



Weekly Update

Message from the Headteacher

Here we are at the end of Term 5 already. This has been the shortest term this academic year, into which we have packed so many important events and exciting activities.

Our Year 11 and Year 13 students continue to take public examinations this week. I must congratulate them for their positive attitude and mature conduct; they continue to be a credit to us all. We wish them the very best in their revision over the half-term break and remind them that there will be some revision sessions during the holiday. A letter has been sent home from Mr Fernandes regarding these revision sessions.

Nearly ninety Year 7s left on Wednesday morning for their PGL outdoor pursuits enrichment trip. I look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return. I would like to thank Mr Tolman, Ms Townsend, Mrs Giblin, Miss Pearson, Mr Lam, Miss Owen and Mrs Tucker for supporting this residential trip.

Last Friday I had the pleasure of meeting our local MP, Darren Jones, who spared an afternoon to visit BFS for the first time. His visit involved meeting our inquisitive and politically aware Student Council. During this session Darren was quizzed on a range of challenging topics. These included lowering the voting age to 16 years, why politicians are still talking about Brexit when the concerns with our environment are more important, and how to better address hate crime. After that he toured the site and commented on how polite, calm and orderly the school was, particularly for a Friday afternoon. Finally, he spent time with Mr MacBlain and our Year 12 Politics students (below), who very much enjoyed hearing about his experiences at Westminster at this challenging time in our country's history. It was great for our students to meet Darren and hear about the political process from him first-hand.

I would like to thank you as parents/carers for continuing to support us in maintaining high standards in our school uniform. Only this week I received some very positive feedback from a member of our community who mentioned how smart BFS students look when walking to school. The focus for the first week back after half-term will be on making sure all students are wearing the correct uniform and minimal makeup and jewellery. The summer uniform will also start, meaning blazers are not compulsory; please check the newsletter for further details on our summer uniform adjustments.

I wish you all a very good half-term and invite you to support our jazz band, *Treble Bass*, who will be performing at the Old Duke in King Street at 4pm on Saturday 25 May; I am told it is a must-see event.

We look forward to seeing students on Monday 3rd June for the start of Term 6.

Mrs S King
Headteacher



Clubs for Term 5 and 6

Please [click here](#) for details of the clubs running until the end of the year.

The week commencing 3 June is **Red Week**.

Student access

A reminder to all parents/carers that students should be accessing the site via the student gate on Concorde Drive, and not via the car park.

This is the case for the whole school day, including when any student is returning from an appointment.

Sport Report

On Wednesday, the Year 7, 8 and 10 rounders' teams had their second pool game against Cotham. It was a sunny and successful afternoon with all three teams gaining victory!

Year 7s final score was a fantastic 21.5 rounders compared to Cotham's 11.5, with Eva G nominated as player of the match.

Year 8 dominated the game throughout, winning 16-4 with Amber G nominated as their player of the match.

Year 10s finished off the winning streak with a score of 14.5-6.5, and Som B nominated as player of the match. Some great results for BFS. Well done to all students who played. Keep up the excellent work!

Miss Hammond

Student Corner

The student corner is a piece by one of our students, sharing something relevant to them, in or out of school. This week, Bea Dodd and Ella Tayler write about their politics seminar with Darren Jones, MP.

Last Friday our local MP, Darren Jones, came to visit our politics class and answered our questions. It was perfect timing given the current political situation and the fact that we're studying UK government. It solidified our knowledge of the inner workings of Parliament and the role of constituency MPs.

Darren Jones, who is a prominent 'Remainer', was happy to answer our questions about Brexit. We also obtained his views on other topics which we have studied, for example electoral systems, committees, how to run a successful campaign and the image of MPs. We were interested to hear about his inspirations for becoming involved in politics, such as previous Labour governments, which supported his education and upbringing especially under Blair.

We were inspired and are grateful to have been given this opportunity. We value having an MP who, we feel, not only accurately represents his constituency as a whole, but young people in particular, and is aware of a broad range of issues from climate change to healthcare.

Bea Dodd and Ella Tayler, Year 12

Jazz Band performing at the Old Duke, King Street

As mentioned by Mrs King— Saturday 25 May at 4pm. It promises to be a varied and enjoyable set!



Summer Uniform

From Term 6, blazers are not compulsory for students. All other elements of the uniform remain unchanged.

Please ensure the half-term break is used as an opportunity to top up or replace any items of uniform that need updating.

During the summer months, it is also important that your child brings a refillable bottle of water to school.

Volunteers needed

Can you spare some time to give young people an insight into your job and how your career has developed?

On Thursday 18 July we will be hosting a careers day. We are looking for people working in a wide variety of roles across the work force to talk about their jobs, the skills that they use and to take questions from our students.

Please email the school, marked for the attention of Miss Holyoake, PA to the Headteacher, if you can help.

Key Dates for Term 6

Wednesday 26 June—St Ursula’s and Horfield Induction Morning

Wednesday 26 June—Year 11 Leavers’ Assembly and Summer Ball (and contingency day for exams)

Thursday 27 June—Year 6 SEN Induction Day

Thursday 27 June—Sixth Form Leavers’ Assembly and Summer Ball

Friday 28 June and Monday 1 July—Inset Day

Week commencing 1 July — Year 12 Work Experience week

Week commencing 1 July—Careers interviews taking place over the next 3 weeks for Year 10

Tuesday 2 July—Awards Evening (more information to follow)

Thursday 4 July—Year 6 Induction Day and Evening

Friday 5 July—Sports Day at Coombe Dingle (more information to follow)

Wednesday 16 July—Sixth Form Induction Day and Evening

Thursday 18 July—STEM Day and Careers Café

Friday 19 July—FoBFS BBQ and Art Exhibition

Residential trips in Term 6

Year 12 Berlin, 19-22 June

Year 9 Battlefields, 8-10 July

Music Tour, 11-16 July

Bronze DofE Assessed Expedition, 12-13 July

Silver DofE Assessed Expedition, 15-17 July

Gold DofE Practice (Y12) Expedition, 15-19 July

Gold DofE Assessed (Y13) Expedition, 15-19 July

Nepal Expedition, 18 July—1 August

Events in the next fortnight

25/05/2019	Treble Bass (jazz band) at the Old Duke, 4pm
26/05/2019	
27/05/2019	HALF TERM Madrid trip
28/05/2019	Madrid trip
29/05/2019	Madrid trip
30/05/2019	Madrid trip
31/05/2019	
01/06/2019	
02/06/2019	
03/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams
04/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams Sports Leaders at WoTA Sports Day
05/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams Sports Leaders at WoTA Sports Day Y7-10 girls' rounders vs St Bede's (away)
06/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams FBP & SD Governors' Committee Meeting Music Tour information evening, 5pm
07/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams
08/06/2019	Hollow Trees (folk band) at the Festival of Nature, 11:30am U14 Netball Cup @ UWE, 4-7pm
09/06/2019	
10/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams
11/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams Rotary Technology Tournament
12/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams Year 10 Geography Field trip—Bristol Harbourside
13/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams Year 10 and 12 Geography Field trip—River Holford Battlefields Parent Information Evening, 6pm
14/06/2019	GCSE and A Level Exams
15/06/2019	
16/06/2019	



ART EXHIBITION

BRISTOL FREE SCHOOL
GCSE & A LEVEL

19 JULY 2019
D BLOCK DRAMA STUDIO