

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

The summer terms always bring a sense of anticipation and joy. We look forward to celebrating key events in the school calendar: Awards Evening, End of Year Rewards, Careers and STEM enrichment and Sports Day as well as the summer balls for our Year 11 and Sixth Form students. We know that our plans will need to remain fluid and flexible to ensure the safety of our students and staff, but the prospect of coming together as a school family in celebration and shared hope fills us all with excitement nonetheless!

We also begin to think about plans for transition and moving from one year to the next, or for our prospective Year 6 students, one school to the next. Their journey to Bristol Free School has not been without its challenges, but we are very excited to meet them all and welcome them to our transition events in July. Mrs Jenkins will be sending out information to families very soon. I am also delighted to see our extra-curricular sport and expressive arts start up again and students can begin to showcase their enormous talents. As the lockdown eases we are looking for more opportunities that are vital for the development and wellbeing of our students. The planning for this year's Duke of Edinburgh Awards is also well underway and Mr Wieczorek and Mr Ellis will be leading students in this internationally recognised award to help students develop new interests, talents and essential life skills.

Finally, I would like mention Year 11 and Year 13 students who are working towards their ongoing assessments. They have all worked so hard and deserve enormous praise and recognition for their determination and resilience. They have been an inspiration to us all. These small but positive steps come with a sense of renewed hope and vigour as we tentatively ease restrictions both in school and the wider community.

I do hope you enjoy the Bank Holiday Monday whatever the weather!



Mrs S King

KEY DATES

- 6 May - Year 9 MenACWY/DtP Vaccinations
- 6 May - Year 12 Subject Evening
- 7 June - Revised INSET Day

THANK YOU TO ONE OF OUR
STUDENTS FOR YOUR RANDOM ACT
OF KINDNESS



#Be Kind

Your generosity to purchase a young girl a drink after overhearing a conversation that her mother couldn't afford one that day was extremely kind and thoughtful. Thank you.

A reminder to us all to be kind to one another.

REMINDERS

YEAR 9 MENACWY/DTP VACCINATIONS

Consent forms were sent home with all Year 9 students for the forthcoming vaccinations for Meningitis, Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus. Please return your completed and signed consent form to Student Services as soon as possible.



WATER BOTTLE REMINDER

We are seeing more and more students presenting themselves to Student Services complaining of headaches, only to establish that they have not had a drink since breakfast and that they do not have a water bottle with them. Please do remind them of the need and benefits of drinking water regularly throughout the day in order to function properly and perform to their full potential.



The Big Ask

The Children's Commissioner for Education has launched the Big Ask. Please encourage your children to participate following the link below

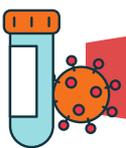
<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigask/>

WHY REPORTING YOUR TEST RESULT IS AS IMPORTANT AS TAKING A TEST

It is extremely important for students, parents and staff participating in lateral flow testing, to report test results. The Department of Education has published a blog about the importance of reporting of Coronavirus tests - it can be viewed here: <https://dfemedia.blog.gov.uk/2021/04/23/heres-why-reporting-your-test-result-is-as-important-as-taking-a-test/>

The blog outlines some helpful information, and we encourage you to have a read. Testing should be carried out at home every Wednesday and Sunday and reported to the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>

Reporting your result helps the NHS monitor the spread of the virus, combat the virus and save lives. It also enables support to be given to communities across the UK.



EVERY TEST KEEPS OUR COMMUNITY SAFE





MENTAL HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING

Mental Health & Safeguarding Support, Advice & Information

OTR'S TIPS AND SUPPORT



OTR is a mental health social movement by and for young people aged 11-25 living in Bristol and South Gloucestershire. Getting free support couldn't be easier. They hold regular Hubs so please explore the website and sign-up directly to a project or service you want to try <https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/>

Resilient Parenting is a six week psychoeducational group for parents/carers exploring the factors that contribute to resilience and how we can strengthen them. The project aims to support parents/carers to build their own resilience by providing an informal discussion space with a focus on self care.



Want to take part?

Weds 5 May 7:45 - 9pm

https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/resilient-parenting/?mc_cid=dc0c199288&mc_eid=7cea3912fe



OTR Book Club is a safe place for young people to gather and meet like-minded book-lovers, as well as read titles they may not have previously considered. It runs on the last Monday of each month.

https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/book-club/?mc_cid=dc0c199288&mc_eid=7cea3912fe



Shameless is OTR's group for anyone aged 11-17 feeling impacted by issues around body image and low self-esteem. "Know your worth, find your power". For free self help resources click here:

https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/shameless/?mc_cid=dc0c199288&mc_eid=7cea3912fe



WE ARE HERE TO LISTEN



tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk



THIS WEEK IN DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

design & Technology



We are delighted that one of our Year 9 classes has been picked to be the South West Region representatives for the new architecture and literacy project called 'Reaching Architecture' lead by The Royal Institute of British Architecture (RIBA). The project asks students to review various age-appropriate books on architecture and the built environment and challenges them to create a new Housing Estate design. Students refer to the books to aid with their presentation skills and write reviews on which books were the most helpful, inspiring and worth buying. At the end of the project the class will vote for their favourite. Their comments will help RIBA with their publicity of the books in the future. Ms Street was very impressed with the class's response to the project and RIBA are REALLY looking forward to seeing their designs and reviews when the students make their final 'pitch'.

To find out more and to see the schools taking part across the country click on this link:
<https://www.architecture.com/whats-on/reading-architecture>

THE NEW ROOM!



Mr McCarter has worked tirelessly to finish the new multi media workshop. The new equipment and tools are in place and the computers are ready with CAD software.

This week KS4 and KS5 students have been able to use the facilities. It is great to see the D&T expansion developing.... Next will be the new food and textiles rooms!

BEFORE



BFS MFL



MISS ROWDEN

I would like to say a huge “thank you!” and “well done!” to all of the Language Ambassadors that attended the first meeting of Term 5 on Wednesday 21st April. It was so fantastic to meet up again, albeit virtually, to discuss our next couple of projects for Terms 5 and 6. I am extremely impressed with the commitment and enthusiasm our Language Ambassadors have shown; they have engaged so well with what we have been able to do, even throughout the lockdown.

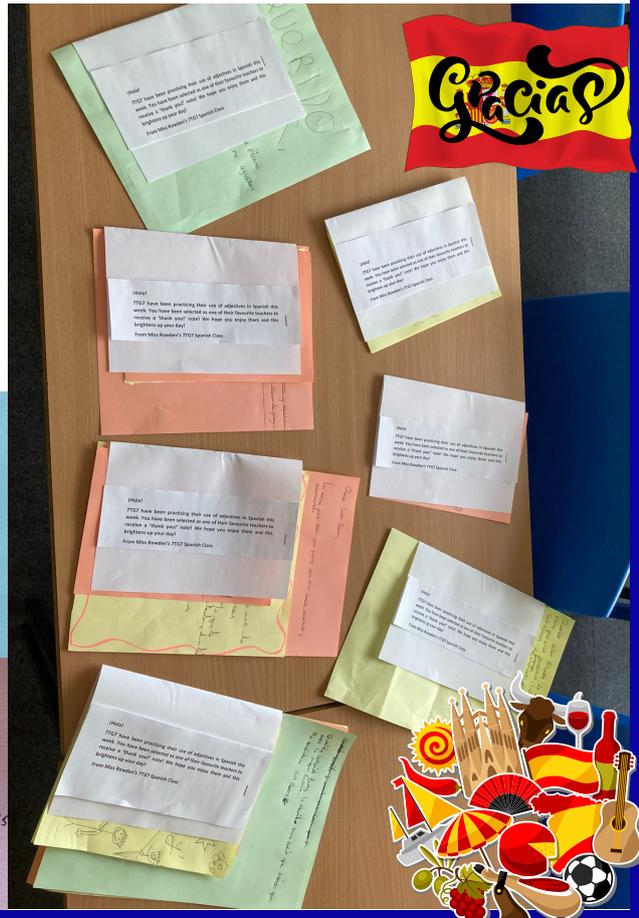
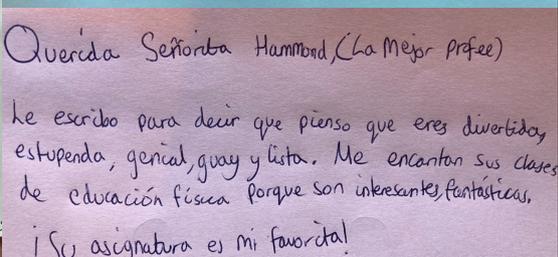
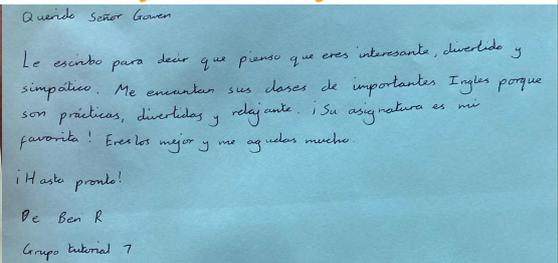
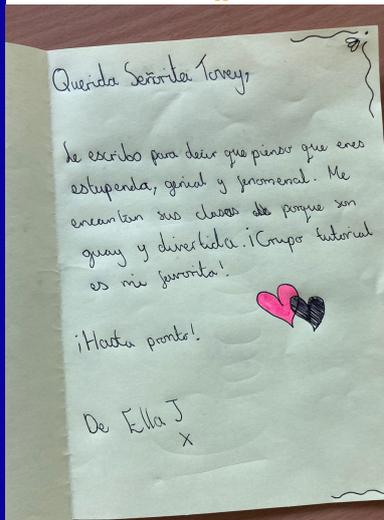
Our focus for this term is to develop the main display board in the MFL corridor in D Block. We are planning to produce a display that celebrates the wonderfully diverse community we have at BFS. Our Language Ambassadors are currently researching the different languages and respective cultures spoken within the BFS community. So, watch this space! Pictures of what the Language Ambassadors create will be published in the newsletter soon.

A reminder of the following key dates for Language Ambassadors:
Deadline for language fact files for the display board: **Friday 7 May (by 3pm at the latest)** – remember that, ideally, these should be electronic and emailed to Miss Rowden directly
Next Language Ambassador meeting: **Wednesday 12 May**

All meetings for Language Ambassadors will need to remain virtual at present as the scheme involves students from all year groups. Meetings will take place twice a term on Teams – check the Language Ambassadors Teams page for any further updates and information.

My 7TG7 Spanish class have done fantastically well working with adjectival agreement in Spanish this week (a tricky concept to grasp!). We used our Friday afternoon lesson to put this into practice and students wrote some “thank you!” notes to their favourite BFS teachers, in Spanish, of course! Students used adjectives to explain why they appreciate their chosen teacher so much and why their classes are so enjoyable. It’s safe to say that 7TG7 made some BFS teachers’ days on Friday!

¡¡Bien hecho 7TG7, muy buen trabajo!!





EL LABERINTO DEL FAUNO (PAN'S LABYRINTH)

This year for Spanish A Level we have decided to change the film we are learning about. We have moved away from 'Volver' and we have started to study a film called 'El laberinto del fauno' (Pan's Labyrinth).

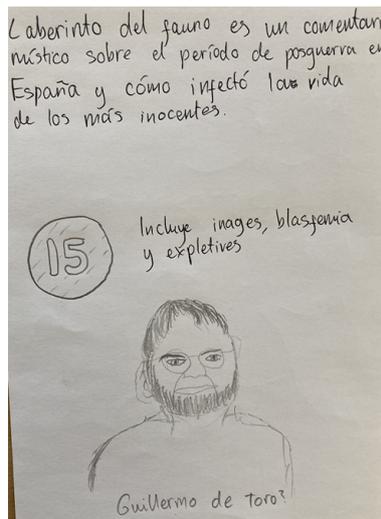
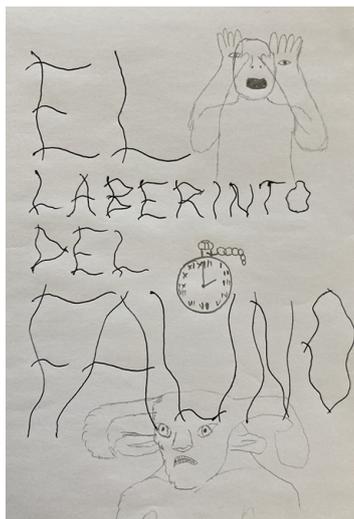
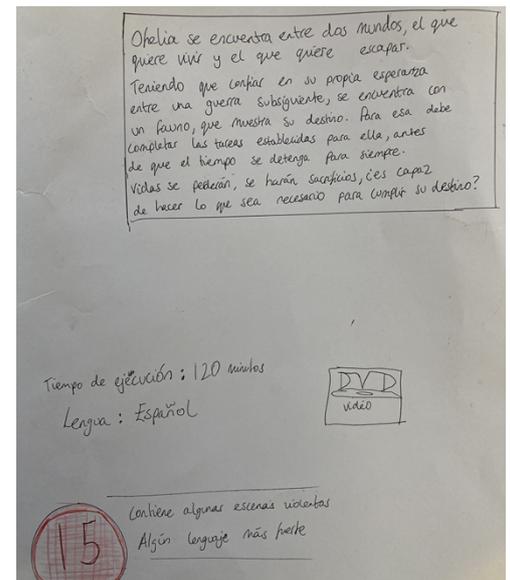
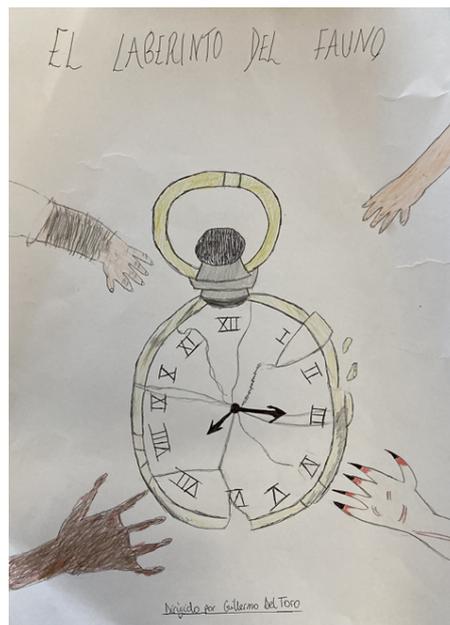
'El laberinto del fauno' was directed by the well-known director Guillermo del Toro and it is a fascinating (albeit slightly odd!) film that juxtaposes reality and fantasy throughout. The film tells the story of a young girl named Ofelia and how she must complete different tasks to complete her mission set out by the mysterious faun.

Our Year 12 Spanish students have been enjoying analysing this film so far and have been working very hard on unpicking it fully. The film offers a wealth of different themes and interesting characters and also shows us the harsh repression of the Francoist regime which took place in Spain between 1939 and 1975. This will be a very interesting section of the Spanish A Level course if you are taking it as an A Level option in Year 12 and 13.

**** Please note that this film is a 15 rating and it does contain some violent and upsetting scenes, as well as some strong language. ****



WILL, Y12



HARRY, Y12



COMPETITION TIME

FUTURE FOUNDATIONS

BFS COMPUTER SCIENCE AWS GET INTO IT/FUTURE FOUNDATIONS APP COMPETITION UPDATE

Congratulations to the Year 8 team who successfully submitted their entry for the AWS App Competition! Tiffany, Leon, Lorraine, Aleseya, Andria and Keidy completed their entry remotely with Aleseya in a different country! We would like to thank all the students and parents who completed the survey on Classcharts as it really helped their research. Fantastic teamwork and resilience throughout! We look forward to finding out if you get through to the Semi-Finals! We will update you in the next newsletter.

In addition, AWS App 2019-20 Alumni will be invited for a Virtual Afternoon Tea session in July as a thank you for taking part next year. It will be a great opportunity for all teams involved last year to gain industry guidance and mentoring and a lovely way to celebrate (delayed!) all their successes last year.



Inspiring girls to consider a career in tech

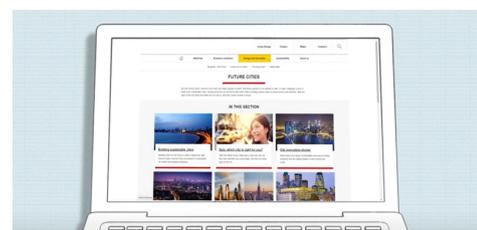
ENTER THE BRIGHT IDEAS CHALLENGE REMOTELY

Year 7-9: Bright Ideas Challenge

What will cities look like in 2050? How will they be powered to be vibrant, healthy and clean places to live?

That's the question put to students aged 11-14 by The Bright Ideas Challenge, Shell's cross-curricular schools' competition. Now in its sixth year, the competition invites young people to use their creativity, problem solving and STEM skills to devise innovative solutions that could power cities of the future. You could win up to £10,000 for your school, high-tech goodie bags for yourself and action-packed educational experiences, so there's every reason to think big!

The Bright ideas challenge are looking for your creative ideas to power these future cities more efficiently. Watch this video (https://youtu.be/8Ucgd4_g3VY) for more information and use the resources on the announcement on ClassCharts to help develop your ideas and contact Mrs Sherman for additional guidance if needed. When you're ready, complete the entry form and email to Mrs Sherman by WEDNESDAY 19th MAY for checking and final submission. Good luck!





YEAR 8 UNLOCK CYBER CHALLENGE

Register your team now with Mrs Sherman!

It's back! The Unlock Cyber Challenge is a FREE live online cyber challenge for schools. All you will need is a website browser to take part. It is taking place on Wednesday 23 June. Hosted by Bristol-based Immersive Labs, the world's first fully interactive, gamified cyber skills platform, which is used by employers to train their cyber workforces. It is therefore a fantastic opportunity for young people to develop their cyber skills in a fun and engaging way. Competing teams will hopefully also be given access to the Immersive Labs platform after the competition.

The challenge is a live 2-hour event and is for Year 8 students in teams of 4. (During South West STEM Fest)

If you're interested in taking part, please let Mrs Sherman know your team members



MEDICSPOT FACE MASK CHALLENGE

Medicspot are calling all children to design their own face mask! Win face masks for you and all your classmates, a £500 prize for your school and help support NHS workers and volunteers. To get your face mask template and to enter, go to www.medicspot.co.uk/mask

50 face masks

£500 for your school

help us raise over **£5,000** for NHS Charities Together



30 For 30

NEPALI NIGHT IN

Nepali Night In - Celebrate the love of Nepali food with Pahar Trust for their 30 For 30 campaign.

Nepali Night In will run for the whole of May, culminating in a special celebration on Saturday 29 May, to coincide with the country's annual 'Mount Everest Day' celebrating the very first summit of the mountain by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sherpa, Tenzing Norgay, in 1953.

They have some specially created recipes, which you can download from the website and cook at home. The recipes have been created for by Indian-born chef, Shri Naik, who runs Kurries and Steaks restaurant on the Isle of Man. Get involved here: <https://www.pahar-trust.org/nepali-nights>



PE EXTRA CURRICULUM



Please complete this form to register your child for Extra Curriculum PE provision.

<https://forms.office.com/r/MSJHPHtrz>



BASEBALL OPEN DAY FOR UNDER 16S

SATURDAY 15TH MAY AT 1.00PM

SOMERDALE PAVILION, KEYNSHAM BS31 2FF

FOR FURTHER DETAILS EMAIL
INFO@BRISTOLBASEBALL.CO.UK



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BRISTOL WEST AC



JUNIOR ACADEMY / YOUTH ACADEMY

WHITEHALL ATHLETICS ARENA,
JOHNSON LANE, WHITEHALL, BRISTOL, BS5 9AZ



Further information email:
deang@bristolandwestac.org

Monday & Wednesday:
Junior Academy - School years 4-6 - 6:15-7:15pm
Youth Academy - School year 7 - 6:15-7:15pm
Youth Academy - School years 8 upwards 7:15-8:30pm
Open to all abilities

DBS/UK Athletics Qualified Coaches
Turn up and give it a go - First Session FREE
Session fees £2 for Bristol & West AC Members.

***If the above times don't fit your needs, please send an email and we will find a session for you.**

- ☑ running
- ☑ sprinting
- ☑ hurdling
- ☑ long jump
- ☑ triple jump

- ☑ javelin
- ☑ hammer
- ☑ shot putt
- ☑ discus
- ☑ sports hall athletic competitions

