



WE ARE CELEBRATING SPORTING SUCCESS

KEY DATES

- 9 May - Year 12 trip to Oxford University
- 10 May - Y8 Flying Start Challenge Grand final
- 13-15 May - Silver DofE Practice expedition
- 16 May - Year 8 Exams Start
- 17 May - Year 9 SubSea Challenge Trip
- 18 May - Year 10 Geography trip to Bristol Harbourside and River Holford
- 21-22 May - Bronze DofE Qualifying Expedition
- 23 May - Year 11 & Year 13 Summer Exams start

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Students who arrive at school between 8.30 and 9.29 will be given a late mark in their attendance record. They will also receive a same day detention. If your child is going to be late for a valid reason, please email admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk to let us know. Students who arrive after the 9.30 will be given a U-code late.

This mark means that they will have the whole morning marked as an unauthorised absence. Repeated unauthorised absence can lead to the Local Authority issuing penalty notices or even prosecution.

Please encourage students to be punctual to school.

BFS HOUSE PARLIAMENT



DURHAM



CANFORD



BLAISE



ASHTON

On Thursday 7 April, we held our second termly House Parliament meeting. The House Parliament is a group of elected students from across the school who gather to share their views about the way in which BFS is excelling and the ways in which we can improve further. Students within the House Parliament also meet in sub-committees (each led by a Year 13 Head Student) throughout the year to work on the actions they set in each House Parliament meeting. The current sub-committees are Diversity and Equalities, Communities and Mental Health, Competitions and Eco Schools.

Our first meeting, held in conjunction with our catering partner Innovate, focused on the ways in which we could improve our food offer and reduce our waste. As a result of the meeting, Innovate introduced new signage, established a clearer separation of plant-based foods from foods containing meat, communicated their commitment to reducing single-use plastic and introduced a new salad bar in the Sixth Form Common room.

During our second meeting, we focused on our work on diversity and equalities and on mental health support as well as discussing our plans to celebrate our 10th anniversary (more on this to come soon). Our agreed actions for next term are (i) to organise a Cultural Day celebrating the diverse cultures represented at BFS, (ii) to educate students further about the role of microaggressions, (iii) to apply for the Eco Schools Green-Flag status, (iv) to reduce the cost of new uniform and (v) to communicate the rewards gained when students collect house points.

We received many applications for next year's Head Student group and the applicants were interviewed by Mrs King, the current Head Students and myself on Wednesday 5 May. I have included below a few excerpts from the applications so that you can see the strength of the field and the passion that the students demonstrated for the school. I look forward to announcing the new Head Students in next week's newsletter.

STUDENT APPLICATIONS

"I have been part of the BFS community for 6 years and would welcome the opportunity to give something back to the school. BFS sixth form is welcoming and friendly, with a great atmosphere which encourages the students to achieve their best. I would like to continue that ethos, helping the sixth form and whole school to become even more inclusive and supportive. I would like to hear the opinions of students and be able to share them with members of staff."

"I believe strongly that everyone should be given equal opportunities and should be uplifted to help reach our full potential. It is evident that some groups and individuals in society are held back and this can (and often does) trickle down into educational achievement. I am passionate about equality and am very willing to spend time with people to find the most effective way for them to succeed at Bristol Free School."

"I am applying because I would like to see the school fulfill its potential in the community and create equal opportunity for all students. For example, through raising awareness about social issues and creating a more inclusive and accepting school environment for staff and students".

BFS CAREERS



MR PARRY

HEAD OF BUSINESS AND CAREERS LEADER



EMPLOYER TALKS

Today we were delighted to host representatives from Saffery Champness for our employer talk about the exciting career opportunities available at their accountancy firm. The talk was for our KS4 and KS5 students. The talk outlined the many different roles and entry points into accountancy as well as highlighting some important interview skills tips. There were some excellent questions on the different entry routes into the profession with a focus on the exciting school leaver programme that they offer.

More information about the different entry routes can be found on their website- <https://www.saffery.com/careers/>



Saffery Champness

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO WORK WITH THE SCHOOL, OFFERING EMPLOYER TALKS TO THE STUDENTS THEN PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH THE CAREERS DEPARTMENT.

BFS ENGLISH



MR TREAN

POETRY BY HEART COMPETITION

The English faculty is incredibly proud of Lily and Ruby in Year 10 for entering this year's Poetry By Heart competition. We are also incredibly impressed with Ruby for taking part in the Poetry By Heart Regional Showcase, on Sunday the 10 of April, at St George's Bristol. Ruby was the only student in attendance, who performed two poems (from memory) in front of a live audience.

It was a fantastic achievement, and we would like to thank her and her family for taking the time out of their Easter break to ensure she could participate.

We are happy to announce that Ruby has made it through to the next stage of the competition, as a finalist, and has been given the chance to perform her memorised poems in Shakespeare's Globe, in London!



CELEBRATING SPORTING SUCCESS



U14 COUNTY FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

The U14 girls football squad travelled to Cirencester FC for the County finals on Tuesday. The format of the tournament was a 7 a side round robin comprising of 5 games of 14 minutes each.

Game 1 was against Dene Magna who won the Forest of Dean district. The girls were not at all phased by this and asserted themselves, scoring two quick goals and winning the game 4-0. Next up was KLB who won the Gloucester district. The team were firing on all cylinders by this point and with some outstanding play resulted in win number 2 (4-0). With a short break the team were now ready to continue in their winning ways and were up against Cleeve School who won the Cheltenham league. BFS were now really starting to motor and a quick goal from Imogen, followed up by Emily and Isla saw the side assert their talent and came away with their biggest win, 5-0! Game 4 was set to be the toughest game, and Barwood Park held us to a goalless start, but once the girls composed themselves, they started to show their opposition who was boss. A fantastic goal by Chloe which started from the back and another quick goal by Imogen secured a 2-0 win.

The girls went into their final game against Brimsham Green School (South Glos) having already secured the tournament win. However, with a full squad rotation and fantastic commitment and energy from all, the game finished in a 5-0 win to BFS.

Name	P	W	D	L	F	A	D	Points
Bristol Free School	5	5	0	0	20	0	20	15
Barwood Park	5	3	1	1	8	3	5	10
Dene Magna	5	3	1	1	10	7	3	10
KLB	5	2	0	3	6	8	-2	6
Cleeve	5	1	0	4	6	11	-5	3
Brimsham	5	0	0	5	1	22	-21	0

The commitment from all 14 girls was fantastic and they have been unbeaten all season, only conceding one goal! A truly talented bunch, the future is looking bright! We hope to enter the U14 side into the ESFA National competition next year. Who knows how far this team could go!





BFS SPORT



CELEBRATING SPORTING SUCCESS

MRS BALLARD



CONGRATULATIONS ISLA & CHLOE!

Well done to Isla for winning Coach's Player of the Year and Chloe for winning Players' Player of the Year for Bristol City U14s

ODDBALLS FOUNDATION

Earlier this academic year, **The OddBalls Foundation** spoke to students about the importance of Testicular Cancer Awareness. We are on a mission to destigmatise the conversation around men's health and get people talking about BALLS! Now this April, during **Testicular Cancer Awareness Month**, we are appealing to parents and guardians for help.



To say thank you for your support, The Oddballs Foundation has offered 20% off at Oddballs using the code: **BRISTOLFREE20**

https://www.myoddballs.com/?gclid=CjwKCAjwjtOTBhAvEiwASG4bCEzDp6LILSXWHel8efUZ9UL4KCeHOHztc-LAgNctX8bkuXhDfyFTxRoCqtEQAvD_BwE

PROJECT ZAZI - OTR



Project Zazi – “know yourself, know your strength” – is a project which focuses on creating opportunities, building aspirations and empowering young Black people and young People of Colour, supporting individuals in exploring culture, identity and tackling inequality.

The project offers a mix of one-to-one support and a variety of group projects and sessions (both digital and face-to-face). Within these spaces, we aim to create a positive atmosphere with a sense of belonging and security. You'll be able to explore your identity and culture whilst partaking in sociable activities and learning new skills.

The aim of Project Zazi is to promote holistic wellbeing through the growth and development of young People of Colour, creating lasting change that impacts individuals for the better.



MRS PARASKEVA



SOME OF THE GROUPS PROJECT ZAZI RUN IN BRISTOL

CHAT BOUT

- WEEKLY RUN GIRLS/WOMEN IDENTIFYING GROUP FOR 13-16 YEAR OLDS,
- DESIGNED TO EMPOWER GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN TO MAKE INFORMED CHOICES ABOUT THEIR ASPIRATIONS, RELATIONSHIPS, HEALTH AND EDUCATION.
- THE GROUP EXPLORES THE WORLD THROUGH THE EYES OF WOMEN OF COLOUR, AND DRAWS UPON BOTH THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT OCCUR FOR YOUNG WOMEN WITHIN BRISTOL TO DEVELOP SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS.

SESSIONS ARE UP AND RUNNING AND AS THIS IS A DROP IN, THERE'S NO NEED TO SIGN UP! YOU CAN COME ALONG ANY TIME THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL YEAR.

MONDAYS @ MONTPELIER HIGH SCHOOL, CHELTENHAM RD, BS6

5RD

4.30-6PM



EXPRESSIONS

IDENTITY HAS ALWAYS BEEN EXPRESSED THROUGH CREATIVITY, AND SPOKEN WORD AND POETRY IN PARTICULAR HAS BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF SOME OF THE MOST POLITICALLY ENGAGED MOVEMENTS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME, IT HAS BEEN USED AS A TOOL FOR WELL BEING AND WELLNESS. WITH THIS IN MIND, EXPRESSIONS SEEKS TO EXPLORE IDENTITY, CHALLENGE SOCIETY AND AFFIRM SELFHOOD WHILE SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH. PARTICIPANTS WILL WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES THROUGH THE ART OF DISCUSSION, WRITING AND PERFORMANCE.

FOR 12+ YEARS

WEDNESDAYS @ EASTON COMMUNITY CENTRE, KILBURN STREET, BRISTOL BS5

6AW

5.30-7PM

FIND OUT MORE HERE:

[HTTPS://WWW.OTRBRISTOL.ORG.UK/WHAT-WE-DO/ZAZI/](https://www.otrbristol.org.uk/what-we-do/zazi/)



Life for teens and younger people can be hard. Here at Islandz we want to help teens navigate their world by bringing movement, exercise and mental wellness.

Yogo-Fit sessions are run by Cat Taylor from Find Your Happiness, created especially for Islandz. Cat has over 10 years experience working as an Occupational Therapist in child and adult mental health settings, and is a qualified Yoga instructor. You're guaranteed to leave the sessions feeling brighter, lighter and calmer.



Yoga-Fit for Teens are 20 -25 minute sessions - kept short on purpose so that they easily fit around other commitments, exams, revision and anything else there is to deal with. Each session is pre-recorded so you can do it more than once, at times to suit you.

The sessions are £5 each and are booked in blocks of 5 - 7 weeks (depending on school term times). The session link will be emailed to you each week, along with a useful resource sheet for you to keep and refer to whenever you like.

[HTTPS://WWW.ISLANDZ.CO.UK/YOGAFIT](https://www.islandz.co.uk/yogafit)

A WRITING COMPETITION FOR 11 - 18 YEAR OLDS



UNMUTE

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

What is important to you? What do you care about? What do you have to say about the world? Do you feel like sometimes your voice isn't heard?

Unmute is a monologue writing competition for 11-18 year olds. Whether it's big issues like climate change, or smaller things that impact your day to day life, your voice is important and it needs to be heard.

WHAT IS A MONOLOGUE?

This is a speech written for one person or character of your choice. A monologue is written to be spoken out loud and performed. They can be created out of your imagination or based on a real person, a real event or something that you're passionate about.

HOW DO I GET INVOLVED?

Submit your monologue by Sunday 8th May at 5pm. This can be from 1 to 500 words long. Enter your monologue at: www.lungtheatre.co.uk/unmute

Keep an eye out on our social media and website - we will be posting top tips and videos on writing over the next few weeks.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

You will find out if you have won by Friday 3rd June 2022. Winners will have their monologues made into films, performed by actors from Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

Winners and runners up will have their monologue published in a book by Salamander Street.

UNMUTE

Your voice will be heard and people will listen.



LUNG

Bristol Old Vic
Theatre School