



# Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 17 July 2017

NO CLUBS THIS WEEK, including Homework Club



Friends of Bristol Free School now has an Easyfundraising account. This is a fantastic way to raise money for the school and it couldn't be easier!

Whenever you buy anything online, from your weekly shop to your annual holiday, you could be collecting free donations for FoBFS. There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Sainsbury's, Tesco, Argos, M&S, Apple, Currys, Vodafone – it doesn't cost you a penny extra! It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fobfs/> and join for free. Alternatively, download the App.

2. Every time you shop online, go to Easyfundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to FoBFS for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges. Thank you for your support and happy shopping.



## Words from the Headteacher

I've lost track of the amount of brilliant things that have happened over the past two weeks. This is no surprise, in part because at the end of a relentlessly busy term I tend to lose track of time and space, personal identity, the names of my children and my PIN number in a welter of exhaustion and elation. However, it's not about me, it's about the children, as my wife reminds me when I'm playing with Lego with my daughter (whose name escapes me), infuriated by her inability to construct a complex space station with tiny, awkward pieces. So, in no particular order...

We've had an amazing Sports Day, full of brilliant activities with everyone participating. We received tweeted apologies from the Right Hon. Darren Jones, our new MP, who was sorry he couldn't take part in the hurdles. The organisation was incredible, led by Miss McInnes and her team. The Sixth Formers were out in force and their presence made it a day to remember, a full expression of the BFS community spirit. We were relentless in our approach to the application of sun cream, and yet still some students and staff slip through the net and prefer the burnt beetroot look to safety and a pain-free evening. Coverage is key – don't forget cutaways on singlets lest you end up with a precise triangular-shaped burn in the middle of your back, or odd strips of tan on shoulders, as happened to at least one member of staff who shall remain nameless.

As the afternoon sun melted into the mellow warmth of the evening, the fantastic FoBFS team leapt into action, converting the school outdoor spaces into a mini-festival of fun, music, gladiatorial combat and tasty food. The annual barbecue was a spectacular success and it was a delight to see so many people in attendance. The raffle went down a treat, with amazing prizes still waiting to be claimed from reception, otherwise they will be 'rolled over'. They include a Balloon Ride and some meat (two separate prizes, not a balloon ride with some meat). The balloon ride will keep, but the meat needs collecting. It's starting to go a bit grey at the edges but it should be good for a few days yet, and is now steeped in flavour. FoBFS somehow combine the act of having lots of fun with the experience of supporting the school and their help and presence is invaluable. They are always on the hunt for new members; sign up!

The Madrid trip has been and gone, providing students with an immersive experience of Spanish culture and language. Behaviour was impeccable and everywhere they went the cohort of BFS students and staff left a warm and engaging impression of our school. Mr Truan was able to formulate PE expansion plans during a trip to the Bernabéu. It's not quite the Greenway.

All these things that we've done can be summed up by Mr Walker's comments in light of our Year 10 Sixth Form tasters on Thursday: **"even at the end of a relentless year and really busy term, everybody offered to help or run sessions. This afternoon has typified why I think Bristol Free School is such a brilliant place to be."**

And last, but unequivocally not least:

Good citizens of BS9 and BS10, we present *the icing on the cake*, not metaphorically, or possibly metaphorically but definitely also literally; CORE VALUES CAKES. Thank you to Science for this literal, metaphorical and gustatory representation of our ethos and values. Delicious!

Paul Jones



**Science Discovery Prize**

This week saw the second annual BFS Discovery Prize where Year 7 and 8 pupils tried to answer some of those age old scientific questions such as "Where is the edge of the Universe?", "Will robots take over the world?" and "Which foods make the smelliest farts?" Our budding scientists worked extremely hard and presented their ideas with vigour and enthusiasm. The event was well attended by pupils, parents and teachers alike making it a resounding success!



**Science Club**

Over the last few weeks, science club have been working closely with researchers from the University of Bristol to construct some ultrasound powered tractor beams. This week we had the opportunity of going to the university to see, first hand, the work that the team carries out. This involved looking at a computer chip the size of a wall, listening to a directional speaker and receiving small electrical impulses in an effort to replace braille without actually needing to touch the surface. We would like to thank the University for Bristol for their help and involvement over the last term.



**Wellbeing**

Bristol Free School has added useful links and details regarding wellbeing for parents to our website. Please feedback to us if this is useful.

<https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/parentswellbeing.php>

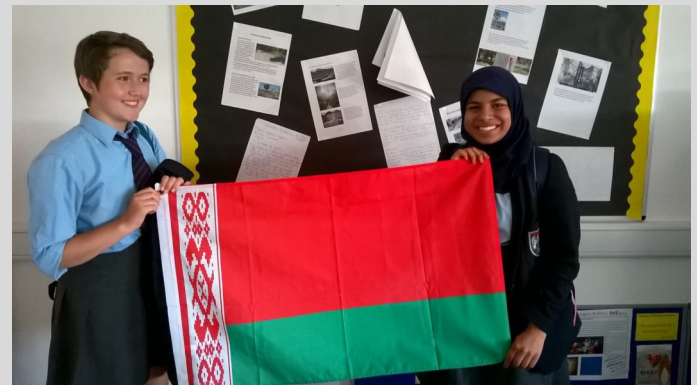
**Key dates for next week**

Please see the calendar at [www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk](http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk) for other important dates

<b>Monday 17 July 2017</b>	Curriculum Enrichment Week <b>Residentials:</b> PGL Beam House, Battlefields and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
<b>Tuesday 18 July 2017</b>	Curriculum Enrichment Week <b>Residentials:</b> PGL Beam House, Battlefields and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
<b>Wednesday 19 July 2017</b>	Curriculum Enrichment Week <b>Residentials:</b> PGL Beam House, Battlefields and Silver Duke of Edinburgh Expedition
<b>Thursday 20 July 2017</b>	Curriculum Enrichment Week
<b>Friday 21 July 2017</b>	Last day of term. Students dismissed at 1pm

**Children of Chernobyl**

On 5 July, Year 10 RP GCSE students had a talk from representatives of the Chernobyl Children's Lifeline. We learnt about the on-going impact of the nuclear disaster on the people of Belarus and the work of the charity, and tried Belarusian salad and potato cakes, plus we learnt some Russian words.



**Industrial Cadets**

On 13 July two teams of six Y8 girls from BFS went to present their designs for an environmentally friendly school building to a panel of experienced Airbus engineers. We had to complete a 3D model, a written report and display stand over a ten week period and then present our findings to the judges. We all qualified for the Industrial Cadets Bronze award and team Green City won the innovation prize, whilst team Green Wings were just pipped for the top overall prize. The students involved were Green City: Emily, Martha, Brooke, Hope, Pip and Becky; and Green Wings: Lena, Emma, Sophia, Flo, Zena and Amy.

*Report by Emily and Becky, Y8*

*The displays and reports are on display in the LRC until the end of term.*

**Parent Governor Ballot**

A reminder that the deadline for votes in the parent governor ballot is noon on Monday.

Vote forms must be received in reception by this time.

