

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

WELCOME BACK!

We have enjoyed a very sunny week in school and it has been great to see students enjoying the outdoor spaces. Having regular access to St Monica's cricket ground has made a positive impact to sport and PE lessons here at BFS. We have hosted two cricket fixtures this term already; one against St Bede's and another with Blaise High. So far our cricket teams are unbeaten. This is a fantastic start to the summer sport season and we are very proud of our team's success.



YEAR 10 PARENTS EVENING

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended Year 10 subject evening yesterday evening. The virtual parents evenings have proved to be very convenient and popular with busy family life so moving forward we will keep this alongside inviting families into school for events.

SUBSEA

On Wednesday our amazing year 9 STEM Team travelled to Aberdeen to compete in the Global Underwater Hub Subsea National Final. They were runners up against 5 other teams from across the UK. A full report follows below. A big thank you to Ms Board and Mr Innes who accompanied the trip.



DOFE

Year 9 completed their Duke of Edinburgh final expedition this week. A thank you to Mr Wieczorek for supervising over the two days. The behaviour was fantastic and students all had a great time in the scorching weather.

BFS UNIFORM

BFS uniform is looking much better this term and I thank families for supporting this focus for the term. Any issues with uniform need to be accompanied by an explanation note and details of when it will be resolved. We are unapologetically strict about this as we are proud of our smart uniform.

Finally, I hope you have managed to read the recent letter I sent last term – it outlines all the expectations and event dates we have planned for term 6. Please see our website if you need to find a copy.



MRS S KING

KEY DATES

- 18-20 June - Silver Qualifying DofE expedition
- 18-20 June - Year 12 Gold Practice expedition
- 1 July - INSET Day



ATTENDANCE MATTERS HOLIDAYS

Penalty notices can be issued to parents and carers if they fail to ensure the regular attendance of their child at school. Most commonly they are issued for unauthorised holidays, but they can also be issued for irregular attendance at school. Penalty notice fines are currently £60 per student per parent. So, if two parents take a student on an unauthorised holiday, both parents may receive a £60 fine. Failure to pay a penalty notice may result in a prosecution from the local authority. In cases of poor attendance at school, the local authority may deem prosecution to be a more appropriate measure than a penalty notice. A prosecution can lead to fines of up to £2500 or imprisonment.

Penalty notices and prosecutions are mentioned on attendance letters that we send home to the parents and carers of students with concerning attendance records. This is because the local authority consider it to be best practice to inform parents of the consequences of poor attendance from the earliest point that a concern is raised.

As a school, we prefer to work with parents to solve attendance issues at an early stage and only use prosecution as a final resort. If you have any concerns regarding your child's attendance, please contact your child's year leader or the Attendance Team.

Please note, we have been issuing fines.

Many thanks
Attendance Team

UNIFORM



As we move towards sunnier weather and an increase in temperature, we allow students to have the option not to wear their blazer, should they wish. This will remain in place for the entirety of Term 6. However, students must not use this as an opportunity to wear a coat as piece of uniform instead. If coats or gilets are to be worn at social times and moving about the building, they must be worn over a blazer. I would be grateful for your support in reinforcing this message at home. We place high value on our students looking smart and taking pride in their uniform.



BFS ART

Do you have any spare newspapers? We need your help!

We have various exciting Art projects happening within the next couple of weeks which require a lot of newspaper. Please send any in you have spare, we will be very grateful!

We look forward to showcasing these designs to you in the upcoming newsletters and on our social media feeds!

Thank you!



FOBFS NEWS!

FOBFS are meeting on Weds 22 June 7.45 at the Eastfield pub. We are planning our next few events and would welcome anyone who may be interested finding out more about us and how they could help. Please Email Fobfs@bristolfreeschool.org with any questions

BFS presents...

Matilda



Thurs 14 July 7pm

Fri 15 July 2:30pm & 7pm

Redland Hall, Redmaids' High School, Westbury-on-Trym

Tickets £4/£2 concessions

Available to purchase via ParentPay

BFS SIXTH FORM



MR SMITH

SIXTH FORM UPDATE

Our Year 12 students will shortly embark on their End of Year exams (and indeed some students have already begun these) and I have been very impressed by the manner in which they have prepared. Students will not be coming into school for tutor or for lessons (apart from in some BTECs) as they practise having many exams in quick succession. These exams will help in the process of providing predicted grades for their UCAS and apprenticeship applications, helping them along the journey to their dream destinations.

The following week (w/c 27 June) will see the majority of our students participating in work experience. Work experience has been optional this year due to the difficulty of finding placement opportunities as a result of the pandemic - but students have secured placements in a broad range of disciplines and locations - from textiles companies in London to architects, primary schools and hospices closer to home. Students who have not secured work experience will remain in school as normal for lesson and tutor - teachers have planned special lessons to support them with re-teach and revision activities connected to the weaker areas that they have identified in recent assessments.

We are also excited to have those Year 11s who plan on joining our Sixth Form with us for the Sixth Form Transition Day on Tuesday 28 June. On this day, students will have an A Level/BTEC lesson in each of the subjects which they have chosen for Sixth Form and will receive a pack of transition work (for each subject) which we would like them to complete in the Summer Holidays in preparation for their first lessons with us in September.

And finally, I must finish with a shout out to our current Year 13s who will be finishing their exam series in the next few weeks. The diligence and resilience with which they have approached their exams have been a real credit to the school and we wish them well with their final few exams (not long now!). We look forward to saying our goodbyes during the Leaver's Assembly (Tuesday 5 July - 10am-11.30am), the Summer Ball (Tuesday 5 July - 7pm-11pm) and the Awards Evening (Monday 18 July - 7pm-11pm).

YEAR 13 END OF EXAMS PSYCHOLOGY PARTY



Congratulations to some of our sixth form students who have finished their exams for the summer! We have been so impressed with your hard work and positivity!



BFS SIXTH FORM



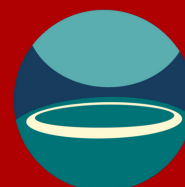
MR MACBLAIN

BFS HOUSE SYSTEM

I would firstly like to take the opportunity to thank my predecessor, Mr Walker, for his hard work in setting up and developing a house system at BFS. I think the house names and branding are superb and I am really relishing the opportunity to start to drive our house system forward and hopefully embed a sense of belonging for our young people within this.

My vision is to create a sense of belonging to each house and I would like to do this through creating a wide range of competitions that students can engage in throughout the year, culminating in an afternoon whereby we can really celebrate the house winners. This would entail running a fortnightly curriculum competition, with each department running one in turn, a termly competition run by one of the senior leadership team that will hopefully involve you as parent/carers and a weekly series of 'pop-up' competitions run by our 6th form students. It will be lovely to really showcase our competition winners through the newsletter and to raise genuine excitement about securing house points.

I am really excited about the possibilities our house system can offer and look forward to celebrating all our house winners.



CANFORD



ASHTON



HAASE



DURHAM



Lifeboats



BFS SCIENCE SUBSEA STEM CHALLENGE!



MS BOARD

This week our STEMtastic team of Year 9s jetted off to Aberdeen for the National Finals of the GUH Subsea competition. After winning the regionals in May, we couldn't wait to represent BFS and show our talent and creativity in the two-day event.

We had a very early start to get to Bristol Airport, but the team kept up the morale throughout the journey, marvelling at the landscape, wildlife and accents along the way! For some students this was their first trip on a plane and excitement levels were at fever pitch.



Mr Innes did a superb job of pointing out the landmarks and sights of his home town and also introducing us to some notable Scottish delicacies! It was a trip of many firsts-plane journeys, train journeys, standing up on a bus, Irn Bru tasting, cheeky Nandos, hotel breakfasts plus more!



FIRST NANDOS!



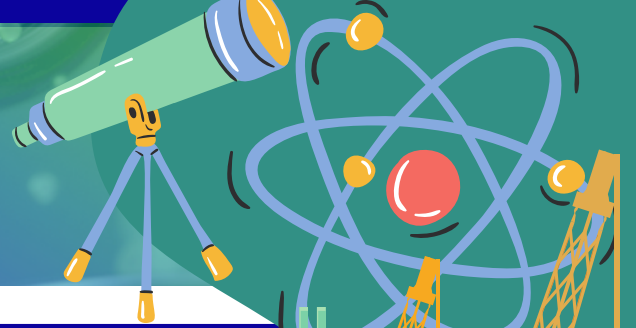
FIRST IRN BRU!



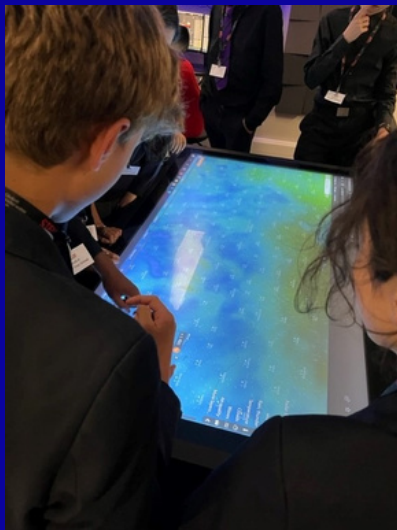
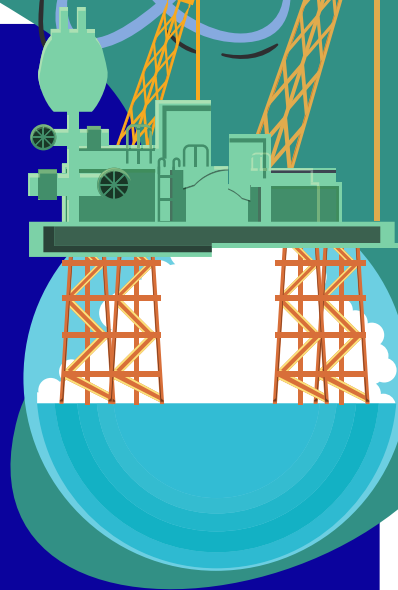
Nando's



BFS SCIENCE SUBSEA STEM CHALLENGE!



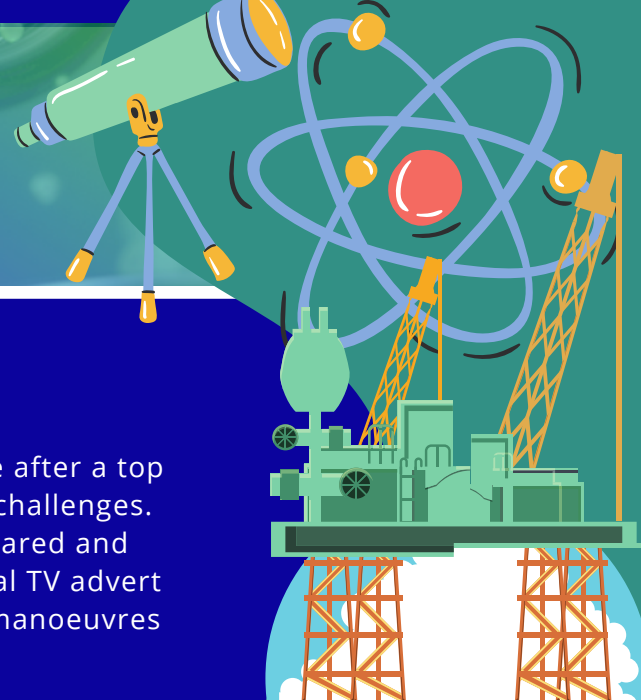
On Wednesday afternoon we were treated to a tour of Fugro HQ, experiencing how remotely operated vehicles (ROVs) are used to analyse and repair subsea structures, with an additional behind the scenes look at their tooling site. We even got to use some of their very expensive equipment, controlling a titanium mechanical arm and sitting in the driving seat to control the ROVs themselves!



SEEING THE SIGHTS!



BFS SCIENCE SUBSEA STEM CHALLENGE!



COMPETITION DAY!

On the competition day itself we headed over to the venue after a top notch hotel breakfast (a real highlight!) ready to face the challenges.

The task was similar to the regional final so we felt prepared and confident, but the additional task of creating a professional TV advert to sell their ROV and also programming it to do far more manoeuvres was daunting.



DAVID & BRENNAN

David, Dylan and Brennan were superb at overcoming the literal obstacles of the course and also the programming difficulties. Mila produced a spectacular marketing poster and Aleseya and Martha with help from everyone created the best advert of the competition. After hours of diligent work, they delivered a pitch worthy of The Apprentice, with all judges commenting on their fantastic approach.

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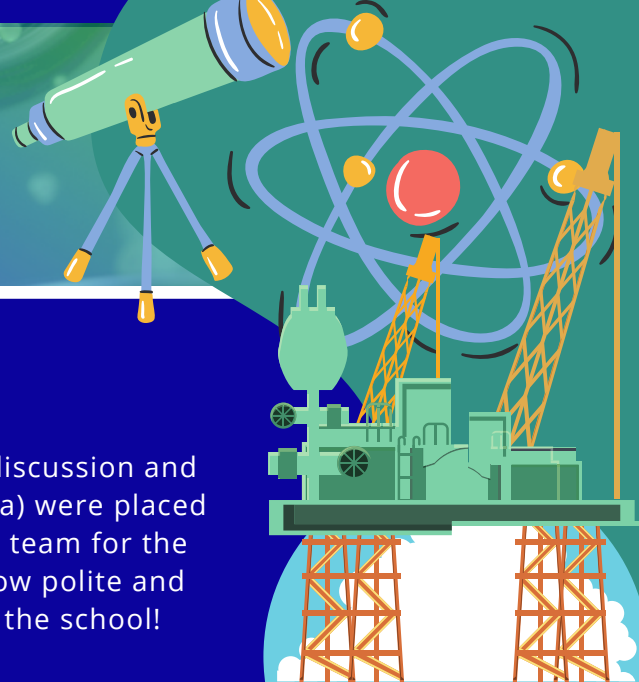
MILA



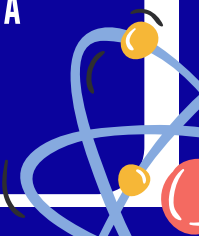
BFS SCIENCE SUBSEA STEM CHALLENGE!

BIG PITCH!

It was now time for the judges to deliberate. After tense discussion and much back and forth, Team BFS (team name-Under The Sea) were placed as runners up, with commendations from the whole GUH team for the efforts. Every judge and expert made a point of saying how polite and mature our students are-they are an absolute credit to the school!



AFTER A LONG TWO DAYS WE HEADED TO THE AIRPORT, FLYING ON THE TINIEST PLANE BACK TO BRISTOL, FULL OF GREAT MEMORIES, FUN TIMES, ONCE IN A LIFETIME EXPERIENCES, PLUS A BACKPACK FULL OF TUNNOCKS CARAMEL WAFERS! IT WAS THE BEST TIME EVER!





MRS BALLARD

BFS SPORT



CELEBRATING SPORTING SUCCESS



Y7 ROUNDERS VS BLAISE

Y7 beat Blaise 25-15 with Ben as Player of the match, well done team!



YEAR 8 GIRLS ROUNDERS VS BLAISE

Year 8 won convincingly 14-5.5. They managed to get the whole opposition out before the end of the second innings! Imogen D was voted player of the match, very deserving after scoring 5 rounders!!



THIS WEEK IN DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

design & Technology



MRS STREET

DYSON ENGINEERING

This week in D&T we have been given the Dyson Engineering Box. Students take apart a Dyson machine, identifying design clues, to understand the engineering thinking behind how – and why – it works. It introduces young people to the exciting world of engineering, encouraging them to think differently, make mistakes and realise their engineering potential. Our Year 9s have been very engaged and shown fantastic engineering skills.



"WE WANT TO INSPIRE THE
NEXT GENERATION OF
ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS
AND WE WANT TO DO THIS
BY HANDS-ON LEARNING
AND EXPERIMENTATION."
JAMES DYSON

THE JAMES
DYSON
FOUNDATION
INSPIRING THE
NEXT GENERATION
OF ENGINEERS



BFS COMPUTER SCIENCE



MRS RAMANANDI

FUTURE LEADERS TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMME FOR GIRLS' IN SUMMER 2022

KPMG Bristol are running the IT's Her Future, 'Future Leaders Technology Programme for Girls' in Summer 2022. IT's Her Future is a national network that aims to tackle gender diversity, both within KPMG as well as the wider technology industry. Our flagship event is the Future Leaders Technology Programme for Girls - an insight programme during which we invite students into the KPMG office to bust myths about a career in technology. We are currently in the planning stages for a Bristol-based programme, running between 19-21 July 2022.

The programme is aimed at girls aged 14-15 years old and will give them the opportunity to attend sessions run by both KPMG teams and some of our external partners - all focused around cutting edge technology. The students will also leave the programme with a KPMG mentor – someone we hope they can maintain a long lasting relationship with. The programme is completely FREE of charge. We welcome all students - even those who don't have a current interest in technology. The programme aims to inspire. Please get your child to fill out the following application form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/3GirqMrSyJ> If you have any questions, please contact me on n.ramanandi@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

IT's Her Future

Empowering women in Technology & Engineering



IT's Her Future Mentoring



We love to collaborate – not just in teams, but in a development sense too. Which is why, as a female joining us in technology, you'll have the support of a senior leader from the start - a mentor on hand to help you learn and grow.



MENTAL HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING

Mental Health & Safeguarding Support, Advice & Information



Ms Townsend, Mental Health & Safeguarding Manager



Miss Hastings, Medical and Mental Health Officer

MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

This week has been Men's Mental Health Week.

13-19 June saw the world celebrate Men's Health Week. If ever there was a time to bring awareness to mental health issues that affect men and focus on getting men to become aware of problems they may have or could develop - and gain the courage to do something about it.

If you feel your young person could do with talking about their mental health do ask them to drop in DF29 or email tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk we can be discreet if they are worried about other's thoughts.



Things We Need To Normalise For Men



Mental Health issues



Going to therapy



Asking for help



Showing emotions



Speaking up



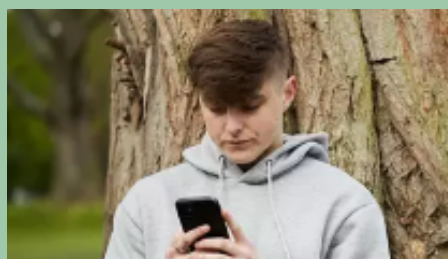
Not being ok

@FIGHTTHROUGHMENTALHEALTH



Find out more about Men and mental health

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/a-to-z/m/men-and-mental-health>



**MEN, TALKING TO MEN
CHANGE PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS, OPINIONS
& MINDS ABOUT MEN & MENTAL
HEALTH.**

[HTTPS://WWW.MANUP.HOW/](https://www.manup.how/)

YOUNGMINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

Whether you want to understand more about how you're feeling, get information about a mental health condition or find out what support is available to you, Young Minds guides can help.

<https://www.youngminds.org.uk/young-person/>

TELLSOMEONE@BRISTOLFREESCHOOL.ORG.UK



You are
welcome
in our
school

**Ласкаво
просимо
в нашу
школу**

