



Weekly Update

Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to take this opportunity to once again welcome all our new families to BFS. The Year 7s have made a wonderful start and are enjoying their lessons. They are a credit to their families and a delight to have in school. Year 12 have also made a fantastic start and again it is wonderful to welcome so many of last year's Year 11 back to the Sixth Form and to see new students welcomed to the BFS's family. Students are back, focused and engaged and keen to make the most of the many opportunities available to them. The start of the school year is an exciting time and we are all looking forward to this year and the challenges and rewards it will bring.

*Mrs S King
Headteacher*

OPEN EVENING THURSDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 5:30pm to 8pm

Open Evening is a very important evening for the school and a chance for us to celebrate our school. In order that we can be fully prepared for this evening I will be closing the school earlier on Thursday 26 September.

School will close at 1:30pm and students will be allowed to go home.

Many students will be invited back as student guides to support this evening. Your child will have a letter explaining this.

Thank you.

Mrs S King

Nepal Expedition

This July, 10 current Year 13 students, 2 teachers (Mr Mitchell and Mrs Jenkins), our expedition leader (Jo) travelled to Nepal for two weeks to visit Singdi school and to experience Nepal.

On 19 July, we arrived in Kathmandu mid-afternoon, feeling very jet-lagged (it was night-time back home). We had a few days of sightseeing, buying materials for our project - such as musical instruments, and recovering from the two flights we had taken. Unsurprisingly it was quite a culture shock; adjusting to the loud, vibrant city. Then we had a bumpy bus ride to Besi Sahar where we had curry for lunch (the Nepali staple of Dal Bhat) before travelling the rest of the way by jeep to the village where we would be staying for the night. From there, we did 3 days of trekking through leech-filled jungle and incredible scenery to various Gurung villages before arriving to a huge welcome at Shree Himalaya school in Singdi village. This is a partner school with BFS and also a school that Westbury-on-Trym has very close links with through the Pahar Trust.

Over the 3 days in Singdi, we taught music and science lessons, painted one of the school buildings, and laid the foundation stone for the new canteen. We also enjoyed playing football and cricket with the kids (they were tough competition!) It was really amazing there - with stunning views of the mountains. On our last evening, we were invited to a celebration in the village, with lots of dancing and gift-giving. From there we had one more long day of trekking (about 10 hours in 35 degree heat!) before we stayed in another village called Gilung, which had a great view of the Annapurna range. We then travelled to Pokhara by bus, where we had a quiet evening to do a bit of shopping and to eat some western food (after over a week of Dal Bhat every day). The next day we took another bus to Kathmandu to spend a final evening shopping and sightseeing - we visited the monkey temple, Swayambhunath - before flying home again.

Overall, the trip was an amazing experience for us, despite some ups and downs. We learnt so much about Nepali culture, food and language; improved our teamwork, leadership skills and independence; and made lots of memories. However, we did need a week or so to recover afterwards!

Maisie and Pippa, Year 13



Term 1 Dates for your Diary

16/09/2019	OPEN AFTERNOON
17/09/2019	OPEN MORNING
19/09/2019	LGB Governors Meeting
	Y7 Meet the Tutor Evening 4pm - 7pm
	Naples Geography trip parent information evening, 7pm
20/09/2019	Y13 Oxbridge Applications Deadline
	Pearson Edexcel conference
23/09/2019	OPEN AFTERNOON
24/09/2019	OPEN MORNING
	Y9, 10 & 11 girls' netball vs St Bede's, home
25/09/2019	Y9&10 boys' rugby vs Castle School, away
26/09/2019	OPEN EVENING—All students dismissed at 1:30pm
27/09/2019	FoBFS Year 7 BBQ
30/09/2019	OPEN AFTERNOON
01/10/2019	Y10&11 girls' netball vs Blaise High, home
02/10/2019	Y12 University and Apprenticeship Fair at Ashton Gate
03/10/2019	Y10 & Y11 GCSE Curriculum Evening
	Y10 Bristol Schools' Rugby Festival
04/10/2019	
07/10/2019	A Level Geography Field Trip
08/10/2019	A Level Geography Field Trip
	Y10&11 girls' netball vs Oasis Brightstowe, home
09/10/2019	A Level Geography Field Trip
	Y10&12 Equal Engineers Careers Fair, 11:15am-5pm
	Y11 Netball Festival at Clifton College
	Y9 Bristol Schools' Rugby Festival
10/10/2019	A Level Geography Field Trip
	Amazon Get into IT Bootcamp (Y8)
	Y7, 8 & 9 girls' netball vs Blaise High, away
	FoBFS AGM, 7pm
11/10/2019	A Level Geography Field Trip
14/10/2019	SCS Governors Meeting
	Y9&10 boys' rugby vs Cathedral School, away
15/10/2019	
16/10/2019	Y8 Bristol Schools' Rugby Festival
	Y10 Netball Festival at Clifton College
17/10/2019	Y12 Settling in Evening 4pm - 7pm
	Y7, 8 & 9 girls' netball vs Oasis Brightstowe, away
	Y9&10 boys' rugby vs SMRT, away
18/10/2019	Inset Day - SCHOOL CLOSED TO STUDENTS
21/10/2019	
22/10/2019	Year 7 to Clifton College - Team Building Activities
	Y7&8 girls' netball vs St Bede's, away
23/10/2019	Year 7 to Clifton College - Team Building Activities
	Year 9 Netball Festival at Clifton College
24/10/2019	Year 7 to Clifton College - Team Building Activities
	DofE Parents' Meeting, 6pm, Drama Hall
25/10/2019	Sixth Form Bursary Application Deadline

Clubs for Term 1 and 2

Please see below for the fantastic clubs offering for Term 1 and 2.

All clubs below run from 3:05—4:15pm unless stated otherwise.

	Activity	Staff	Room
Mon	Book Club	6 th Formers	DG10
	Homework Club	Mr Giblin and Ms Hussey	LRC
Tues	Science Club	Miss Smith and Miss Board	CF20
	Amazon App Development team competition (Year 8 only)	Mrs Sherman	CG15
	Playwriting Club (starts in October)	Ms Clifton	Drama Hall
	Dynamics Choir (3-4pm)	Mr Pate	DG31
	Chamber Choir (4-4:30pm)	Mr Pate	DG31
	Year 7 Boys' Rugby	Mr Tolman	Greenway
	KS4 Girls' Netball	Mrs Wynne-Jones and Miss Hammond	MUGA
	Year 10 and 11 Boys' Basketball	Mr Cosgrove	Sports Hall
	Homework Club	Mr Giblin and Ms Hussey	LRC
Weds	Year 10 and 11 Boys' Rugby	Mr Walker	Greenway
	Year 8 and 9 Boys' Basketball	Mr Cosgrove	Sports Hall
	Year 7 Girls' Netball	Mrs Ballard	MUGA
	Year 7 Art Club	Mrs Stokes	DF34
	Year 8 Art Club	Mrs Suter	DF02
	Year 9 Art Club	Miss Dawson	DF35
	Perfect Cadence (Orchestra)	Mrs Wynne-Jones	DG32
	Hollow Trees (Folk Band)	Mr Pate	DG31
	Whirlwind (Wind Band)	Mrs Giblin	DG32
	School Production Drama Rehearsals	Ms Clifton	DG01
	Programming Club (KS3 only)	Mrs Ramanandi	CG02
	Year 11/Year 13 DT NEA Support	DT Team	CG15 & CG19
	Homework Club	Mr Giblin and Ms Hussey	LRC
	Thurs	Year 8 & 9 Girls' Netball	Mrs Wynne-Jones and Miss Hammond
Year 8 and 9 Boys' Rugby		Mr Tolman and Mr Truan	Greenway
Treble Bass (Jazz Band)		Mr Pate	DG31
School Production Music Rehearsals		Mrs Giblin	DG32
MFL Film Club		Miss Pearson	DF19
Warhammer Club		Mr Fernandes	CG11
Creative Writing Club		Mr Treen	DG05
Computer Science Support and Programming Club (KS4/5)		Mrs Sherman/Mrs Ramanandi	CG15
Year 7 Flying Start Competition (starts October)		Mr Lam	CG22
Christmas Cake and Treats (limited numbers – sign up in advance)		Mrs Ford/Mrs Day	CG23
TERM 2 ONLY			
Homework Club	Mr Giblin and Ms Hussey	LRC	
Fri	Cross-Country	Mrs Wynne-Jones	Sports Hall

Sports News

Huge congratulations to Bailey Turner who has been selected to represent the South Gloucester Under 16's football team.

Everyone at BFS wishes him luck in his efforts to reach the County team.

Wanted: miniature jam jars

Art and DT are on the look out for miniature jam jars! If you have any that you are willing to donate please bring them to reception.



Show My Homework

Hopefully all students have now managed to access SMHW successfully using their school network credentials and are up to date with homework! For those still experiencing difficulties here is a reminder about how to access SMHW...

Students should be logging in to SMHW by clicking the Sign In with Google button and entering school email address and the password they chose for the computers rather than entering school name/username/password. This applies when using the app and the website. If the student is signed into Chrome already, it should log them in automatically. In order for students to submit work online or complete spelling tests, they must be logged into their own account, not their parents.

Email: username@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

Password: the usual computer password

If students have forgotten their school password, they can ask their computer science teacher to reset it in the lesson or will need to see Mrs Sherman in CG15 **after school**.

Year 7 students have all been issued with a parental PIN to provide access to SMHW and any existing parents who have forgotten their login details or who have not registered should email admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk and Mrs Sherman will send a password reset link.



FoBFS AGM

Friends of Bristol Free School (FoBFS) is the school's PTA which raises funds for the school.

We will be holding our AGM at 7pm in the Sixth Form Common Room, on Thursday 10 October. At our AGM we will have the pleasure of Mrs King speaking and we will be reviewing last year and forming our committee for this academic year. We hope to see you there.

FoBFS will also be at the Year 7 BBQ on Friday 27 September, so we look forward to meeting parents new to the school.

Duke of York iDEA Bronze and Silver Awards

This year, all KS3 students will be working towards achieving the Bronze and Silver Duke of York iDEA awards in lessons and for homework.

iDEA is an international programme that helps develop digital, enterprise and employability skills for free. Through our series of online challenges, participants can win career-enhancing badges, unlock new opportunities and, ultimately, gain industry recognised awards that help them stand out from the crowd. In addition, it is not just for students - parents and carers take joint too to improve their own digital skills. Students are expected to work on the badges for homework and should aim to achieve at least two badges a fortnight. Amazingly, in just a week since we launched the scheme, five KS3 students have achieved the Bronze Award and our now working on their Silver Award! They will soon receive their certificate from Buckingham Palace - many congratulations!

If you would like to take part, visit www.idea.org.uk and sign up today! Who will achieve Bronze first? You or your child?!

Homework Club

LRC • 3:10 – 4:15pm • Monday to Thursday



Homework and so much more!

Access to computers

Space for groups to produce collaborative work or to revise together

A quiet place to concentrate on your homework without distractions

Computers available for research of SMHW tasks

Come along on your own or with a group of friends

Support with finding useful books in the LRC



What else?

- Help with the computers (we can change your password if you've forgotten it)
- How to get onto Show My Homework and use it.
- How to log into your school email account and use it
- Advice on study skills and techniques.
- Help with a range of commonly asked questions such as how to print out your work.

Miss Hussey, Mr Giblin and others will be there to help you

