

Newsletter

Dear Parents, Carers and Students

Well done Year 11 and Year 13

Year 11, Year 13 and staff celebrated the completion of the GCSE and A Level /BTEC in school assessments this week. Today Year 13 enjoyed an emotional final day with laughter, tears and farewells. Year 11 have three more weeks before their farewell celebration and I urge them to take every opportunity being offered to them over the coming weeks. I have to say what a credit to the school both these years groups have been. Since the return to school, after the second school closure, they have shown great resilience and maturity. I hope they reflect over half term and appreciate just how much they have achieved in another unprecedented school year. Despite the cancellations and uncertainty over the last 14 months, I urge students to start to feel the excitement and optimism about their futures. Your future is bright and is happening now! Be confident about the future and know we are here to support you right up to result day and beyond.

Everyone at BFS is so proud of you – have a well-deserved half term without the pressure of revision! We won't say goodbye as there are still some important events planned in Term 6.

TIMETABLE

We have made some adjustments to the timetable timings now Year 11 and Year 13 have left. The details are on Class Charts. The most important change is for Year 10 who will now arrive at the Car Park Gate at 8.35am and tutor time will be in the morning.

COVID LATERAL FLOW TESTS



Government advice is for students and staff to continue taking two Lateral Flow Tests over half term and into Term 6. Please report the results as usual on [TestRegister.co.uk](https://www.testregister.co.uk)

We are adjusting risk assessments to allow more face to face activities in Term 6 - like assemblies and house competitions.

UNIFORM

Thank you to parents for supporting the raising of standards to our uniform in Term 5. This will be adjusted further in Term 6 with the reopening of our PE changing rooms, further details to follow. Class Charts will have students' timetables so you can check the days PE kit needs to be brought to school.

Coats and hats are now no longer allowed to be worn in classrooms. Students need to wear a school shirt, tie and blazer. If the weather does get very hot we will allow students to wear shirts only to school – normal summer term uniform practice.

ESCOOTERS



The police have asked me to remind parents that E-Scooters are illegal to be ride E-Scooters on footpaths or roads. Our PCSO will be coming to school next term to educate students on this issue. School therefore will not allow E-Scooters on the school site. Please ensure your child does not use one to travel to and from school.

Finally, I would like to wish students and families a very happy half term. We have a very exciting Term 6 planned so we can end a year full of uncertainty with some joy!



MRS S KING

REMINDERS



Y8 HPV VACCINATIONS WEDNESDAY 30 JUNE

Consent forms were sent home with Year 8 students earlier this week. If you have not already returned your completed consent form, please check your child's bag to locate it and return your signed consent to Student Services on the first day of next term.

Information leaflets about this and other vaccinations can be found at:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/907761/HPV_vaccination_for_all_leaflet_2020.pdf

<https://www.medicines.org.uk/emc/files/pil.261.pdf>

www.nhs.uk/conditions/vaccinations

DINNER ACCOUNTS

Please check your child's dinner account and top it up to cover future food purchases before the new term.

KEY DATES

- 7 June - Revised INSET Day
- 24 June - Year 11 Leavers' Day
- 24 June - Year 11 Summer Ball
- 30 June - Year 8 HPV Vaccinations

BFS DUKE OF EDINBURGH



Duke of Edinburgh – Year 9 and Year 12 Skills Day on Monday 7 June 2021:

We are delighted to be holding the Year 9 and Year 12 DofE Skills Day on Monday 7 June 2021 and look forward to working with students to ensure that they are fully prepared for forthcoming expeditions. On the day, participants should:

- Bring waterproofs, wear sensible outdoor clothing and bring a spare pair of shoes for indoor use.
- Bring a nut-free packed lunch and snacks to keep them going throughout the day, as there is will be no on-site catering and they will not be allowed off site during the day.
- Year 9 students should arrive at the Concorde Drive entrance to School at 8.20am and will be finished at 2:40pm.
- Year 12 students should arrive at the car park entrance to School at 8:50am and will be finished at 2:45pm.

Year 11 Silver & Year 13 Gold DofE Practice Expeditions on Wednesday 9 and Thursday 10 June 2021:

We are looking forward to our first practice expedition for Year 11 Silver and Year 13 Gold participants which is taking place on during the first week of next term. A letter with details of drop off/collection points and times has been sent to parents. Students must be at the start point on time and be properly equipped to take part. Please also ensure any outstanding payments are made via ParentPay as soon as possible. It should be fun!

COVID-19 TESTING OVER MAY HALF-TERM

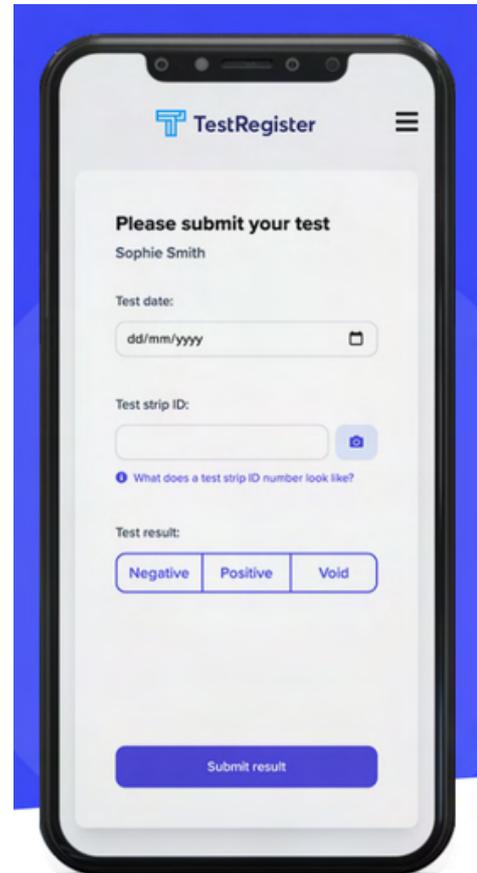


As lockdown eases, taking a rapid COVID-19 test twice a week, even if you do not have symptoms, will help us stay ahead of the spread of the virus, particularly as new strains appear. Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 have no symptoms and are spreading the virus without knowing. This includes those who have had their vaccine.

We want to thank you for your continued support in testing. Over 40 million tests with staff and students have now been conducted as part of the Government's Education Testing Programme.

Please continue to test twice-weekly over half-term and test before returning to school after the holiday. The result of a rapid test could be positive, negative or even void. But whatever it is, it should be reported straight away, every time. Recording all test results helps scientists stay ahead of the virus by spotting new outbreaks quickly and advising how to respond.

This week all students have been issued with new test kits. Please continue to log your test via Test Register www.testregister.co.uk



INFORMATION ON LATERAL FLOW TESTS

There are different tests you can get to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19). The test you need depends on why you're getting tested.

The 2 main tests are:

- PCR tests – mainly for people with symptoms, they're sent to a lab to be checked. Results generally come back within 24 hours
- rapid lateral flow tests – only for people who do not have symptoms, they give a result in 30 minutes using a device similar to a pregnancy test. Please do NOT use these tests if your child has a temperature or a cough

If your child has symptoms

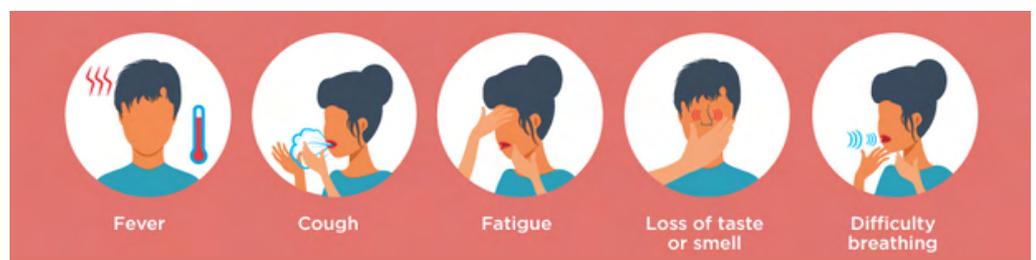
Get a PCR test as soon as possible if you or your child has any of these symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

You and anyone you live with should stay at home until you get your test result. Only leave your home to have a test.

Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus by clicking on this link <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please send a copy of the PCR test results to admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk, lateral flow results can be reported as usual through TestRegister.



GOODBYE TO OUR Y11 AND Y13



EMOTIONAL LAST LESSONS FOR Y11 MUSIC & PE

'It's been a privilege to teach such fantastic musicians and wonderful people!'

- Mr Pate

'Good luck and goodbye to our GCSE PE classes, good luck to all Y11 students as they embark on the next stage of their adventures' - Mrs Wynne- Jones



'BFS HAS FELT LIKE BEING PART OF ONE BIG TEAM' - RAMEEN

'I'VE BEEN THRILLED TO BE PART OF SUCH AN AMAZING SCHOOL' - PAIGE

'I LIKE SCHOOL!' - AYMAN

GOODBYE TO OUR Y11 AND Y13



"WORK HARD"
"BE RESPECTFUL"
"BE PUNCTUAL"
"CAST YOUR NET WIDE"
"HAVE BIG DREAMS"



WE HOPE BFS HAS PREPARED YOU TO BE RESILIENT AND HAS EQUIPPED YOU WITH THE GRIT AND DETERMINATION TO SUCCEED

GOODBYE TO OUR Y11 AND Y13

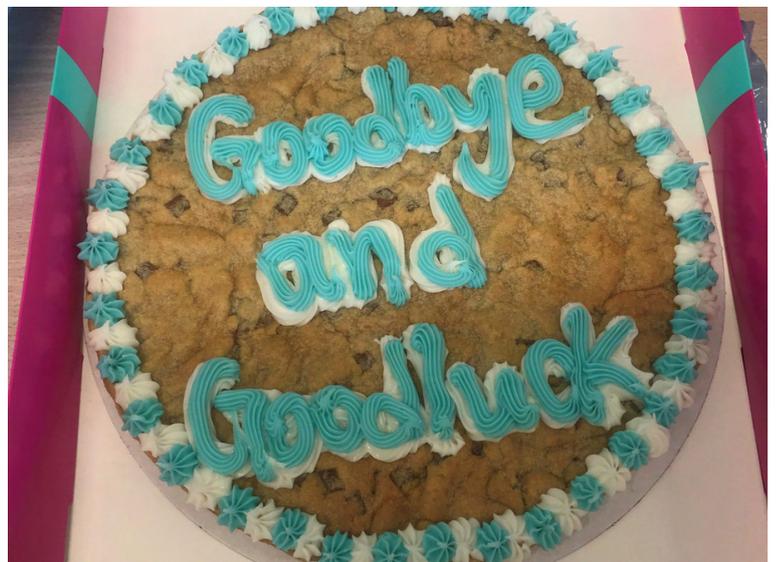
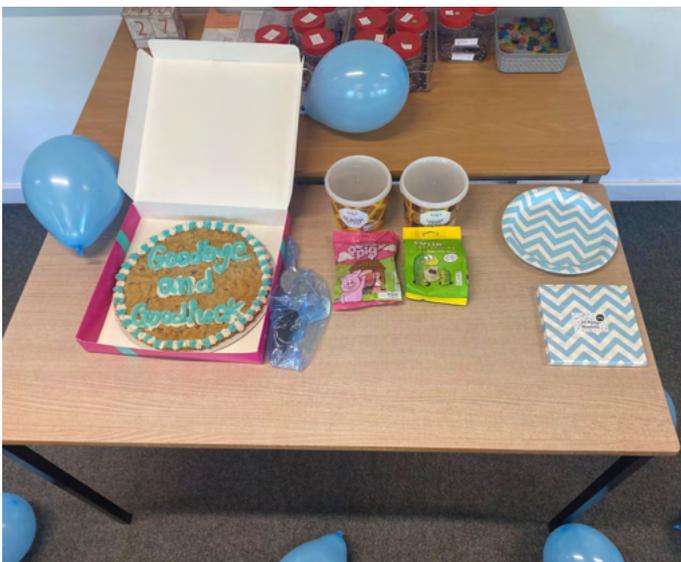
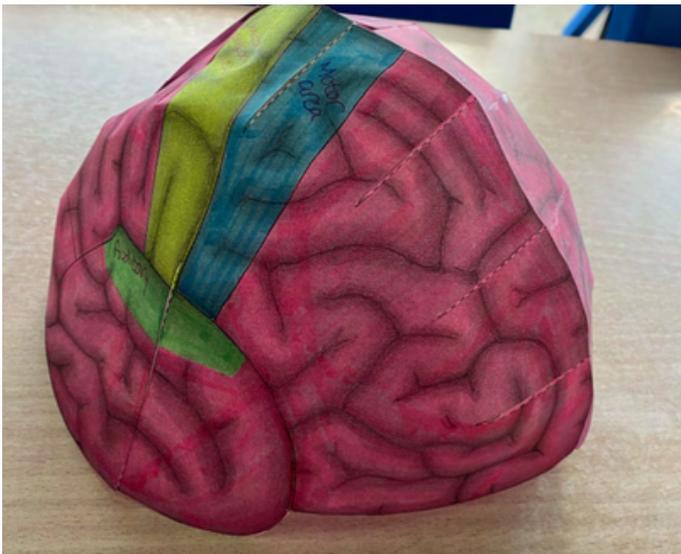
BRISTOL FREE
SCHOOL
RECEPTION
All visitors please report
to Reception



**MISS TOVEY, TEACHER
OF PSYCHOLOGY**

In Year 12 Psychology, we have moved onto Biopsychology and have been doing lots of fun activities including building neurons out of sweets and making brain hats whilst studying the different areas of the brain and their functions.

It has also been time to say goodbye to the lovely cohort of Year 13 psychologists as they head onto their next stage. I have been so impressed by their hard work and determination over this period, so it only seemed fair to have a bit of a send-off! You will be soooo missed Year 13!



GOODBYE TO OUR HEAD STUDENTS



It's hard to believe that my almost seven year journey at BFS is coming to an end. Having been here since Year 7, BFS has played an integral part in shaping me as a person and through the unwavering support of so many of the lovely staff and the amazing friends I have made along the way, I have been able to evolve from an awkward and sometimes outspoken pre-teen into a slightly taller and less awkward adult (I have been told that I am still very opinionated).

I have participated in many extra-curricular clubs and ventures that have built so many of my fondest memories from playing roles such as the Wicked Witch of the West and Miss Hanigan to singing for full crowds in the old duke and travelling to places such as Berlin, Belgium and Disneyland. I would really like to thank all of my teachers present and old for making my time here so special, in particular Mr MacBlain and Miss Barnes for fuelling my love of history, the subject which I wish to pursue next year at university. I have really enjoyed my time here at BFS and I am really going to miss it.

- MYA

Where have the last seven years gone? I can't believe that I am leaving school forever today! I have really enjoyed my time here at BFS and am genuinely sad that I am leaving both the school and my roles as both Head Boy and Head of Blaise House, but hope I have made some difference through these roles to the community of our school.

On reflection, I have achieved so much here due to the support and encouragement of the staff and students including an outstanding set of GCSE results, Bronze and Silver Duke of Edinburgh awards (with hopefully Gold in a few weeks' time) played for school sports teams, taken part in music and drama productions, launched the 'House System', renovated the sixth form courtyard (with no prior knowledge of plants or gardening!) to name a few and had an outstanding sixth form education that has allowed me to secure a degree apprenticeship in my chosen field of Transport Planning. My journey through school has been a really good ride, with countless memories that would warrant a full newsletter all on their own, but as I said earlier in the year in the video for prospective parents, there have been very few moments that I haven't enjoyed. On that note, for my final sentences that I ever write for the Bristol Free School newsletter, I just wanted to say thank you. Thank you to all my teachers who have been so supportive of me since I started in Year 7 (both past and present) and thank you to all the students here - many of my achievements would not have been possible without you all! I wish the whole of Bristol Free School's community the very best for the future.

- JACOB

YEAR LEADER TERM 5 ROUND UP



MISS HAMMOND,

HEAD OF Y7

It has been truly wonderful having students finally back in for a full term following a year of uncertainty and disruption. Year 7 have settled back into Bristol Free School life extremely well and I have enjoyed seeing the smiling faces once again with the removal of face masks for secondary school students. Again, I am incredibly proud of many students who continue to meet all expectations, arrive at school each day, work hard in lessons and bring such positive contributions to the school community. House leaders were officially appointed. Congratulations to the chosen house leaders, with 7TG4 managing to get a leader in each house, and well done to all those who applied. The most applications came from Year 7 students which is superb.

Some highlights of the term include extra-curricular clubs fully up and running, where students have come together after school for music and PE activities. There has been such a positive atmosphere, sense of community and development of physical and social well-being. If you haven't managed to join a club yet, it's not too late to sign up in term 6! Some fantastic, mature discussions about Votes for Schools topics have been reported along with continued praise from all tutors on the levels of engagement in tutor sessions. Year 7 have also finished term 5 with the highest attendance yet again and highest number of positive points in the school. Congratulations on this fantastic achievement and keep this up until the end of the year please!

In term 6, there are so many wonderful opportunities and experiences to look forward to including a Clifton College Team Building day, awards evening, sports day and STEM day. But first, end of year assessments will take place in each subject and details of these will be released shortly. Prepare, revise, and do your best, which is all we can ask for. There is a fantastic range of activities to look forward to and enjoy once these assessments are completed.

Have a safe and happy half term break. We can look forward to doing it all again in term 6!





**MISS BONNICI
HEAD OF Y8**

When I look back over this term for Year 8s I think it has all been about embracing opportunities; one of our core values at Bristol Free School. I have been so encouraged to see so many students in the cohort responding to challenges well, going above and beyond in their learning and getting involved in extra-curricular activities as they open up.



In lessons lots of Year 8s are also going above and beyond! Special mention to Daisy who wrote an incredible palindrome about homelessness, which is an issue she is personally motivated to tackle, and Martha also wrote a beautiful poem about War Veterans which was incredibly emotive and captured the bravery of our soldiers. Well done!

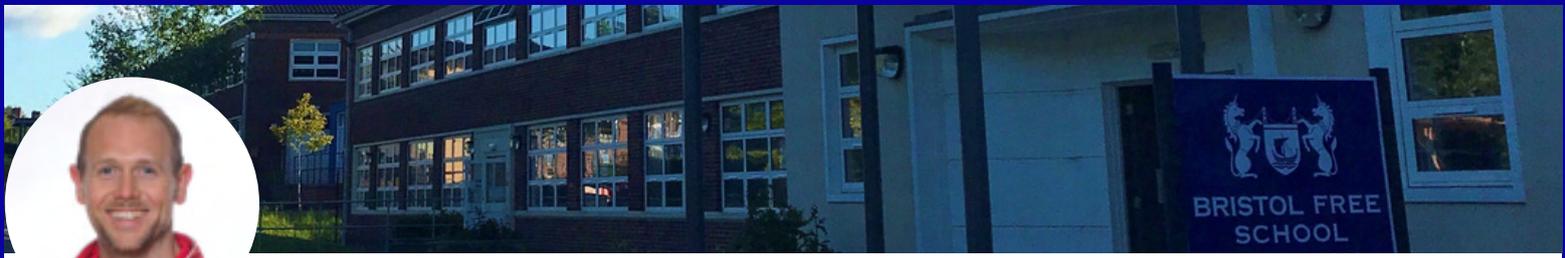
I've really enjoyed popping in during tutor times too to see what different groups have been doing this term. In 8TG4 with Mrs Sherman I watched a fabulous presentation put together by Tiffany and Isabelle on the conflict in Palestine for their group; sterling job girls!

Meanwhile, 8TG2 have been working on creating some time capsule letters with Miss Sheehan; what a great idea!

Keep up the good work Year 8 and take every opportunity you can to succeed!

It's all been great to see some of the activities Ms Millard has been doing with students in Thrive too! Here are some examples of their lovely creations:





MR TOLMAN
HEAD OF Y9

I would like to thank Year 9 for another brilliant term at Bristol Free School. As we move ever closer towards GCSEs, you will be finding out your options. This is an exciting time and one which sculpts your future. As we move into term 6, we will see the start of the formalised exams that make up the end of Year 9 assessments. These provide excellent and necessary practice for students in an exam setting as well as helping shape the subject setting for next year. As always, there is no substitute for hard work and revision at this time will prove vital in achieving well.

This term has seen our first ever House Captains. We had a number of really strong entries and it was a tough choice. Congratulations to those successful students and commiserations to those not successful this time round. I know they will represent their houses well

It has been a real privilege to watch all Year 9 students mature and progress into wonderful young men and women. I am grateful to have such an amazing year group.



Term 5 has been a successful term for Year 10 students as they have continued their progress with their GCSE and BTEC courses. Students will be receiving their first taste of formalised examinations after half term and it is really important that they take time to prepare properly for these. All students have received a revision timetable to use as a guide over this half term and if they are able to follow it, then it will ensure they will be more prepared to confidently tackle these exams. The correlation between hard work and success is irrefutable and your support in encouraging students to work steadily during their own time is invaluable.



MR WHITFIELD
HEAD OF Y10

With that in mind I also wanted to highlight that if your young person feels overwhelmed, or you have concerns, then please get in touch with us at BFS and we will work to ensure they are reassured.

Congratulations to the amazing Year 10's, who were successfully appointed to house leadership positions! To see the calibre of the applications was fantastic and I have full confidence that they will do their houses proud! Also a huge well done to our Year 10 language ambassadors who produced a really great resource to promote languages within Year 7 and 8.

A final shout out must go to our Year 10 Drama and Music students who had their first taste of live performance this term. Overcoming feelings of stage fright and showing great resilience to display their fantastic performances to others in the school was a huge highlight and made me so proud watching!





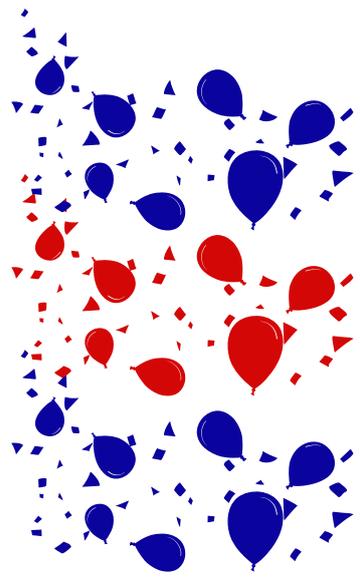
MR MACBLAIN
HEAD OF Y11

I would like to take this final opportunity to say goodbye and good luck to Year 11, all of whom have coped admirably in such testing circumstances this academic year. I have really enjoyed being your Head of Year and getting to know each and every one of you and I am sure you are all looking forward to taking some time to relax over the summer and to get excited about your next steps in education.

June 24 sees two of our most heralded events come together to create what is simply a truly splendid day for Year 11. We will begin with our Leavers breakfast at 10am. You will need to wear school uniform for this event, so do hold on to it for a little while longer, but feel free to bring in a marker pen, for the obligatory shirt signing and enjoy a selection of delicious pastries, after this we will bid you a fond farewell in our assembly (watch out for lots of photos from Year 7!) and share some memories from your time at BFS.

Later that evening is the academic year's most hotly anticipated event – the Summer Ball. We are working around COVID restrictions and keeping everything crossed for good weather and are sure this will be a great event. Just a reminder that we will be outdoors, so do bear that in mind when deciding in what you are going to wear.

It simply remains for me to wish you all the very best of luck in whatever direction your path takes you and to say that I hope you have enjoyed your time at BFS.



Remember -
Please do not
car share!

YEAR 11 SUMMER BALL
LEIGH COURT

24 JUNE

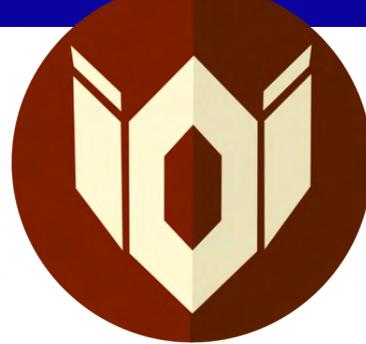
ARRIVAL TIMES: BETWEEN 6:30 - 7:00PM



CANFORD



ASHTON



BLAISE



DURDHAM

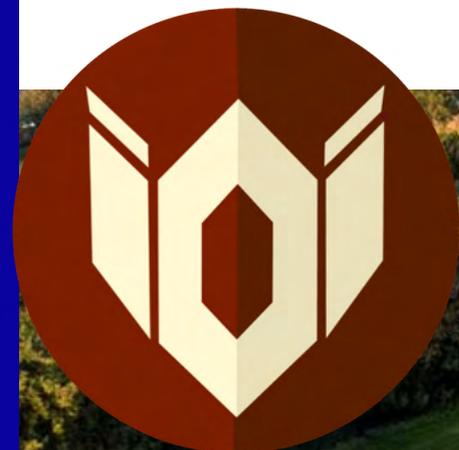
CURRENT LEADERBOARD

Ashton	4428	3rd
Blaise	4934	1st
Canford	4560	2nd
Durdham	4388	4th

It's officially been the first full term for students to earn house points. Last term Durdham led the way, but the end of Term 5 Leader Board has been turned on its head and below are the latest figures.

Well done to Blaise House!!!!!!

All to play for going into Term 6 with Sports Day around the corner.



BLAISE

#TeamBlaiseHouse

WINNERS!



INTRODUCING OUR NEW HEAD STUDENTS!



CANTREE



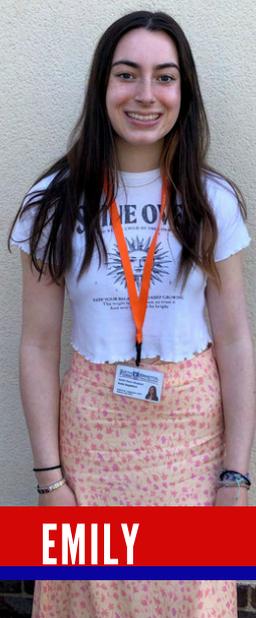
ASHTON



DURHAM



BLAISE



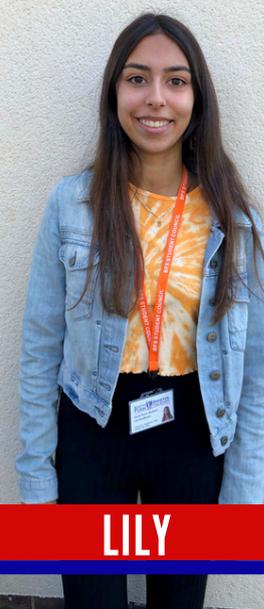
EMILY



AMEER



BEN



LILY

This term we welcome the new House Captains, as the retiring Head Students prepare for their final goodbyes. Congratulations to our new House Students; Emily, Ameer, Ben and Lily!

The School community owes enormous thanks to Jacob and Mya for their dedicated service to BFS throughout an extraordinary year which saw two separate lockdowns and the introduction of social distancing. They continued to inspire their peers and foster our unique sense of community.



MENTAL HEALTH & SAFEGUARDING

Mental Health & Safeguarding Support, Advice & Information



Ms Townsend, Mental Health & Safeguarding Manager

SCHOOL NURSE

We are lucky at Bristol Free School to be able to offer School Nurse appointments in school on a Tuesday with our School Nurse Esther.

The School Nurse Service is offered via Sirona Care & Health who have put together a programme of supportive group sessions at different times during the days in June. Please see below a menu of the support available for parents & carers. Please feel free to sign up to any that you are interested in. If your child would like to visit the school nurse please ask them to come to DF29 and talk through or email tellsomeone@bristolfreeschool.org.uk



SIRONA SCHOOL HEALTH NURSE WEBINAR SERIES - JUNE 2021



<p>Healthy Eating</p> <p>Monday 7 June 11am -12pm</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-healthy-eating-tickets-156434895985</p>	<p>Keeping Your Child Happy and Healthy</p> <p>Tuesday 8 June 9.30am - 10.30am</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-keeping-your-child-happy-and-healthy-tickets-156767268119</p>	<p>Understanding Your Child's Wellbeing</p> <p>Wednesday 9 June 1.30pm - 2.30pm</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-understanding-your-childs-wellbeing-tickets-156771081525</p>	<p>Helping Your Child With Sleep</p> <p>Thursday 10 June 10.30am - 11.30am</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-helping-your-child-with-sleep-tickets-156776291107</p>
<p>Continence in Children and Young People</p> <p>Friday 11 June 11am - 12pm</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-nursing-webinar-continence-in-children-young-people-tickets-156779027291</p>	<p>Dental Health</p> <p>Monday 14 June 10am - 10.30am</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-dental-health-tickets-156780399395</p>	<p>Concerns About Your Child's Eating Habits</p> <p>Tuesday 15 June 4.15pm - 5.15pm</p> <p>https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/sirona-school-health-nursing-webinar-your-childs-eating-habits-tickets-156781833685</p>	





Alternatively we are able to offer a 4-week online parent group, starting in the week of 21st June 2021, in collaboration with TriSpace, a schools remote service at the Anna Freud National Centre for children and families.

There are 6 groups on offer running for 1 hour on different days and times. Each group will be offered to parents from a variety of secondary schools and will be closed once at capacity (max. 12 spaces per group).

The groups aim to provide a reflective space to think about the challenges of parenting adolescents, as well as a space for you as parents to reflect on how you are, which we think is just as important. The groups are not webinars and they are also not therapy, but rather aim to support parental emotional wellbeing and the connection between parents and their teens. It is an interactive group with a mixture of teaching and discussion to structure the reflective space.

In the week of 14 June, one week before the groups start, an online “coffee meeting” will be held by each facilitator on the day and the time the group will run, meaning any parent interested in the group can attend to hear what the group is all about, to meet the group facilitator and other parents and to ask questions. This is to ensure you have all the information needed to decide whether the group is for you. After that, you will be asked to register for the actual group and places will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Monday 14 June

4pm – 5pm

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6tRt3xma0vR0ufQxUNVpwnPARr>



Tuesday 15 June

10am – 11am

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6tpjlrHdCRc0zm22Dht74INdplccWH>



Tuesday 15 June

10:30am – 11:30am

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6gqzkh9QJPw6KPbEeJrQCHKdewhjh>



Wednesday 16

June 12pm – 1pm

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6tjcocOugrz0pG9Zb5sbvX3Pj3n2CrIgaY2i8>

Thursday 17

June 10am – 11am

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6tjYtdOGurz8oGdzW3P6xmQ3XTyjdzMkIG4Ek>

Thursday 17 June

12:15pm – 1:15pm

<https://annafreud.zoom.us/j/6tjErdeCgpzljHtR13Dd2xjXpVLf-MJ7ZWb7c>

Of course, a course might not be right for you. Please feel free to get in touch if you wish to talk about your child's mental health needs or any support you feel is needed to help them on their school journey - tellsomeone@bristolreeschool.org.uk



E-SAFETY OVER HALF TERM!

An important read to help keep your child safe online. Vodafone has launched a helpful guide to help your family live a happy and safe digital life. Please follow the link below.

<https://www.flipsnack.com/FA7569C5A8/digital-parenting-by-vodafone-2021-edition/full-view.html>



SEEKING YOUNG CARERS' VIEWS ON NEW STRATEGY!



The restrictions of lockdown and the anxiety related to the risks associated with COVID-19 have been central to young carers' difficulties over the past year.

Bristol City Council is looking to hear from young carers (14 – 25), and those who work with young carers, to share their views on a new Young Carers and Young Adults Strategy 2021 – 2025. This will ensure the council is doing its very best to identify and support young carers in Bristol.

- The draft strategy is available online here - <https://bristol.citizenspace.com/children-families-services/young-carers-and-young-adult-carers-strategy-2021/>
- The short survey is available online here <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/YoungCarersStrategy2021/>

If you work with young carers, we'd hugely appreciate you taking part, and sharing the above links with them too. The survey closes on 31 May.





**MR
PARRY**

HEAD OF BUSINESS AND
CAREERS LEADER

VIRTUAL PATHWAYS INTO MEDICINE CONFERENCE 2021 - North Bristol NHS Trust Friday 25th June 2021- 9.15am – 12.30pm



Southmead Hospital is running a virtual conference; the conference is designed for pupils considering a career in medicine. Applicants should be planning to apply through UCAS for a medical course in the next three years, and have suitable academic skills. As a guide they are likely to have, or be expected to attain, at least 8 GCSEs, with the majority at 7/8/9 level. We shall be discussing: applying to medical school, medical school courses, the work of doctors in different branches of medicine, and modern training in the profession. There will be opportunities for pupils to ask questions via the chat function on zoom. This conference is primarily aimed at Year 11 pupils who will have just taken GCSE exams and also sixth formers. There is no need to let them know in advance if you are attending. Please see the code and links for the Zoom. If you have any questions about the event then please contact- linda.summers@nbt.nhs.uk

See below for the schedule of the meeting:



Pathways into Medicine Conference

Time: Jun 25, 2021 09:00 London

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/715520237>

Meeting ID: 715 550 2037
Passcode: Postgrad

PATHWAYS INTO MEDICINE

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE FOR SCHOOL PUPILS – Friday 25th June 2021

Virtual conference via Zoom.

09.15 – 09.30	Assemble on Zoom.	
09.30 – 09.40	Welcome - A life in medicine	Miss Helena Burden <i>Consultant Surgeon</i> Course lead
09.45 – 10.00	A coat of many colours – life as a physician	Dr Nigel Lane <i>Consultant Physician</i>
10.00 – 10.15	Not all blood and guts – life as a surgeon	Miss Rachel Ainsworth <i>Consultant Surgeon</i>
10.15 – 10.30	The speciality of General Practice	Dr Tom Smith <i>General Practitioner</i>
10.30 – 10.45	Advice on applying to medical school	Dr Simon Atkinson (TBC) <i>Medical admissions tutor</i> <i>Bristol Medical School</i>
10.45 – 11.15	Q and A, and break	
11.15 – 11.30	Life as a medical student	Mabli Mair <i>5th year medical student</i>
11.30 – 11.45	First Steps as a doctor	Dr Ross Moore <i>F1 junior doctor</i>
11.45 – 12.00	Doctors 'outside the box'	Mr Dominic Hodges <i>Surgical trainee (in Australia)</i>
12.00 – 12.15	Work/life balance	Dr Sam Lyons <i>Anaesthetic junior doctor</i>
12.15 – 12.30	FINAL Q&A SESSION AND CLOSE	Miss Helena Burden <i>Consultant Surgeon</i> Course lead



VIRTUAL WORK EXPERIENCE

Please see the links and information for virtual work experiences in the previous newsletter. We would recommend that in particular Year 11 and Year 12 students try and take advantages of these experiences. Students can register for some virtual work experience opportunities through this website (they will need to use their school email address).

<https://www.speakersforschools.org/experience-2/vwex/>
<https://www.s4snextgen.org/students/Take-Part?id=0&id3=0>



YOUNG PEOPLE TRY THE JOB IN REAL LIFE

Engage with hundreds of employers through free VWEX and start expanding your horizons

- Experience the world of work first-hand
- Gain an insight into different roles across a wide range of industries
- Find out about the various career paths available
- Build on your skills and improve your self-confidence

MAKER CITY and STEMettes[®] ♥ ★ # +



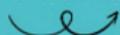
Maker City and Stemettes presents:

A **FREE** series of virtual sessions for young women based in **Bristol and London** who are interested in **social action, digital fabrication and STEM**.

Come along and create products about what matters to you!

Meet new people, learn new skills and find out about exciting opportunities.

Events overleaf



Design your own tote bag
with Knowle West Media Centre.
7th June from 4.30 to 6pm.

UX/UI Design with Stemettes.
14th June from 4.30 to 6pm.



Laser cut key rings
with Knowle West Media Centre.
21st June from 4.30 to 6pm.

3D Modelling with Stemettes.
28th June from 4.30 to 6pm.



This opportunity is for young women aged 16 to 18 from Bristol and London and will take place on Microsoft Teams.

To book a slot, or if you need more information, please contact:
clara@kwmc.org.uk



CLASSROOM TO 5K

Need a new challenge for Term 6? Do you like setting yourself a goal and achieving it? Do you enjoy exercise? Do you want to be able to run for longer and do it more comfortably?

Come and join Mrs Ballard on the MUGA for one morning tutor session a week. We will work through a progressive 15/20 minute programme with the aim to run up to 5000km by the end of the school year. You are competing against yourself and challenging yourself. There will be an element of competition but the most important thing is that you are active and able to achieve a goal.



Register with your tutor then come straight to the MUGA. You will then go straight to lesson 1 at 9am. If you don't have PE on that day, all you need to bring is trainers. Please sign up online as you would for extracurricular activities through this link: <https://forms.office.com/r/e5hUy5Aq02>

Any questions please let Mrs Ballard know.

Follow BFS PE on instagram for weekly updates and more information.

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SCHOOLS FOOTBALL WEEK

BFS celebrated Schools Football Week!

The main focus for Schools' Football Week 2021 is to provide an opportunity for children to get outside, have fun and enjoy being able to play sport with their school friends, competitively or otherwise. Check out some students in action!



Want to play for a local team?



Hallen Youth F.C. are looking for new members to join their U14 boys team

If anyone is interested contact Russ on 07722466108

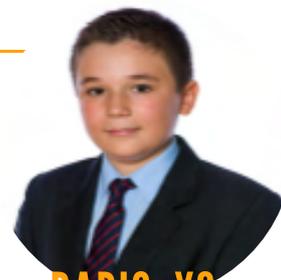
BFS MFL THE LANGUAGE AMBASSADOR SCHEME



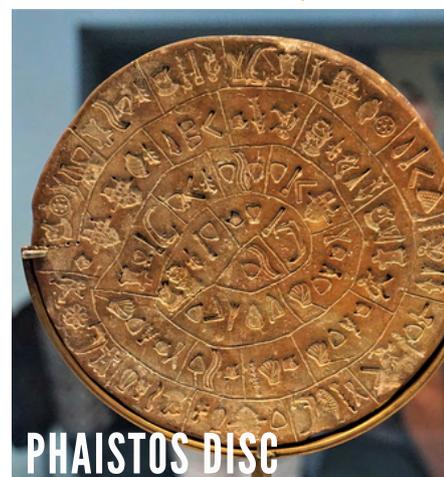
HAVE A LOOK AT WHAT SOME OF OUR LANGUAGE AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN UP TO!

UNDECIPHERED LANGUAGES

There are many ancient languages that have been discovered along the years. However, not all of these cryptic symbols and languages have been deciphered and still are a mystery to this day. One example of these undeciphered texts is the Phaistos Disc, a Minoan disk of fired clay found in the Minoan place of Phaistos in Crete possibly dating to the second millennium B.C. It composes of a disk with strange symbols stamped on either side, however its purpose and original place of origin are disputed. The disc was found by Italian archeologist Luigi Perrier in 1908, and soon caught on due to its distinctive strange symbols presumed to be made pressing hieroglyphics on soft clay in a spiral inwards. Even though many attempts have been made to crack the code of this weird language, none have successes to date. Some historians think it's to be some sort of alphabet or a syllabary or logography (a syllabary is a set of different symbols that represent syllables like the Japanese katakana however a logograms is a character that represents a whole word or meaning like the Japanese kanji or the mandarin Hanzi). Even though most historians believe it to be authentic, others think the disc is but a forgery or a hoax (as a sort of publicity stunt to earn fame).



DARIO, Y9



PHAISTOS DISC

Another famous example of undeciphered symbolic writing, is the Rongorongo language/alphabet. It is made up of a system of glyphs found on Easter island in the 19th century. Some historians believe it to be either a writing system or proto-writing system (the difference between these is that a writing system is a system that can produce long sentences and more complex literature for example English whilst Porto writing can only produce primitive signs of communication and less complex texts.). Though it has never been proven to be a system of writing and no person has ever deciphered the language, if it is proven to be a system of writing, then it could be one of the only independent inventions of writing in human history due to its remote location and outer isolation until the 18th century (what it means by being an independent writing system, is that it is not influenced by other languages around the world for example how English takes roots from Latin French and many other diverse languages.). This language has been seen in many artefacts discovered on Easter island including two dozen wooden objects (even though some are badly weathered and damaged) these include objects like a chieftain's staff, two reimport ornaments and a bird-man statuette. Even though the secrets kept within these objects have not been found, it is believed through oral history that in the Easter island community there were a small elite that were literate and could read these tablets revered to be sacred. Furthermore, what is quite fascinating is that the Rongorongo texts are written in a system called reverse boustrophedon in which each line is a alternate direction to the last with letters that are also reversed. Lastly, a newer example of an undeciphered text is the Voynich manuscript an early 15th century codex which was obtained and named after Polish revolutionary bibliophile and antiquarian who acquired the book at the Villa Mondragone in Italy in 1912.



RONGORONGO LANGUAGE



The codex is made up of a weird array of illustrations ranging from illustrations of what appear to look like herbical plants to star signs and other astral references, but what is interesting is the writing within, for it is written in a unknown writing system that has puzzled historians for very long. Furthermore it is unsure who the author of this book is but it is carbon dated to the early 15th century between 1404-1438, which disproves some theories of its origin and intended purpose to be a hoax or to grab public attention. However, newer research conducted could be on the verge of discovering its secrets.

There are three main theories that believe they have cracked its secrets, however these are well disputed. The first theory is that the book is a guide for women's health and an instruction manual for the wellbeing of upper class women in society. He believes this is the reason why there are drawings of bathing women and zodiac signs that were the basis for some medical treatments in medieval Europe. Another theory sprouted which was that the text was a compiled array of information, including herbal remedies therapeutic bathing and astrological readings that were written by Dominican nuns for the great aunt of Catherine of Aragon: Maria of Castile Queen of Aragon. Moreover the author of such theory also believes that the book was written in a now lost language called proto-romance. He states that proto-romance language, is an ancestor to modern day romance languages such as Spanish. Italian and French. Furthermore, he believes that this language was commonly spoken during the medieval era in the Mediterranean but was not seen in books or important documents of this era as this was usually written in Latin, as a result the proto-romance language seen in the Voynich manuscript disappeared over the ages as it instead evolved into the Romance languages we know today. The last main theory is the Voynich Manuscript's writing system is actually a form of old Turkish that follows some of the same patterns seen in the old Turkish language such as words starting with a root which are used commonly throughout the Voynich manuscript. The author/authors used phonemic orthography where the writer would spell the word as one might hear it for example, 'Wednesday' might be written as 'Wensday' and it also contains an apparent rhyming structure.

Overall the researchers were able to translate the book with the help of the illustrations for context. My theory considering all of this is a combination of the first two, that this book may have been a book about women's health written for Maria Castile and so was written in proto-romance, so she could read it with ease. However, I do believe that the Turkish theory is quite a strong one. To date no one knows the actual contents of the book.

