

# Newsletter



## SIXTH FORMER FOR A DAY!

**MR SMITH**

This week, we invited all of our Year 11 students to be 'Sixth Formers for a Day' to support them in decisions that they are making for next year. Those students who are planning to join us next year were able to have taster sessions in courses that they are interested in, to listen to an assembly detailing the different course options and to try out the food in the Sixth Form Café!

We also invited SGS College, Access Creative College and the Army in to deliver taster sessions for those students who are planning to go to one of the local colleges or who are unsure. These sessions included the new T Levels in Health, Education and Animal Management, and the BTEC in Creative Careers. The Animal Management course proved a particular hit as it included live handling of guinea pigs, snails and cockroaches - I am pleased to assure you that no cockroaches escaped!

The deadline for applications for BFS Sixth Form is Monday 11 December and you can [apply here](#). If you have any questions about the Sixth Form or would like to have a tour during the school day, please email us at [sixthform@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:sixthform@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)

# KEY DATES

- Monday 11 December - Year 9 Cadbury World Trip and U16 Girls National Football Cup Round 4
- Tuesday 12 December - Y12/13 Poems of the Decade, Drama and Music Winter Showcase - Evening Show
- Wednesday 13 December - Christmas Lunch
- Thursday 14 December - Arabian Nights Theatre Trip Y8 Drama Club
- Friday 15 December - Early finish (12:30)



## FRIENDS OF BRISTOL FREE SCHOOL

The easiest way of supporting FoBFS is by using Easyfundraising!

It's a hassle-free way of earning extra money for our school. Please [click here](#) or install the Easyfundraising App on your phone. All you must do is assign BFS as the place you want funds to go to. There are lots of online shops on there and it's straightforward to use. HAPPY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING!

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY

On Wednesday 13 December, we will be serving Christmas Lunch to students which will be charged at the usual Meal Deal price of £2.60. If not done so already, please pre-order on ParentPay and ensure you have topped up your child's account to cover the cost.

On the same day, we are inviting students to wear their Christmas jumpers! Please donate a minimum of £1 via ParentPay for this, which will be donated to support the victims of the Israel-Gaza conflict.



# ATTENDANCE MATTERS



## PLANNED ABSENCE

For planned absences, such as funerals or participation in elite sport, please contact [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) for an absence request form. Please submit the form with as much advance notice as possible (ideally 2 weeks).

## HOLIDAYS

Holidays in term time are highly discouraged and are likely to result in a penalty notice (£60 per child, per parent) or prosecution (up to £2500 and 1 or 3 months imprisonment). Please do not book holidays during term time.

## MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Where possible, please book medical appointments outside school hours. If this is not possible, please email proof of the appointment (such as a text reminder) to [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) with the time that you will collect your child and the time that they are expected to return to school. Students are expected to attend school as much as possible during the day of an appointment.

Thank you for your cooperation,  
Attendance Team.



## CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES!

Incredible Kids are running a range of Christmas-related sessions for young people aged 0 - 25 at The Vench in Lockleaze. For more information and to book, please [click here](#).



# A REMINDER TO RETURN ANY BORROWED UNIFORM TO STUDENT SERVICES!



# careers notices



MISS NORTON  
CAREERS LEAD



## EMPLOYER TALKS

Today we welcomed Sam Taylor from Max Minerva's bookstores to discuss careers in bookselling and the process of starting your own business!

Sam began his business in bookselling in 2018 with his wife, and they now run two stores in Henleaze and Portishead. Sam spoke to students from Year 9 to Year 13 about his journey into bookselling, following a wide range of careers in the arts; he told his story of how he set up his bookstore without any previous knowledge of bookselling other than his love of reading.

Sam talked about the skills required to work in the industry and the wide variety of careers available, including marketing and publishing. He also talked about the process of setting up a successful business and the challenges that can present.



**Max Minerva's**  
Marvellous books & more



## UPCOMING EMPLOYER TALKS

- Friday 5 January - Law with Burges Salmon
- Friday 12 January - Biomedical Science
- Friday 19 January - Palaeobiology
- Friday 26 January - Aerospace Engineering with Stirling Dynamics

## ROLLS ROYCE APPRENTICESHIP OPEN EVENINGS

### YEAR 11 - 12 JANUARY

For students and parents to explore the schemes at Rolls-Royce and meet representatives from the Apprentice Development team, University of Bristol and Weston College, current apprentices and Recruitment Team.

This event is open to Year 11 students who are currently either completing GCSEs/Level 2 subjects at school or college. Please sign up via the links below.

[5pm sign up](#)

[7pm sign up](#)

### YEAR 13 - 11 DECEMBER

The Degree/Higher Apprentice Open Evening at Horizon Hall, Whittle House, Rolls-Royce Bristol.

The open evening is suitable for Year 13 students who are currently either completing A-levels, BTEC or Level 3 qualifications at school or college. Please sign up via the links below.

[5pm sign up](#)

[6pm sign up](#)

[7pm sign up](#)

**IF YOU OR ANYONE YOU KNOW IS ABLE  
TO OFFER WORK EXPERIENCE FOR OUR  
YEAR 12 STUDENTS (10 JULY - 12 JULY)**

**PLEASE CONTACT**

**CAREERS@BRISTOLFreeschool.org.uk**



# BFS ORACY

MR HARRIS

## PUBLIC SPEAKING CONTEST

Last week we competed in the English-Speaking Union Churchill Public Speaking competition for the very first time, with some trepidation as it was hosted on Zoom. Naturally our students were fantastic, and both of our teams are through to the next round!

Our two teams had invested many hours of research and rehearsal into selecting, crafting and presenting their topics: "We need to fix our broken childcare system" and "Any book worth banning is a book worth reading". However, this contest is a little unusual. For the first fifteen minutes of a contest, each team exchanges their speaker with another, and the chair and questioner have to collaborate with a new speaker on a henceforth unknown topic.

It was most impressive to witness confident, focussed interactions to rapidly develop a rapport with other schools. Students used thoughtful questions, strategically adapted to new information and complex topics, improvising to great effect.

Therefore, we were treated to smooth chairperson presentations from Mark and Tadiwa, who expertly combined with their new speakers and took questions from the audience. Meanwhile Ellie and Sama provided thoughtful questions to further our understanding of other teams' topics, having just heard their presentations for the very first time. Star turns came from Sadane and Emily who delivered powerful speeches, then had to really think on their feet to field robust questions from the other team and also the audience.

It was inspiring to watch such passionate young people come together to speak on a range of topics, including whether or not the #MeToo movement instilled fear or inspiration. Whilst only three students could appear "on stage" at a time per team, it really was a team effort. In the preceding weeks, everyone pictured (and Maddie) had contributed hours of research, preparation and practice to hone our skills, culminating in the professional performances we saw. Given that it was on Zoom this was no mean feat, as anyone who has presented online is all too aware of the emotional distance and difficulties in gauging the audience reaction.

We finished with useful feedback from the judges and the excellent news that both of our teams were through to the next round – thankfully this will be in person. There were cartwheels and dances of celebration but now we will need to take our performances to the next level. Watch this space...







# BFS MFL



## EAL CLUB

**MRS ROBBINS**

Our EAL Club, that runs in collaboration with Jacari, is a brilliant way for younger students who are currently learning English at BFS to develop their skills further and to generate new friendships and levels of confidence. We are so impressed with how many students have been attending this extra opportunity and we are delighted to see their progress! The club currently runs on Wednesdays at 3pm in DF15.

Our Sixth Form volunteers have been amazing, and we would like to thank them for all of their commitment, hard work, patience and warmth towards their tutees to date. Keep up the amazing work everyone! Below are some testimonials from some current tutors and tutees about the EAL Club. If you are a lower school student currently learning English and need some support, or if you are a Sixth Form student looking for some additional mentoring experience, please speak to Mrs Robbins in DF15. We are always on the lookout for more volunteers and students who need some extra help!



**DUANA  
(TUTOR)**

On Wednesdays after school, a group of sixth formers and lower school students meet to work in pairs or groups on a range of activities aimed at improving vocabulary, grammar, and general English confidence. My tutee is Shai in Year 7, and we start off the session by chatting about our week, followed by playing a game like 'Who am I?'. We will then practise any particularly tricky words or phrases, and finish by using flashcards or a whiteboard to learn new words. I really enjoy tutoring Shai as she is always willing to learn and ask questions, and we have quite a few common interests that we enjoy sharing. She is getting on very well and I can't wait to see her progress further!

The Jacari sessions have been an amazing way to connect with people who speak English as a second language. For an hour a week we play games, go over tenses and help with homework, building a friendship with our tutees. So far, these sessions have been useful, allowing us to help while also having fun!

**ELLA  
(TUTOR)**



**IDAN & BEN**

We like our tutors because they are funny and nice. We like the lessons because they help with spelling.



**ANGIE**

We talk about things such as ourselves, we play board games and I like the after-school lessons because they help me practise my speaking more.



**ASEEL**

We talk about my family and learn about the dates and months. I think that these sessions have helped me to improve my confidence. I would like to continue attending!



**ADRIANA**

I feel more confident in speaking English, and we have learnt new words and improved our writing. I like doing the tasks with the Sixth Formers!



**SHENISE**

I feel more confident, and I enjoy playing the games in the sessions.





# BFS COOKS



**MRS CORRIGAN**

## CUISINE LUCKY DIP CHALLENGE!

Year 11 recently completed the cuisine lucky dip challenge. They picked a cuisine randomly and cooked a dish and accompaniment. There were Thai, Japanese, Italian, Carribean, Sri Lankan, Indian, Greek and French dishes! The kitchen smelled fantastic - a great effort from everyone!



**AMELIE**



**CONNIE**



**TIA**



**AMELIE**



**ARCHIE**



**DAISY**



**ZOE**







# BFS COOKS



**MS EVANS**

## KEY STAGE 3

KS3 have had a great start to the year, developing their skills with lots of family classics being made!



Year 10 have been learning about protein, including learning how to portion a chicken. They have completed an assessment where they had to make their own high biological value protein dishes.

## YEAR 10



## YEAR 11

Year 11 have just completed their NEA1 in which they have been investigation different sugars in biscuits.



KS5 have been developing their food science skills, by investigating problems that a 'bakery' has been having with their Chelsea buns. They then put all their investigation results together to product the perfect bun.

## KEY STAGE 5







# BFS HISTORY



MR RUSTON

## YEAR 7 AND 8

It has been a very busy term in History at Bristol Free School. In KS3, students have been working hard on a range of exciting topics.

Year 7 students have been studying the chaotic events of 1066, culminating in the victory of William, Duke of Normandy, over Harold in the Battle of Hastings and the subsequent Norman conquest. Here are some cases made by 7TG1 for who they felt most deserved to be the next King of England:

I believe that the best choice for king would be William duke of Normandy because he was a good fighter (this means that he would be able to protect the country). Although many people agree, lots of people believe that Harold Godwinson should be king. This is because he already had experience at being the king. If William became king, he would be accepted by the churches of England and Rome, this is good because back in this time most, if not all people were christian. The downside to him being the king is that he speaks french instead of English which would make it harder to communicate with the country. In conclusion, I believe that they are both good choices, but I think that William would be the best option for king.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> January 1066, King Edward the Confessor died. The new king should be chosen by the Witan, the King's council. Who would they choose? In my opinion, Harold Godwinson should be king because he is strongly related to the king (his sister Edith was married to him), was the richest man in the kingdom and in a battle he chopped off the head of the leader! He was also the Earl of Wessex, King Edward's brother-in-law and he had been the late King's advisor. There were 3 other people that wanted to become King. They were: Edgar the Atheling, who was a Saxon Prince; Harald Hardrada, who was the King of Norway and a formidable Viking warrior; and William Duke of Normandy who was a distant cousin of Edward and had the backing of god. Edgar the Atheling was given permission to the throne but he died on a suspicious circumstance before he could be crowned. Harald Hardrada was a Viking warrior but he wasn't English and it will be good if an king of England is English, neither was William. However, Harold was English and so that backs up my point that he should be king.

In Year 8, the focus has been on another tumultuous event; the English Civil War. Students have been debating key questions such as: Why did war break out between the King and Parliament? Was Parliament justified in executing Charles I? What kind of a man was Oliver Cromwell?

## GCSE AND A LEVEL

Our GCSE History students have been working extremely hard! Our delightful Year 10 students have been studying the history of medicine and are now experts in the key scientific and technological breakthroughs that have laid the foundations of the modern medical approaches we see today. Their next area of study will be medicine on the Western Front during the First World War.

A big shout out goes to our Year 11 students who have just completed their mock papers on Germany, 1918 - 39. Well done to all of you!

In Year 12 History, students have been continuing their studies into communist Russia and the Wars of the Roses, exploring themes such as: Was Henry VI the worst monarch of all time? How similar were the regimes of Lenin and Stalin? Year 12 Politics students have been getting stuck into the issues of the day, exploring the relationships between parliament and the executive, the role of political parties and the effectiveness of UK democracy.

And finally, a big well done to Year 13 History and Politics students who have successfully completed their first round of mock exams!



# BES HISTORY



## ★ YEAR 9

### princess sophia

Sophia was most known for being a leading role in the women's Tax Resistance League and also for participating in many other suffrage groups including the women's social and political union.

On the 18th of November, Sophia, Emmeline and a group of activists went to the house of commons demanding to have a word with Churchill, however he orderd their expulsion. This then led to them and 300 other women rioting. Many women were hurt during this due to acts of huge police brutality. Singh eventually recieved a place of honour in the suffragette movement, along-side Emmeline Pankhurst. Queen Victoria gave sophia a little dressed doll called little-sophia, which later on was given to her house-keepers daughter at the end of her life.

Sophia was a suffragette in the United Kingdom. Her partner was Maharaja Sir Duleep Singh and her mother was Bamba Müller and her godmother was Queen Victoria. She lived in Hampton Court Place given to her by Queen Victoria as a grace-and-favour home. Duleep was born on August the 8th 1876 in Suffolk and died on the 22nd of August 1948.

In 1909, she was a leading member of the Women's Franchise League, she was funding suffragette groups and leading the cause.

Her title of 'Princess' was useful. Singh said a suffragette newspaper outside Hampton Court Place, King George V frowned upon this and said "Have we no hold on her?"

During World War one Singh initially supported the Indian soldiers in the British fleets. And joined a 10,000-women protest march against the prohibition of a volunteer female force.

she volunteered as a British Red cross Voluntary Aid detachment nurse. she tended wounded soldiers that had been evacuated from the Western Front. Sikh soldiers could hardly believe that the daughter of Ranjit Singh sat by their bedides in a nurses uniform.

Last but not least, Year 9 students have been investigating the campaign for women's suffrage. A key focus of this unit has been on the role of the suffragettes and the controversy of their 'deeds not words' approach to winning the vote. Students have also been doing their own research into some of the inspiring individuals who were committed to this cause. Here are some fabulous examples from 9TG7!

Well done to everyone for all your efforts this term. Have a wonderful Christmas break!



### MILICENT FAWCETT

**Who was she?**  
Milicent Fawcett was a moderate suffragist rather than a militant suffragette. She concentrated on improving women's education. Nonetheless, she did help women win the vote. She was the first woman to have a statue in London's Parliament Square.

**What did she do?**  
She campaigned for women's suffrage and in 1897-1919 led Britain's largest women's rights association, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. She was a strenuous and tireless campaigner and leader, and eventually wore down the barriers.

**Why was she important?**  
When she was only 19, she organized signatures for the first petition for women's suffrage. She was an eloquent public speaker on women's rights. She was a key part in helping women win the vote on 21st November 1918. They couldn't have done it without her. She won citizenship for women.

### The Indian Princess Suffragette

**Who was she?:**  
Sophia Jindan Alexandrovna Duleep Singh was born in Belgravia on the 8th of August 1876 and sadly passed away late August 1948 in her sleep. She was the daughter of Maharaja Duleep Singh and Bamba Müller. She was Queen Victoria's goddaughter.

### Leonora Cohen

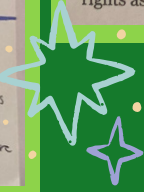
**The tower suffrage**

was Emmeline Pankhurst's personal bodyguard and she describes wrapping herself in "an undercovering of corrugated brown paper for protection." The extra padding proved useful when Leonora was arrested for the first time in 1911 for throwing a rock at a government building. She remembers "being knocked down and rolled under the hooves of police horses. She was also given a week in Holloway (one of the largest women prisons in Europe). Suffragettes would receive a Holloway Brooch from the WSPU for their time in Holloway and therefore their right for the cause.

**Leonora Cohen**

- Born: 15 June, 1873 in England
- Died: 4 September 1978
- Spouse: Henry Cohen (died in 1949)
- Children: 2
- Work: Activist, Women's Social and Political Union → WSPU
- Known for: Vandalism at the Tower of London.

Leonora lived to be 105, and on her 100th birthday, she said "One hopes that women of the future will organise themselves into groups or unions and that they will use their vote intelligently to ensure that we will have the very highest standards of womanhood."





**THIS WEEK  
IN ART  
AUTUMN ART HOUSE  
COMPETITION**



**MRS DAY**

**AND THE WINNERS ARE...**



**JOSH 7TG7  
CANFORD**



**EMMA 9TG7  
BLAISE**



**TOM 9TG7  
BLAISE**



**ARTWORK FROM THE  
INKTOBER COMPETITION CAN  
NOW BE COLLECTED FROM THE  
ART DEPARTMENT**





# BFS SPORT



MR LANGEVELDT

## BASKETBALL SUCCESS!



Bristol Free School earned their second victory of the season over Ashton Park School (APS) in a tense Thursday night game. APS got off to a strong start taking an early lead over BFS. BFS slowly took control of the first quarter, as they had adopted a good strategy and they took the lead. We came out strong in the second quarter, leading the game 15-9. BFS started the third quarter with the clear intent of not allowing APS to gain momentum. The team's excellent ball movement and patience on offence, coupled with their pressure on defence, allowed them to further extend their lead. Great team performance – Well done everyone!

### PLAYERS OF THE MATCH



JOEY



GUS



## DOBBLE CHAMPIONSHIPS HOUSE COMPETITION



	<b>1</b>	<b>DURDHAM - 71 POINTS</b>
	<b>2</b>	<b>ASHTON - 55 POINTS</b>
	<b>3</b>	<b>CANFORD - 38 POINTS</b>
	<b>4</b>	<b>BLAISE - 32 POINTS</b>

