

Dear Parents, Carers and Students  
I hope this newsletter finds you well.

## END OF TERM

We made it to the end of term despite the heatwave! I am pleased to report students and staff managed very well and stayed cool in their PE kit.

BFS is such a creative and vibrant school and the events of the last two weeks certainly reinforced that BFS spirit and the strong relationships between students and staff. So here is a round up of all our events:-

## STEM DAY!

Last Monday we had a fantastic STEM day where we were saved from a zombie takeover! A huge thank you to Ms Board, our STEM coordinator, who masterminded the problem-solving challenge getting students to use their maths, science, DT and debating skills. It was great to have our Year 12 students supporting the day. Hopefully, this was a day to remember!



ASHTON

## SPORTS DAY!

Sports Day this year was a great success with Cotham School kindly letting us use Stoke Lodge again. Ashton House came out as the overall winners of Sports Day but it was extremely close and every event was very competitive.

Thank you to Ms Wynne-Jones and the PE team for their organisation and to our fantastic student sports leaders.



## CAREERS DAY

Year 9 and Year 10 engaged with careers events last Tuesday. The whole of Year 9 visited the University of the West of England to find out more about life at university. Their conduct was fantastic and they were a credit to BFS. Year 10 careers day involved meeting a wide range of employers to find out about potential career pathways.

We also explored sixth form colleges including BFS Sixth Form. It was a highly informative day and it will help them make the important choice of where they will study after their GCSEs.

Thank you to Mr Parry, our Careers Leader, who organised these two enriching careers days.



## MATILDA



**'THE BEST PRODUCTION SINCE THE  
OPENING OF THE SCHOOL'**

This is how Ms Clifton described the Matilda performance last week. I unfortunately missed it due to getting covid but I have been told what a treat it was for audiences. Flora, who played Matilda, and Maxxie, who played Miss Trunchbull were mesmerising, and played the parts commandingly.



The musical numbers lit up the stage and it showcased the inclusive spirit of BFS. The production involved over 60 students on stage and behind the scenes.

Thank you to the many, many staff who helped to make the production possible and a big shout out to Ms Clifton, Mr Pate and Ms Dawson who led the production from day 1.

## 10TH ANNIVERSARY COMMUNITY DAY



Yesterday BFS at long last celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a community day. Mr East and staff organised a house competition fun day where year groups rotated around a range of activities including:-



## BFS HAS TALENT - YES, WE DO! HOUSE SPORTS 10TH ANNIVERSARY QUIZ BUNTING CHALLENGE

It was great fun and a chance for everyone to enjoy the end of term and come together as a school community.

All of these house activities have contributed to the overall House winner for 21-22. This year I am proud to announce Ashton is the winning house. It was a great effort from every house and I think next year there is all to play for because we are planning even more competitions, even some that parents/carers can get involved in! Ideal for all those competitive parents/carers out there.

I hope you enjoy this final newsletter. I want to thank Ms Billing who is the talented designer of our newsletter. It has developed as a great showcase for the school over the last 12 months.

## GOODBYE AND GOODLUCK!

At the end of any academic year it is typical to say good bye and good luck to staff who are moving on to new jobs and challenges. This year we sadly say goodbye to a number – please see our page saying thank you to leaving staff. I will welcome new staff in our first newsletter next year.

We have been encouraging students to send a postcard to staff and other students who they want to thank as part of our appreciation fortnight. This has been a lovely way to end the term and it has been very touching to read the messages that students have written to each other and to staff. Showing gratitude to others is such an important part of supporting your own health and wellbeing and can so easily be overlooked. I therefore end this message with a gratitude message to you, our parent community, who have supported us over the last 12 months.

Your appreciation and warmth have been very much valued.

We look forward to opening up the school more next year and building stronger community links.



**MRS S KING**



# KEY DATES

- Thursday 21 July - End of Term 6, finish at 12:30pm
- Monday 5 September - INSET Day
- Tuesday 6 September - INSET Day
- Wednesday 7 September - Year 7 & Year 12 Induction Day
- Thursday 8 September - All remaining year groups, start of Term 1 2022/2023

# THANK YOU!

BFS STAFF ARE FORTUNATE ENOUGH TO HAVE A PARENT GROUP WHO SHOWED US THEIR APPRECIATION BY SHOWERING US WITH LOTS OF LOVELY TREATS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND GENEROSITY, WE REALLY APPRECIATE IT!



# GOODBYE & GOOD LUCK

TO OUR LONG SERVING MEMBERS OF STAFF

Mr Pate - Head of Music

Ms Clifton - Head of Drama

Mr Green - Head of Geography

Ms Barnes- Teacher of History

Ms Ford - Head of Year 7

Mr Wiczorek - Teaching Assistant & DofE Manager

Thank you for all your support and hard work over the years, we are so sad to lose you but wish you all the best for the future -  
Keep in touch!





# BFS COOKS



# BFS JUNIOR MASTERCHEF



WEDNESDAY 21 SEPTEMBER - YEAR 8 & YEAR 9

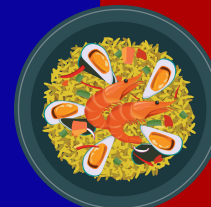
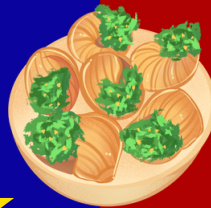
FRIDAY 23 SEPTEMBER - YEAR 10-YEAR 13

MS COLEMAN



## WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

To celebrate European Languages Day, the theme is "Europe" and your entry can be a starter, main course or dessert.



PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR:  
NAME, TUTOR GROUP AND HOUSE  
THE NAME OF THE DISH YOU WOULD LIKE TO  
COOK  
THE RECIPE (INCLUDING COOKING TIME)  
TO [K.COLEMAN@BRISTOLFREESCHOOL.ORG.UK](mailto:k.coleman@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)  
BY 16 SEPTEMBER.  
PLACES WILL FILL UP SO EMAIL ASAP!



## CELEBRATE THE EUROPEAN DAY OF LANGUAGES WITH US!

Celebrate the European Day of Languages with us! Throughout Europe, 800 million Europeans are represented in the Council of Europe's 46 member states and all are encouraged to discover more languages at any age, as part of or alongside their studies.

This stems from the Council of Europe's conviction that linguistic diversity is a tool for achieving greater intercultural understanding and a key element in the rich cultural heritage of our continent. Therefore, the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg, promotes plurilingualism in the whole of Europe.

At the Council of Europe's initiative, the European Day of Languages has been celebrated every year since 2001 on 26 September - together with the European Commission.



European Day of Languages  
Journée européenne des langues



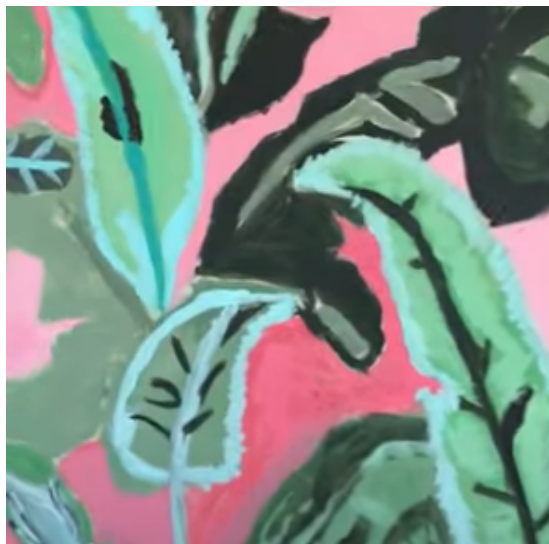
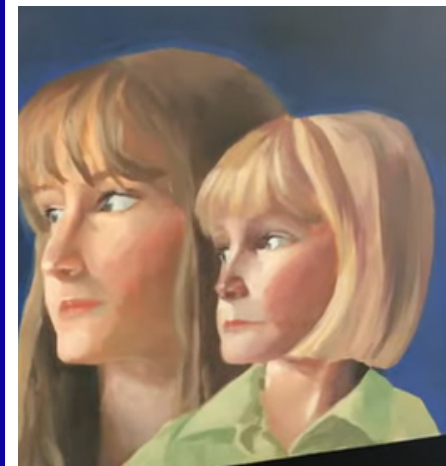
# BFS ART & PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION



A fabulous BFS Art exhibition was set up this week to celebrate the work of our very talented students across Y7 right up to Y13!

We would have loved to invite you in to see this in person but given the current covid-19 regulations we were unable to do this. However we did film it for you, please watch it here:

<https://youtu.be/oEYqe5TmfMA>





# BFS CAREERS



**MR PARRY**

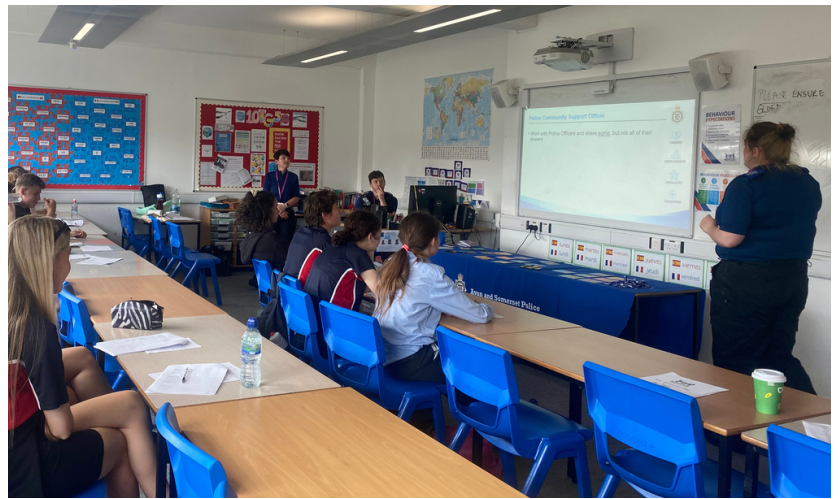
HEAD OF BUSINESS AND CAREERS LEADER

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

## YEAR 10 CAREERS DAY

All of Year 10 attended a wide range of presentations from employers that visited Bristol Free School. There were 14 presentations from a range of employers (law, veterinary, construction, tech industry, engineering, police, navy and management consulting to name just a few) which allowed the students to meet and hear about a wide range of career paths.

The students were actively engaged and it was a great opportunity for them to learn from the ever-changing employment market. In the afternoon, the focus changed to post 16 options where the students were given a talk by SGS college and our own head of Sixth Form, Mr Smith. A massive thank you to all the employers who visited the school and delivered engaging interactive sessions to all of our year 10 students.



**SOME OF THE BUSINESSES THAT VISITED US FOR THE YEAR 10 CAREERS DAY INCLUDED:**





# BFS CAREERS



**MR PARRY**

HEAD OF BUSINESS AND CAREERS LEADER



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

## YEAR 9 UNIVERSITY VISITS

The whole of Year 9, were taken off school site to visit the University of the West of England.

It was an excellent day whereby the students gained an insight into higher education. The university ran a bespoke day explaining to our students the wide variety of education choices and career possibilities. This included an introductory talk and interactive workshops, as well as a campus tour and speaking to student ambassadors.

The university and staff commented on how well behaved and mature our students were - well done Year 9!



## EMPLOYER TALKS

In the last few weeks we have carried on with our employer talks, which are becoming increasingly popular with our students at Bristol Free School. They are great way for students to engage and hear about a wide range of career paths and to build relationships with local employers.

- Just over the last few weeks we were delighted to host:
- Oryx Executive Search for our employer talk about careers in the recruitment industry.
  - Marsh Insurance for our employer talk about careers in the insurance industry.
  - ForrestBrown for our employer talk about careers in the financial/accountancy industry.



# BFS SIXTH FORM



**MR SMITH**

## END OF TERM!

It has been a bumper year this year within the Sixth Form and we want to say a big well done to our students on their hard work this year.

The students led a number of fundraising initiatives; raising hundreds of pounds for our house charities through a Halloween Bake Sale, raising over £600 for Ukraine through another bake sale, raising money for the Royal British Legion through our Poppy Appeal and collecting a multitude of food donations to support the North Bristol Foodbank. They engaged in over 60 enrichment programmes from Model United Nations to Duke of Edinburgh to the Bristol University STEM UP Programme.



## WORK EXPERIENCE

Year 12 students worked with fifty-three different employers from across the country during their recent Work Experience Week. Industries included sport, education, medicine, architecture, textiles, data science and many more. Year 13 students all either applied for a university place or for an apprenticeship - with two students being offered places to study at Oxbridge (Geography and Natural Sciences).

Students also worked on their preparedness for future careers through the completion of MOOCs ('Massive Online Open Courses'), a 1-2-1 40-minute interview with an independent careers advisor, interview practice and CV writing workshops.

## KEEPING POSITIVE

Covid caused some disruption - cancelling our Halloween Social and Christmas Social and causing many students to self-isolate, but we were impressed by the resilience of the students. In particular those in Year 13 who continued to study diligently despite being unsure as to what form the exam would take in June.

## WELCOME

Finally, we were pleased to be recognised for our work by Ofsted. They said that 'students in the sixth form are particularly positive about the ways in which the school helps to prepare them for life in modern Britain' and that 'sixth-form students have good support from knowledgeable staff'.

We also look forward to welcoming roughly 100 students in September into our new Year 12 cohort. Our vision is to support those students as they develop as a person, secure strong attainment in their exams and move on to some of the most prestigious universities and apprenticeships in the world.

We wish all of our students and their parents/carers a rest-filled and happy break over the Summer Holidays.



# BFS SIXTH FORM



MR SMITH

## HOUSE PARLIAMENT

We finished the year with a flurry of activity on student action.

We said farewell to our Year 13 Head Students who have served the school so well during a covid-addled period. Emily, Ben, Ameer and Lily worked on issues as diverse as mental health, violence against women, fundraisers and inclusion. They were a real asset to the school leadership and gave valuable feedback from a student perspective. They go on to further study and we wish them all the best as they become BFS Alumni. We appointed four new Head Students from a very strong field of eleven applicants. Charlie, Natalie, Hugh and Lucy will be working with their House Parliament Sub-committees on a number of areas of student action.

The House Parliament has recently organised the Move a Mile Ukraine Fundraiser which raised £1,841 to support the Disasters Emergency Committee and took our total fundraising for Ukraine to over £2,500. They have also recently been working on a number of newsletter articles, on planning for our Cultural Week in September, on our bid to gain the Eco Schools flag and on planning for other events including Mental Health Week. Finally, the Competitions and Events sub-committee have begun planning a number of house competitions for next year.

We also recently surveyed all of our students to capture their feedback on the strengths and areas for improvement for the school. Students were consistently positive about the quality of the teaching that they receive, about the relationships that they have with their teachers and about the extra-curricular programme on offer. Students raised their desire for more trips (something we are keen to explore as we exit the pandemic restrictions) and raised their desire for the school to continue to become more eco-friendly. The senior staff team and the House Parliament will now review the feedback and get to work supporting students on these issues.





# HOUSE UPDATE



ASHTON



MR MACBLAIN

Sports day was hot hot hot, but fortunately not as hot as the last few days! High temperatures required lots of rehydration for all our brilliant athletes and it was such a pleasure to watch so many of our students taking part and really enjoying the day. It does provide such a lovely sense of community. Wellies were wanged, rounders were run and races were run – but in the end there has to be one winner. The 2022 Sports Day Winners are..... Ashton!!!

- ASHTON = 4942 - 1
- BLAISE = 4798 - 2
- DURDHAM = 4168 - 3
- CANFORD = 4059 - 4

# END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY!



It was a real privilege to see the return of 'larger assemblies' and we were fortunate to be able to run two assemblies on the final day of term. One for Years 7+8 and one for Years 9,10+12. The assemblies were lovely and it was yet another opportunity to reward our student body. A particular highlight was the return of some former students, who took to the BFS stage one last time and gave us some wonderful music and songs. No final assembly would be complete without the awarding of our soon to become traditional, House Cup. We ran the numbers, added up the house points and have ended up with a new House Winner for 2021/22. The accolade this year goes to..... Ashton!!!!



A clean sweep for Ashton house then. But all to play for in September as we re-set the scores and let competition commence.



ASHTON



# BFS AWARDS ASSEMBLY

## CELEBRATING OUR FANTASTIC STUDENTS!







# BFS COMMUNITY DAY!

## BFS HAS TALENT!





# BFS COMMUNITY DAY!



ASHTON



# BFS COMMUNITY DAY!

## 10TH ANNIVERSARY QUIZ



ASHTON

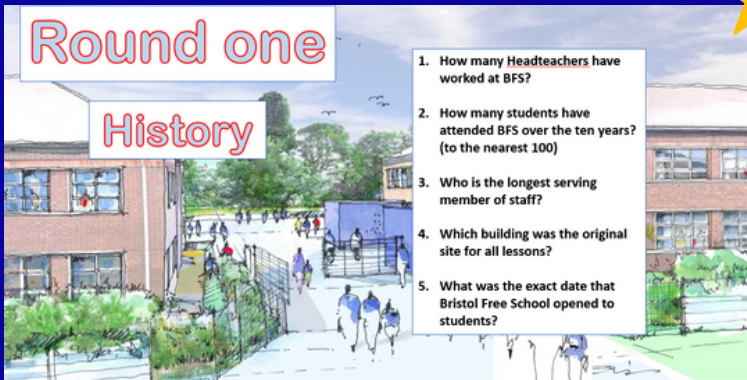


CANFORD

### Round one

#### History

1. How many Headteachers have worked at BFS?
2. How many students have attended BFS over the ten years? (to the nearest 100)
3. Who is the longest serving member of staff?
4. Which building was the original site for all lessons?
5. What was the exact date that Bristol Free School opened to students?



### Round three

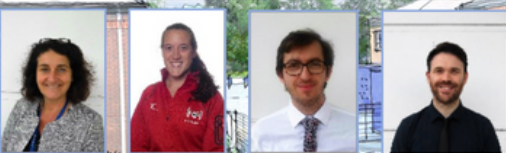
#### Picture round

Guess the staff member from their childhood photos



### Round four

Match the staff member to their favourite meal from the canteen



Roast Dinner

Never eaten a meal from the canteen

Veggie curry

Halloumi burger (meal deal, obvys)



DURHAM



CANFORD



# BFS COMMUNITY DAY!

## BUNTING CHALLENGE





# BFS COMMUNITY DAY!

## HOUSE SPORTS





# BFS SPORTS DAY!



## ★ CONGRATULATIONS ASHTON HOUSE ★

### THANK YOU!

Thank you and well done to all students that took part in races, cheered for their house and worked as a team.

Secondly a massive thank you to our Sixth Formers who did an exceptional job of helping out over the two days.







ASHTON



DURHAM



BLAISE



DURHAM









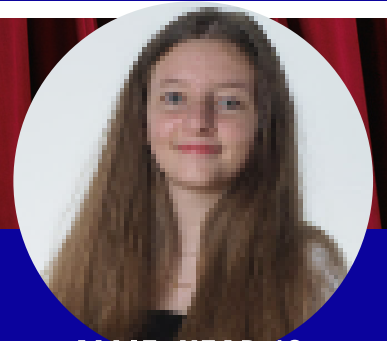
Thank you to the staff involved whether they were providing energy and enthusiasm whilst running and organising their events, or designing and creating our fantastic new scoreboard, or helping with admin and first aid behind the scenes (both at the venue and back at school). It would not have been possible without them!

Look out for an updated display in the Sports Hall with the times from the track and photos from the day. Have a great summer and keep active!





# BFS MATILDA PRODUCTION



**ALLIE, YEAR 12**

To a near full house, our BFS students put together a spectacular production of 'Matilda the musical'. Stand out performances from Flora A and Amelie , playing Matilda, Emily, playing Miss Honey, Maxxie, playing Trunchbull, Elliot, playing Bruce and Rudolpho and Paige, Henry and Harry , playing the Wormwoods.

The energy of the entire cast wowed the audience from start to finish. The catchy, toe tapping score, performed with such enthusiasm made it impossible for the audience not to clap along. Thanks to all the behind the scenes crew, from props to costumes, to set design and lighting and our amazing band, this production will certainly be unforgettable. Particular thanks go to Miss Clifton, Miss Dawson and Mr Pate, without whose hard work and dedication, this production would not have been possible. Miss Clifton and Mr Pate's time at Bristol Free School certainly went out with a bang!



## QUOTES FROM OUR MATILDA CAST:



**PAIGE : "ABSOLUTELY LOVED PERFORMING AS MRS WORMWOOD IN SUCH A WONDERFUL PRODUCTION! THE STAFF AND CAST HAVE ALL BEEN SO HELPFUL AND CARING. BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO CAME TO WATCH!"**

**-MAXXIE: "MISS TRUNCHBULL IS AN INCREDIBLE CHARACTER TO PLAY, I HAVE HAD SO MUCH FUN"**

**-EMILY: "MISS HONEY IS A WONDERFUL CHARACTER TO PLAY AND I'VE REALLY BEEN ABLE TO BRING PARTS OF MYSELF INTO THE CHARACTER"**

**-FLORA : "I'VE HAD FUN"**

**-ELLIOT: "I REALLY ENJOYED THE PROFESSIONAL WAY THE SHOW WAS DONE. IT WAS BRILLIANT"**





# BFS SCIENCE



## BFS STEM DAY!



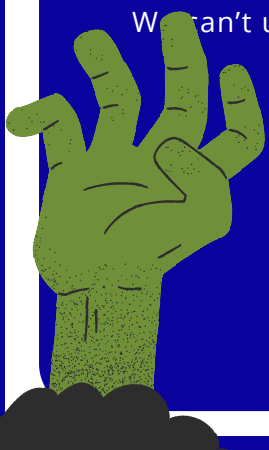
STEM Day is back with a bang, treating all of years 7 & 8 to some dead good fun! This year's theme was 'zombie apocalypse' and I think we are now all prepared should an invasion creep up on us! After some spectacular amateur dramatics from Mrs King introducing the day, everyone made their way through a carousel of STEM sessions with Science focussing on what viruses are and how they spread from person to person. Maths looked at the geographical spread and how to contain the virus, DT designed and created some wearable technology to enable early detection of viruses and an added ethics activity looked at vaccination and human trials.



Students were then asked to come up with their own zombie creations before choosing their representatives for the big finale of the day on the MUGA.

Tutor teams had to complete a series of physical, mental, skill and mystery challenges to prove their zombie apocalypse training was complete. The fastest group to finish were the incredible TG6, congratulations!

Wow! Can't wait until next year, any ideas what the theme should be?





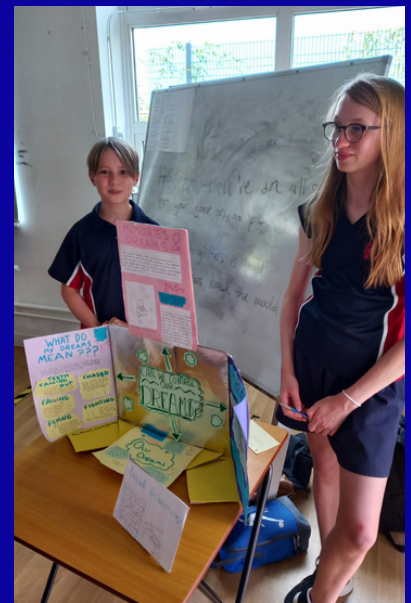
# BFS SCIENCE



## MS BOARD

After a two year hiatus, the amazing Discovery Prize Science Fair is back! Year 7 have been beavering away on their projects for over two weeks in Science lessons and for homework. The standard has been exceptionally high, with investigations such as 'How much fizzy drink can you consume without burping?', 'Does an apple a day keep the doctor away?', 'What is the best biscuit for dunking?' and 'Can anything fly?'. All finalists will be awarded certificates and the top three will receive a trophy, with placings revealed in our end of year assembly this week. A super massive congratulations to all of year 7 for their enthusiasm and effort, the whole Science team have loved reading your ideas, and parents, staff and guest judges all commented on how brilliant your presentations were! Well done!

## YEAR 7 DISCOVERY PRIZE FINAL





# SUMMER READING LIST

MISS CURRIE

The summer holidays is one of the best times to get your nose stuck into a good book! Whether you are holidaying in a caravan, sunning yourself on an exotic beach somewhere, or just enjoying some time away from the hustle and bustle of the classroom, the summer holidays provide the perfect opportunity to get your read on.

The Book Trust have released a fantastic list of summer reading recommendations for teens:

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/booklists/s/summer-reads-teen/>

Waterstones also has some fantastic new picks available that you can check out on their website:

<https://www.waterstones.com/category/childrens-teenage/teen-and-young-adult>

Waterstones

BookTrust  
Getting children reading

## Everybody Jam

Author: Ali Lewis  
Interest level: 12+  
Reading age: 12+



## A Beautiful Lie

Author: Irfan Master  
Interest level: 11-13  
Reading age: 11+



## Swim the Fly

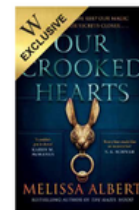
Author: Don Calame  
Interest level: 13+  
Reading age: 13+



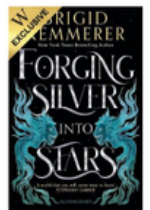
Gods & Monsters



The King is Dead



Our Crooked Hearts



Forging Silver into Stars

## WE'D LOVE TO HEAR ABOUT YOUR FAVOURITE READS AS WELL!

STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO WRITE BOOK REVIEWS ABOUT THEIR SUMMER READING ADVENTURES AND WE WILL DISPLAY THEM IN LRC NEXT TERM FOR OTHER TO GET IDEAS ABOUT THEIR NEXT BOOK CHOICE.

HAPPY READING!





# THIS WEEK IN DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

# design & Technology



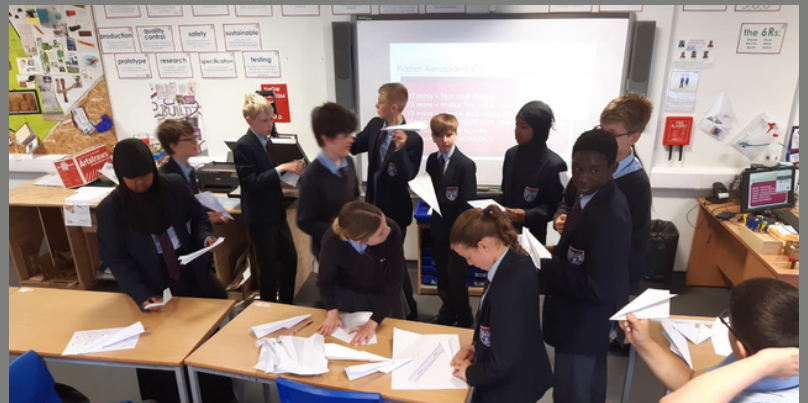
MRS GORDON

## YEAR 8 PRODUCT DESIGN

Mrs Gordon's Y8 Product Design group completed their pewter cast keychains last week. Students learnt how to cut and shape copper or brass; they then donned leather apron, gauntlets and full-face visor to use the gas torch at the brazing hearth to melt pewter which was then poured into a three-part mold. There is always a 'wow' moment when the gas torch is lit for the first time - think flame thrower! Some students then developed their metalwork skills by creating some enameled jewellery - a first at BFS. Super work Y8!



The same group had a paper aeroplane challenge. Students had to follow set criteria to win points. Well done to team 'Evie & Isla' who won first place on solid scores for each section. A massive well done to David whose plane travelled the furthest at over 16 metres (18m if straight), and to Mohammed whose plane travelled 15m. We were all so impressed.





# BFS COMPUTER SCIENCE



MRS RAMANANDI

## CYBERFIRST SCHOOL SILVER AWARD

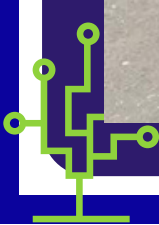
Bristol Free School has been awarded the Silver award in recognition of excellence in cyber security education, as part of the CyberFirst Schools initiative run by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) – a part of GCHQ.



The CyberFirst Schools programme recognises secondary schools and further education colleges that can demonstrate their passion for inspiring the next generation of cyber security experts and addressing the UK's cyber skills gap.



Being a CyberFirst School comes with a number of benefits including official recognition from the NCSC and opportunities to collaborate with more than 130 CyberFirst partner organisations from a range of sectors on cyber related activities.





**You** are  
welcome  
in our  
school

Ласкаво  
просимо  
в нашу  
школу

