

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

HEAD TEACHER MESSAGE

A big thank you to Mrs Kinnersley and supporting staff for organising a lovely art and photography trip to Westonbirt yesterday.

Although the weather was cold and showery it gave the opportunity for students to take some interesting photos and sketches of the various Spring blooms, foliage and reflections from puddles.



I was lucky to support the trip and was so proud of the way our students conducted themselves in public and how enthusiastic they were being out and about in nature.

Our Year 10, Year 11 and Year 13 will all need to start their revision over the Easter break with exams coming up straight from the first week back. We have opened school on Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 April for students to revise in more formal conditions. There is a booking form that needs to be completed so please only turn up in school if you have booked in.



We wish all staff and students who will be departing tomorrow for the Ski Trip to Claviere in Italy a safe journey and lots of snow! I am very envious of this great experience and hope they create life long memories.



Finally, thank you for all your support over the last two terms. Schools can only thrive if they work together with home and the wider community. I am so grateful for the support we at BFS receive from you.

Term 5 starts on Monday 15 April with full, smart BFS uniform please. Any issues please send your child in with a note to explain the situation.



Wishing you all a very Happy Easter and a Happy Eid on 9 April.



MRS S KING



KEY DATES

- **Monday 8 to Wednesday 10 April:** Revision Sessions (Pre-booked Only)
- **Monday 15 April:** Term 5 Starts
Voice 21 (All Day)
- **Tuesday 16 April:** Bring Your Own Bottle Launch
Bristol Beacon Gala (5.00pm-8.00pm)



Science Competition Winner!



MISS HAWES

Tadiwa has won the KS4 biology competition for neglected tropical diseases. We wish her well in the national competition. Good luck!



NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES

Rabies
Rabies lyssavirus is a viral disease affecting the central nervous system. Rabies is 100% fatal if the rabies shot hasn't been taken.

Symptoms
Symptoms include: cerebral dysfunction, fever, fever-like symptoms, agitation, headache, weakness/d/comfort, anxiety, foaming at the mouth, itching/prickling sensation at the site of the bite, confusion, and severe.

Prevention:
• Rabies vaccination
• Keep rabid animals under control

Treatments:
• If you believe to be exposed, you must get a series of shots to prevent infection otherwise rabies will cause death.

Climate change: alters the conditions for pathogen and vectors of zoonotic diseases which can cause an increase of rabies cases. Climate change also makes it easier for disease carrying vectors and the infection they spread to expand into new geographic areas and

Social effects: Rabies causes 59,000 deaths every year in Asia and Africa with 40% being children under 15 years old.

EASTER EGG HUNT!

FIND AND CLICK THE EASTER EGG HIDING IN THIS NEWSLETTER!

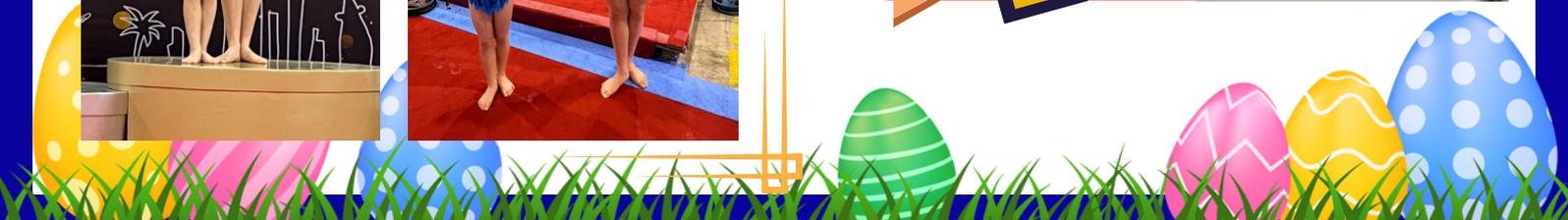


WELL DONE!

Chloe C was selected to represent Harriers Acrobatic Gymnastics Club in Dubai's very first international acrobatic gymnastics competition. She competed in the women's pair category and won gold with her younger 'top' after 3 excellent high scoring clean routines. They were also entered into a team competition (with women's trios, mixed pairs and women's pairs) and came away with a silver medal in that category.

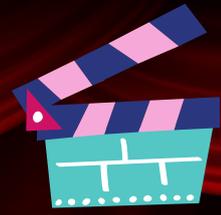


Idan S, 8TG7, won first place in the British Schools Judo Championship which was conducted at the English Sports Institute in Sheffield, for years 8/9, in the -42kg category, representing Bristol Free School.





BFS DRAMA



MS JEROME

Huge congratulations to the Year 11 GCSE cohort on completing their GCSE practical exam. There were some really fantastic performances! You've done yourselves, and me, very proud! Well done 😊 Mrs Jerome



Lights
CAMERA
ACTION!



DRAMA:





BFS Fund



Staff and Governors at BFS are determined to ensure that every student at our school has access to an enriched education with inspiring curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. Through our BFS Promise, we offer a huge range of additional opportunities for all our students as they progress through the school.

Funding in schools has been under increasing pressure for several years now and we work tirelessly to provide the best possible experiences for your children with less resources. To continue to deliver and improve on the additional experiences and opportunities we offer is increasingly challenging.



With this in mind, we are re-launching the BFS Fund to help us provide some of those extras that make all the difference to school life, that we otherwise may not afford. BFS fund will go towards improving our school environment and sustaining our wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities.

Initiatives include:

- Improvement of social spaces e.g. Landscaping and outdoor furniture and equipment for social times
- Grounds development projects such as sports spaces and outside environmental classroom/garden
- Collapsed curriculum days and visiting agencies.
- Special visitors/speakers /authors
- Performing Arts workshops and visiting theatre groups
- Additional/specialist Arts, Crafts & Technology materials
- Resources for extra-curricular clubs and activities such as Gardening club
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) activities



DONATE



What do we ask parents to contribute?

We suggest £10 a month as a voluntary contribution but if you would like to pay more (or less), we are very happy to receive any amount that parents can afford, and think is appropriate. We are also very pleased to receive one-off donations. Any donation will be much appreciated and will make a difference.



BFS OPPORTUNITIES

MR EAST

Bank Of England Governor Talk at St Mary Redcliffe School

On Tuesday 26 March, 40 economics students visited St Mary Redcliffe School (at their kind invitation) along with 5 other schools to hear from the Governor of the Bank of England – Andrew Bailey. Sixth form economics students have been learning about macroeconomics - the role the Bank of England plays in stabilising the UK economy and providing a platform for growth.

Mr Bailey gave a short talk and then answered questions from students. This ranged from a discussion over inflation and interest rates; government influence and pressure; gender equality in banking; printing new money with the King's face on it for the first time and how he and others ended up with careers in central banking.

The largest gasps from the audience came from Caleb E's question where he asked him to explain how he justified his salary and to describe his typical working day. A tough question that Mr Bailey answered directly and openly! A positive trip and very useful information for students soon to be sitting mocks and public exams.



A career highlight to date
Evan C with Mr Bailey



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

MR SMITH

This week, we were joined by Mrs King for a Q&A session in which we had set a theme of 'the future school'.

We started with questions about AI and how it would impact on schools. Mrs King spoke about the impact on exams and coursework and about ways in which it could help students if used well. We moved on to ask about whether there were any plans for solar panels as students learn about sustainability in DT.

Mrs King spoke about becoming an eco-school, about the potential for leasing solar panels and about other initiatives like rewilding and lights with sensors. Lastly, we discussed plans for the school site - including whether there were plans for an Astro pitch.

Mrs King described some of the plans that were being considered to develop the site over the next few years.



careers notices

EMPLOYER TALKS



MS NORTON
CAREERS LEAD

Last Friday, we welcomed Kate Chick, who works at Bristol Airport, to talk to students from Y9 - Y13 about careers at the airport. She started by talking about the planned expansion of Bristol Airport which will see passenger numbers increase from 10 to 12 million per annum; these are exciting changes for the airport which will see improvements to car parking, security and restaurants. The expansion will bring an additional 800 jobs to the airport itself and another 5,000 jobs to the region.



Kate then discussed the wide range of job roles that are needed to make Bristol airport run smoothly. These included roles in engineering, infrastructure, marketing, HR, security, construction, immigration and of course pilots and cabin crew. It is an exciting time for Bristol airport, and there will be lots of seasonal work available which might suit those leaving Y11 or Y13 this year. Many of the staff in senior positions at the airport started there by doing seasonal work and have moved through a series of different positions to get their positions today. This could be a great foot in the door to experience a range of different roles at the airport.

LRC NEWS



MS GRIFFITHS

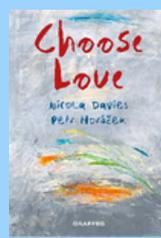
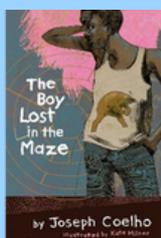
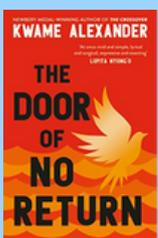
BFS Yoto Carnegie Shoppers' Choice Awards – book and reading lovers required

The Yoto Carnegies are the longest running, and considered to be the most prestigious, awards for children's and young adults' fiction. Every year a list of outstanding works of fiction are nominated for the medal, and these works are judged by a group of children's librarians. Children and young adults are encouraged to become 'shoppers' and read from the nominated list and then vote for their winning choice.

This year there are eight books on the nominated shortlist and copies of these will be available from the LRC for anyone interested in being a shopper. We will meet once a week for an opportunity to discuss what we've read so far, swap books if needed and have some more time to enjoy reading. Shoppers can read as many of the eight books as they choose (not all eight have to be read).

Anyone interested should speak to Ms Griffiths or Mrs Spear in the LRC if they would like to take part.

The 2024 Yoto Carnegie Medal for Writing shortlist is:





BFS SCIENCE



MR LALLY

"Sounds Like Science" Physics Competition: Discover the Harmony of Physics and Music!

Are you ready to tune in to the fascinating world where science meets music? Introducing our latest physics competition, "Sounds Like Science", where you can explore the symphony of connections between the realms of physics and music!

How to Participate:

Choose Your Activity: Select an activity from [this list](#) that resonates with your interests. Whether you're intrigued by the physics of a musical instrument or the mathematical rhythms in a piece of music, there's something for everyone!

Get Creative: Dive into your chosen activity and unleash your creativity! Explore, experiment, and enjoy the process of discovering the scientific and musical connections.

Capture the Moment: While you're exploring the fascinating links between science and music, don't forget to capture a snapshot of yourself in action!

Submit Your Entry: Email your photo to a.lally@bristolfreeschool.org.uk along with your name, class, and a brief description of the activity you chose and what you learned from it.

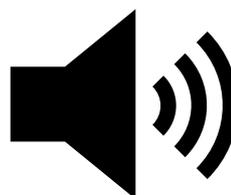


Competition Rewards:

1 Activity: Receive 1 house point

3 Activities: Receive 2 house points

5 or More Activities: Receive 4 house points



Tips for Success:



Resonate with Your Interests: Choose an activity that strikes a chord with your passion for either science or music.

Pitch-Perfect Planning: Plan and organise your experiment or exploration in advance to hit all the right notes.

Sound Advice: Take clear and creative photos that amplify your enthusiasm and the essence of your chosen activity.

Let's Make Some Noise!

For any questions or further information, please contact a.lally@bristolfreeschool.org.uk

SOUTH WEST SAXONS JUNIORS

We are excited to announce the training plan for the South West Saxons Juniors for the 2024 season. After an exciting and highly successful first junior nationals in 2023, we are raring to go again!

The England Touch Nationals (Touch Rugby) have competitions for U15 Girls, U15 Boys, U18 Girls & U18 Boys and these are mixed age groups (so U13/U14/U14 = U15)

There are open trials and open training sessions across next term for selection into the squads for the 2-day nationals in Nottingham at end of August/start of September.



NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY: rugby players, netballers, basketballers, footballers, runners, sprinters... can all make great touch players- it's very quick to pick up. Plenty of novice players attend the trials and training and a good number go on to get selected.

There is also a school tournament in May taking place in Bristol as a taster: <https://www.try-sports.com/events/south-west-schools-touch-championships>

Expression of interest form

Please contact swsaxonsjuniors@gmail.com for more information!



South West Junior Chef of the Year 2024



South West and Cornwall Junior Chef of the Year 2023, Freya (above), along with some of her fellow finalists (clockwise) Theo, Jessica, Akshatha and Elijah with judge, Neil Haydock

Your chance to win the Junior Chef title in your county and compete for the overall South West Junior Chef of the Year 2024

Entries are open to cooks aged 11-16. Simply send us your recipe for a main course dish to serve two, using principally locally grown and produced ingredients.

Selected entrants will be invited to prepare their dish in 90 minutes for our judges in their own county initially and each of the county winners will then compete at the South West final in October. To help finalists to prepare for the South West final, they will receive advice and mentoring from one of our judges, enabling them to learn new skills and experience life in a working kitchen.

You will find further details and the entry form at www.southwestchef.co.uk/the-competition/junior-chef

County finals

- Wiltshire**
Monday 17th June, Wiltshire College, Trowbridge
- Dorset**
Monday 24th June, Weymouth College
- Somerset**
Tuesday 25th June, Bridgwater & Taunton College, Taunton
- Devon**
Wednesday 26th June, Exeter College
- Cornwall**
Friday 28th June, Cornwall College, Camborne
- Gloucestershire**
Wednesday 3rd July, Gloucestershire College, Cheltenham

Entry closing date: Tuesday 21st May 2024

The South West Junior Chef final will be held at Exeter College, Devon, on Saturday 5th October 2024
Competitors must be aged 11-16 and still at school in year 11 or below on the date of the South West final

Bring Your Bottle! #BYB

- Due to non-return of reusable cups, we are removing them from the start of Summer Term
- You should use a **reusable bottle** to purchase a genJuice drink
- Bottles will be on sale at the tills for limited time at only **£1.60!!**
- If you don't have a bottle, paper cups will be available to purchase



Remember your bottle every day!

Launch Day is 16th April

1. **Bring** (or **Buy**) **Your Bottle** on **#BYB** Launch Day
2. Claim your **FREE DRINK** from your Drinks Hub
3. Receive your **#BYB** sticker



4. Get exclusive offers for the next **2 weeks!**

Fill, drink, rinse, repeat!



Your #BYB Launch Day is

