication**

In the coming months, we will be moving towards sending more of our communications by email.

Please keep an eye out for messages regarding fixtures, trips and other information relevant to your child, and remember to keep us updated if your contact details change.

**Snow White Production**

This week saw another stellar performance from JHJK Productions. This time around, we were treated to a performance of Snow White, complete with a guest role from Alfie, playing all seven dwarves! The play saw the trademark aerobatics and musical interludes that we have come to expect from the ensemble, as well as some great narration and set design. Fingers crossed we will get to see one more performance before the end of the year!



**Duke of Edinburgh**

Last weekend saw Bristol Free School’s largest Duke of Edinburgh’s Award expedition yet! 77 Year 9 students embarked on an epic journey from Backwell Lake to Leigh Woods. In many ways the first expedition is the most difficult. The resilience displayed by the students was remarkable and for many this was the first time they have been camping. Dr Cooper was especially impressed by one student who made the controversial choice of carrying TWO rucksacks for the entire weekend! All the students are now suitably prepared for their assessed expedition next term. Well done everyone!



**Wellbeing**

The wellbeing of our parents and teachers has a number of positive impacts on our students’ wellbeing. The knock on impact of happy children is a better capacity to learn and better outcomes. Please see the poster at the end of this newsletter detailing an event that may be of interest.

**Ramadan**

We will be opening up a room for Muslim students who want a quiet place to go during lunchtimes in Ramadan. All year groups are welcome. The room is situated upstairs in D block in the room marked ‘Staff Room’ (nearest to the middle staircase). If there are any questions, please speak to Mrs Anderton.

Key dates for next week	
Please see the calendar at <a href="http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk">www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk</a> for other important dates	
<b>Monday 5 June 2017</b>	INSET DAY - school closed to students GCSE; History (am)
<b>Tuesday 6 June 2017</b>	Sports Leaders at Coombe Dingle - meet at Coombe Dingle at 8:30 GCSE; English Language (am) GCSE; Geography (pm)
<b>Wednesday 7 June 2017</b>	Year 10 Drama GCSE rehearsals all da Year 10 Drama GCSE performance, 6:30pm Y7&9 Girls Rounders vs Cotham, away AS Level; Mathematics (am) GCSE; Computing (am)
<b>Thursday 8 June 2017</b>	GCSE; Mathematics (am) Year 8 Subject Evening
<b>Friday 9 June 2017</b>	GCSE; Biology (am) GCSE; Music (pm)
<b>Saturday 10 and Sunday 11 June 2017</b>	Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Expedition

**Shakespeare at Bristol Free School**

Bristol Free School’s Year 10s had an exciting opportunity to take part in a Macbeth Shakespeare workshop last week. The Drama Hall was transformed into a scene straight from Scotland with colourful set, royal robes and dramatic music, whilst the four actors from Sky Blue Theatre Company led by John Mitton brought the play to life.

The students had the opportunity to direct the actors and see what impact different ways of playing a scene could have on the audience; we saw the actors transform the scene following King Duncan’s murder from Macbeth’s laissez-faire attitude to him being incredibly fearful with Lady Macbeth chastising his cowardice – the contrast was striking and profound.

The highlight of the day however, was when a selection of our students eagerly donned costumes to re-enact the plot of Macbeth. We enjoyed an enthusiastic and regal performance by Shaye Stewart as Macbeth – impressively, he knew several quotations thereby wowing both actors and spectators alike; James Ghosh was the all-smiling evil murderer; David Warner’s witchlike cackle was eerily chilling; we had many students riding impossibly tiny imaginary horses, and Thierry Grant - as Macbeth - managed to sneeze many of his foes to death. A huge congratulations to these students and all others who were involved in the day; it was an impressive display of our students’ willingness to get stuck in, and all left with a smile on their face.

**Westbury Fayre Performances**

On Saturday 13 May, Dynamics Choir and Treble Bass performed at the Westbury on Trym Parish Church as part of the fayre. There was a fantastic crowd, and we started off with a jazz band song, ‘Stormy Weather’. It sounded truly beautiful in the vast, echoing church hall.

Then, Dynamics performed a few songs, including ‘People Get Ready’, ‘Time of Your Life’ and ‘I Want You Back’. I think we startled people with the range of pop, rock and gospel music, and of course, the dynamic explosion!

Treble Bass played a few songs after that, including ‘Hit the Road’, ‘I Got Rhythm’ and ‘Feeling Good’.

The performances were fantastic, and thank you to Mr Pate, Miss Collins and Miss Ryan for coming along!

*Izzy Tucker, 8TG2*

# NEWSLETTER



## Welcome to the Friends of Bristol Free School newsletter

We are an active group of parents who support and organise a variety of school events and fun activities throughout the year. We raise funds for additional equipment and projects for the benefit of the Free School and the students as they develop.

### Keep in touch

We aim to regularly send out information in future newsletters about our events, but you can also follow us on Twitter @FOBFS, or visit the FOBFS page on the school website — [www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/fobfs.php](http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/fobfs.php)

## Raised over £10,000 in just 5 years!

FoBFS has been there from the start! Since the school opened in 2012, we have raised over **£10,000** for the school, all of which has been invested back into the school.

Some of the equipment we have funded includes two outdoor table tennis tables, resources for the Duke of Edinburgh programme, plus most recently a pool table for the new 6th form block.



*Pictured, left, is one of the table tennis tables that we bought last year.*

This year we agreed to fund new rugby shirts for BFS matches, plus match tops for the girls too. We have also supported the Enterprise Scheme, helped fund a Vibraphone for the music department, plus given £1,000 towards a 3D printer.

Such donations would not be possible without your support, so thank you!

## Joining FoBFS - we need your help!

FoBFS is always looking for new people to join us. Our committee of 10 are a friendly and easy going bunch, who only meet every couple of months over a pint to plan future events.

Each event has a project manager, but we are lacking someone to chair and lead the team. If you would like to find out more about the position please email us:

- [fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)

Lending a helping hand - we run the BBQ in the summer and the bar for the Year 7 Christmas Event.



Issue 1: Spring 2017

## Stay in touch ...

If you would like to find out more about the events we support please send us your contact details by emailing us at:

[fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)

## We need your help...

### Sponsorship

Could the Company you work for sponsor an event or provide match funding for needed resources?

### Donation of raffle prizes

Do you have anything that you could donate to raffle at this year's summer fair?

### Help out at an event

Could you spare 30 mins/1 hour to help set-up or serve at the next event?

**Let us know via email.**

## Future Events:


- **Summer Music Soiree:** 5th July
- **Annual Summer BBQ:** 7th July

If you are available to help at any of these events please email us.

[fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)

Or you can also sign up to help via the school newsletter—look for a link to the Doodle Poll.

Get involved with FoBFS, support your child and get to know other parents and teachers!

 wellbeing presents

# Staying sane in a frantic world

Fundraiser - Feast - Panel discussion

Only  
£25!



## With special guests:

- Cllr. Asher Craig (Deputy Mayor of Bristol)
- Chris Gladwell (Yogasara founder)
- Mark Allen (Resilience Lab trainer, Off The Record)
- Shelley Dixon (Head teacher, Dolphin School)

*Complimentary ethically-sourced 3-course feast!*

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> June, 6pm-9.30pm, Hamilton House**

Book tickets now at [hamiltonhouse.org](http://hamiltonhouse.org) or call 0117 924 9599  
for more information.

80 Stokes Croft, Bristol, BS1 3QY

