

Newsletter



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Library & Reading

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Sports

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

On Saturday 8 March it is International Women's Day, a day dedicated to recognising the achievements, contributions, and strength of women around the world. This day is significant not only because it acknowledges the incredible progress women have made in various fields but also because it reminds us of the ongoing journey toward gender equality.

International Women's Day is important because it serves as a powerful reminder of the resilience, determination, and potential of women. It encourages us to reflect on the barriers that women have overcome and the challenges that still exist. By celebrating this day, we honour the trailblazers who have paved the way for future generations and inspire young women to dream big and reach for the stars.

Furthermore, celebrating International Women's Day fosters a sense of unity and solidarity. It brings people together to advocate for women's rights and gender equality, highlighting the importance of equal opportunities for all, regardless of gender. This day encourages us to challenge stereotypes, break down barriers, and create a more inclusive and just society.

In this week's newsletter we have asked staff and students to nominate women who inspire and create positive action for change.

In our school community, we have the privilege of witnessing the incredible potential and talent of our students every day. Let's use this day as an opportunity to empower and support each other, to celebrate our achievements, and to continue working towards a world where everyone can thrive, regardless of their gender.

Thank you
Mrs S King



MRS KING

A NOTE FROM MRS KING

#BFSCCommunity
#AccelerateAction





NOTICE BOARD



[BFS Bristol](#)



[BFS Enrichment](#)

NEXT WEEK AT BFS

Monday 10 March

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Tuesday 11 March

Y11 MFL Mock Oral Exams

Performance of *Mia and the Fish* at BFS (6.30pm)

Wednesday 12 March

Y11 MFL Mock Oral Exams

Y12/13 Moco Museum Trip

Success Together Parents Event (5.30-6.30pm)

Performance of *Mia and the Fish* at BFS (6.30pm)

Thursday 13 March

Y11 MFL Mock Oral Exams

Y12 Particle Physics Masterclass

Friday 14 March

Y11 MFL Mock Oral Exams

QUICK LINKS



[Lunch Menu](#)

[Extra-Curricular Clubs](#)

[Term Dates](#)

[Student/Parent Handbook](#)

[Past Newsletters](#)

WE'RE HIRING

[Deputy Head of Maths \(KS3 Lead\)](#)

[Teacher of Maths](#)

[Teacher of History](#)

Device-Free Education

BFS is committed to providing students with a device-free educational experience, aligning with the goals of other schools locally and nationally. We believe that young people should focus on learning without the distractions of digital devices. With this in mind, we have been carefully planning our strategy for the upcoming academic year. We invite parents and carers to join us at our **Success Together Event** on Wednesday 12 March, 5.30-6.30pm, where we will discuss our approach and welcome your feedback and ideas. This is an excellent opportunity to collaborate on equipping students with the skills to navigate the digital world effectively. If you are interested in participating, please sign up for the event using this link: [Success Together Parent Event](#)

HOLIDAYS

New attendance law does not allow schools to authorise family holidays. Please do not book holidays in term time. They are highly disruptive to your child's education. As a school, we work with Bristol City Council to issue PCN fines and prosecutions to parents who take their children on holiday during term time.

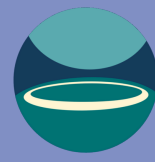
A Penalty Notice can be issued for unauthorised absences once there are a minimum of 10 session (5 days) within a 10-week period. The Penalty Notice will be issued per parent, per child. The Penalty Notice amount is £160 if paid within 28 days. However, this will be reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days.

For a second Penalty Notice issued within a 3-year rolling period to the same parent in respect of the same child, the Penalty Notice is £160 if paid within 28 days. There is no option for this second offence to be reduced to the lower rate of £80. If a Penalty Notice remains unpaid after 28 days, then the parent may be prosecuted for failing to secure regular school attendance.

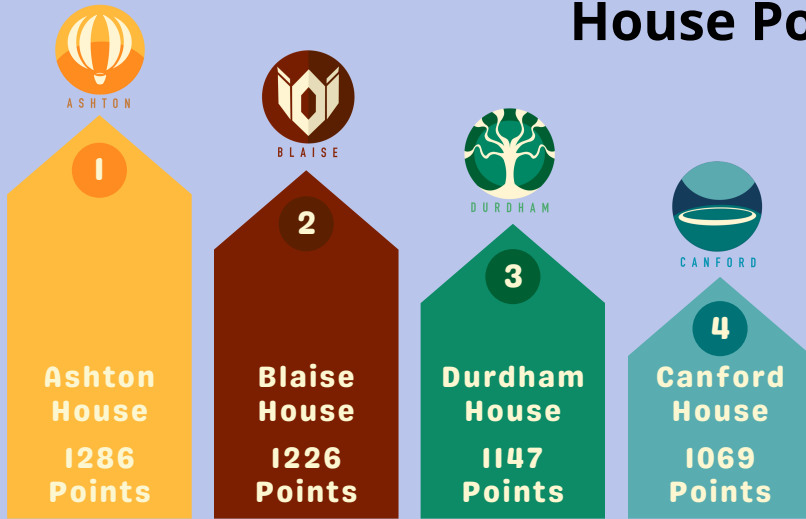
A third Penalty Notice cannot be issued to the same parent for the same child within a 3-year rolling period. Should the parent continue to incur further unauthorised absences then alternative action will be considered, which could include a prosecution for failing to secure regular school attendance. Please note that parents who repeatedly take unauthorised absences below the threshold of 5 days will also be considered for penalty notices.



HOUSE NEWS



House Points



Well done to **Ashton** House for earning the most House points this week!

Well done Ashton!

Top House Point Earners

Congratulations to our top House point earners this week!

	Ashton	Blaise	Canford	Durdham
Year 7	Willoughby S	Sophie R	Harriet J	Thomas F
Year 8	Sam S	Krystal D	Daisy P	Max C
Year 9	Suvi S, Ethan C, Sophie L, Angelin V	Aubrey H	Morgan S	Elizabeth C
Year 10	Henry B	Joseph D, Ruby L	Chloe D	Zino H
Year 12	Joseph C	Raivo B	Benjamin K	Caitlin B, Isabelle M, Mila D, Henry M

House Charity Art Sale

We are launching the Durdham House Charity Art sale.

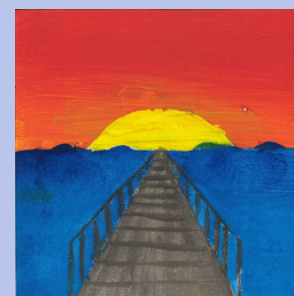
Come along to the Art Department this term to buy a blank canvas for £3.

Get creative and paint any theme you like with any appropriate medium. You can do this at home or join us on Wednesdays for Art Club!

Hand in your finished canvas by the end of term 5. There will be House points for all entries.

Finished art works will be on sale in term 6. All money raised will go to the House charities.

Examples from last year:



Empowered
Women
Empower
Women



Celebrating International Women's Day

This month, we celebrate International Women's Day, a global occasion that honours the achievements, strength, and resilience of women everywhere. It is a time to reflect on the progress made toward gender equality, as well as to recognise the work still to be done. At BFS, we stand together in recognising the invaluable contributions of women in all spheres of life, whether in our classrooms, communities, or across the world. Join us as we celebrate the incredible impact women have made and continue to make, while inspiring the next generation to lead, advocate, and create change.

What does equality mean to our students?

I think female equality is so important in today's world because everyone has a right to have their dreams and points of view heard and respected. Women should have the same opportunities as men to support and help society as their skills and qualities are unique and valuable. **Frederick, Y7**

Women need representation to show who they are and their identity. Without this, society would be a lot less diverse and interesting. **Cian, Y7**

Everyone should be treated equally, no differences regardless of gender and all should be the same. **Zayd, Y7**

Equality is important because it makes things fair. This means the world is a better place. **Flynn, Y8**

Equality is important because it is good to give everyone a chance no matter what gender or culture they are. An example of this is women's sport. It is important to support this so that women aren't missing out on opportunities because of their gender. **James, Y8**

From the moment I stepped through the gates of BFS, I felt a strong sense of how important equality is to the staff and pupils here at the school. I witnessed the staff respect the students and treat them equally no matter their gender. I think equality is important at this school because of how diverse our students are and it's important they're treated fairly. **Alex, Y8**

It is great to see so much more female representation in sports. It's also great to see women's FA cup and champions league on TV. **Billy, Y9**

I think female equality is so important in today's world because the success of every woman should be an inspiration to everyone. **Frank, Y9**

Everyone deserves to be treated with respect, regardless of their gender. **Anon, Y10**

To avoid discrimination and so that everyone has the same opportunities. **Harry and Alejo, Y10**

Gender inequalities and discrimination are still issues in modern society so it is important we challenge these. **Anon, Y10**

It is important because everyone deserves the same chances, opportunities and rights. **Joe, Y10**

It leads to a peaceful society. **Freddie, Y10**

Inspiring Women at BFS

International Women's Day is an opportunity for everyone to support, spotlight and appreciate the hard work of amazing women who are helping to change the world! Some of our heroes are global stars and some are from grass roots organisations, but they all have in common the goal of parity for women everywhere.



I nominate Miss Ludwell. She is a dedicated Year Lead for Year 10. She goes above and beyond for her students, dedicating time, passion and care to all of her year group. She is a hardworking and positive influence for young girls and ensures that equal opportunities are offered. She shows up for their extra-curricular events such as matches (both for boys' and girls' teams) and has high standards for all. Her year group are lucky to have her as a role model. **Miss McMurdo**

I nominate Mrs Jenkins because she is a true role model of dedication to all students and staff. She consistently goes above and beyond, always putting others before herself, Her unwavering commitment and selflessness inspire everyone around her, making a lasting impact.

Ms Holmes



Team PE would like to nominate Ms Urch for her demonstration of hard work, determination and resilience in completing an ultra marathon in early March! **PE Department**

I would like to nominate Mrs Stephens as a positive female role model. She consistently demonstrates positivity and perseverance despite some challenging situations. Mrs Stephens is a positive influence to staff and students alike. She is very supportive as a colleague and friend. I am very grateful to work with her! **Ms Bennett**

I would like to nominate Mrs Stephens. She works tirelessly hard and is always kind, bubbly and caring. She is always on hand to help others and trying her best to please everyone. She always tries to listen and take on others points of views and I admire and appreciate her.

Mrs Gardiner



I nominate Mrs Eynon for International Women's Day. She is an extraordinary woman who promotes equality in the workplace. She is the brains behind our fantastic Menstrual Health Day initiative to bring about the end of period poverty here at BFS. The pink period boxes she has implemented across school site means our students have access to crucial sanitary products. She is my mentor and an inspirational woman I look up to both professionally and personally. **Ms Gilbert**

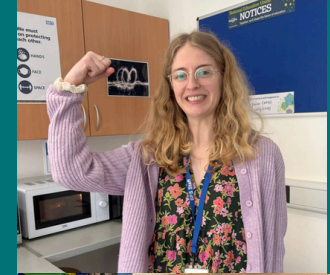
I nominate Eleanor Jones for being an excellent teacher and head of department. For working really hard to support students so they can thrive at school. **Ms Goodbody**



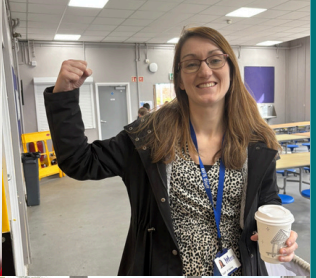
I nominate Miss Board. She exemplifies "STEMinism" by being extremely knowledgeable and practical with all things science-related. Her pragmatic approach provides so much to the science department and she is a cornerstone of the BFS community. **Mr Lally**

We nominate Ms Griffiths, our amazing librarian because she consistently goes above and beyond to make reading exciting and accessible to all our students. She has started many initiatives to encourage reluctant readers and is always on the lookout for new and exciting books to add to the library. **Mrs Pearce & Miss Boyce**





The women of BFS strike the #AccelerateAction pose to show solidarity. Together, let's #AccelerateAction for gender equality.



Inspiring Women from around the World



Jacinda Ardern

Jacinda Ardern, the former New Zealand Prime Minister led New Zealand through some of the darkest days of its recent history: the mosque shootings, the White Island explosion, and the Covid pandemic. She showed true leadership and great compassion. She also knew when she had nothing left to give and stepped aside gracefully. **Mrs Tindall**



Donna Ashworth

I would like to nominate Donna Ashworth (Poet/Writer). Her writing has empowering messaging, relatable content, advocates for self-care, champions authenticity and promotes a supportive community among women. She has a poem for everyone when they need it. She is a positive influence and a great role model for everyone. **Miss Coleman**



Wangari Maathai

Wangari Maathai was born in 1940 in a village called Ihithe in Kenya. She was part of the Kennedy Airlift - a programme where 300 Kenyans were selected to study in the United States. There, she gained a Bachelor of Science degree and a MSc in biological science, before returning to Kenya and earning her PhD from the University of Nairobi, becoming the first woman in East or Central Africa to earn a doctorate.

Wangari became concerned about issues of deforestation and desertification. She realised that women could play a central role in the fight against this by planting trees. She founded the Green Belt Movement in 1977, an organisation that has now planted over 30 million trees. She inspired similar projects in other countries, such as Tanzania, Ethiopia, and Zimbabwe. In addition to her environmental work, she was also an advocate for human rights, AIDS prevention and women's rights. In 2004, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. **Miss Sayer**



Alice Roberts

Professor Alice Roberts, Professor of public engagement at the University of Birmingham. She is a Bristolian (having attended Redmaids' School). Alice Roberts is a medical doctor, anatomist, archaeologist, and TV presenter. She is passionate about human biology and history, and has authored books and hosted documentaries on these topics. I love the fact she is so diverse within the science sector, proving you can change jobs and specialisms throughout life and your career. She is a true inspiration. **Miss Hawes**



Eliza Hatch

Eliza Hatch is founder of Cheer Up Luv, a globally renowned educational and community platform which combines journalism, art and first-hand stories of discrimination and female safety, encouraging activism and discussion around feminism, misogyny and sexism. Eliza has worked with the UN, given a Ted talk, been published many times in the international press and been featured in numerous documentaries. **Ms Board**



Dambisa Moyo

Economics is a world that has historically recognised lots of white, middle aged or older, men. Representation is however getting better, with more recognition in particular for the role of women and black economists. Dambisa Moyo is a Zambian born economist famous for writing *Dead Aid* in which she challenged some of the paternalistic attitudes of developed economies giving aid to poorer economies. She challenges them to begin developing sustained trading relationships that help bring development and growth in over the long term rather than tying countries into a culture of dependency. Dambisa Moyo has continued to take action and promote 'trade, not aid' in a bid to improve the living conditions for millions within less economically developed nations. **Mr East**



Adejoké Bakare

Adejoké Bakare is the UK's first black female Michelin-starred chef. She received the award in February 2024. The restaurant, which specialises in modern west African cuisine, began as a pop-up in September 2020 and now has a permanent base in London. A quote from Adejoké "the passion I see among young women in the industry is such that I'm confident things will change. It's an enormous thrill and privilege to think I might have some influence on that". **Mrs Corrigan**



Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi

Shri Mataji Nirmala Devi, a unique personality, who throughout her life, worked for the betterment of humanity and to achieve world peace. As a child she spent time in the ashram of Mahatma Gandhi and was advising him in matters of peace and beyond. She has many achievements, one of them being nominated for the Nobel Prize for Peace. **Mrs Thomas**



Barbara Hepworth

Barbara Hepworth was a trailblazer of dreams and empowerment for female artists. She was an artist who changed how people thought about sculptures and did things not expected of women during her time. Even though most artists back then were men, Hepworth didn't let that stop her. She made beautiful sculptures that looked like they were part of nature. Her sculptures show how women can be connected to the world around them, just like how they take care of things in their lives.

Hepworth's art shows how women can make a difference and do things people remember for a long time. Her sculptures remind us that women are always doing important things and improving the world in their special ways. **Mrs Kinnersley**



Kari Byron

Kari Byron was awesome in Mythbusters and brought her technical and artistic skills to the build team during her time on the show. Since Mythbusters, she has been involved in other STEM content. She has worked tirelessly to advocate for females in STEAM. Thanks Kari! **Mr Laxon**



Olivia Rodrigo

Olivia Rodrigo is a globally successful singer and founder of the Fund 4 Good, an organisation dedicated to women's reproductive health and education. A proportion of profits from the Guts world tour were donated to local charities in each city visited, funding and raising awareness for causes unlikely to be explicitly supported in many parts of the world. Olivia has very publicly supported and promoted reproductive freedom and bodily autonomy for women, a topic that is wildly controversial in her home country. **Ms Board**



Laura Kuenssberg

Laura Kuenssberg is an incredibly dedicated and engaging political journalist. Able to follow the most complex and challenging situations in real time, whilst presenting it in a concise and engaging manner so everyone can understand. she holds politicians and those in power to account, relentlessly following the story and delivering compelling interviews. She has been accused of bias by parties on both sides, so is probably doing something right! Broadcaster of the Year 2016. **Mr Harris**



Serena Williams

Serena Williams has won 23 Grand Slam singles titles, more than any other tennis player in the Open Era, with hard work and determination. She is also an inspirational leader who advocates for women's rights and social justice. **Miss Goodbody**



Tanni Grey-Thompson

My Inspirational Woman is Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson. Having been in Guides with Tanni back in the (ahem) 1980s I have followed her career as an athlete, Paralympian, campaigner and since 2010 as a crossbench Peer in the House of Lords. Tanni uses her platform to raise the profile of women in sport and leadership, disability rights and access for all. **Mrs Conway**



Getrude Ederle

Getrude Ederle was a champion swimmer in the 1920s and represented the USA in the 1924 Olympic games. She faced enormous barriers to competing due to sexism of the time. She was the first woman to swim the English Channel and also in a time that beat all previous men who had completed the swim. There is a wonderful biography of her life, *Young Woman and the Sea* by Glenn Stout. **Ms Griffiths**



Delia Smith

Delia Smith has been a pioneer in the culinary world and was one of the first, if not the first, TV chef. She was famous for being able to 'clear the shelves of supermarkets' if one of her recipes contained a new ingredient, this being dubbed the 'Delia effect'. She has an OBE and a CBE and was also the Joint Majority Shareholder of Norwich City Football Club from 1998 to 2024, this during a time when men did (and arguably still do) dominate the boardrooms of football clubs. Her fame has meant that her first name has become sufficient, to identify her to the public. **Martin MacBlain**

I Love Being a Women

by Sophie L, Year 9

Pink presents on your arrival
to 'go play with your dolls'
the beginning of childhood
boys vs girls

their grin of victory before the game began
"are you sure you don't like him?"
the look of disbelief
when you say
"he's just my friend"

"that class is mostly boys, maybe pick another subject?"
"when are you going to settle down?"
"your biological clock is ticking"
that look of disapproval

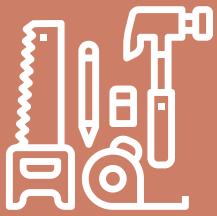
"I am focusing on my career for now mum"
when you hit retirement
"you could start knitting?"
but the men should "take up a project"

"Learn to knit..."
the best use of my time

Oh but I love being a woman



INTERNATIONAL
Women's
DAY



What has been happening in... *DT & Food?*



We are so proud of students who are showing extra effort in their DT lessons. This includes having an excellent attitude to learning, good team work and showing a commitment to the subject. Well done for your hard work and a thank you from your teachers for being SUPER!

Design Technology

Year 7

Orla W
Lizzy FV
Ethan JG
Nicholas C
Pippa M
Jacob H
Hattie J

Year 8

Molly M
Jemima H
Tom F
Rory S

Year 9

Rafeal V
Esther D
Ava W
Riley J
Seb WT
Daisy P
Dexter S

Jack C
Muhammed Fadel A
Thomas O
Luca C
Rory H
Yann D
Kledis H

Year 10/11

Bella P
Mark B
Mia S
Emlyn W

Food

Year 7

Ivy L
Joey J
Jake B

Year 8

Alfie F
Maisy B
Jessica G
Oliver P
Ty S

Year 9

Givara I
Dexter P
Rio W

Year 10/11

Lillyana WL
Lilia B-L
Jack F
Amelia S
Olivia H
James C
Jenifer H
Dexter H
Pippa G

Year 7 Product Design students have worked effectively to cut and join timbers, build electrical systems and combine these into high quality products.



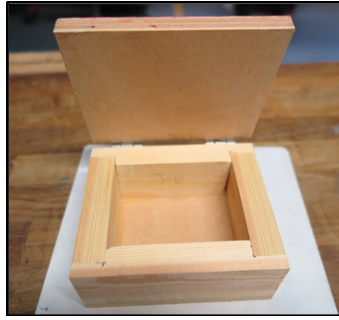
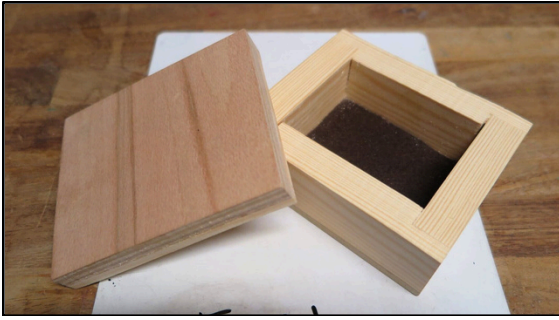
Our Year 7 Food students have been busy in the kitchen this week learning about the Eatwell Guide while making pizzas, and considered fibre intake in their diets when making oat and raisin cookies.



YEAR 7



Mrs Gordon's Year 7 product design group has worked so hard this rotation that we have finished a week early! Yet more amazing lap joints and belt sander use, and some very creatively decorated lids. Well done 7Y2.



YEAR 8



Year 8 Food students had the pleasure of completing an experiment into the effects of sugar on cakes. Students completed a hypothesis predicting which sugar had been used and why, before conducting sensory analysis into four different cakes. These had been made using caster sugar, sweetener, syrup and icing sugar. As part of GCSE Food Preparation and Nutrition, students complete an NEA which is a science experiment testing the effects of a variety of ingredients. By practising experiments in Key Stage 3, we are preparing students for this piece of important coursework and students seemed to very much enjoy being cake testers!

Year 8 have also been challenged to create their own healthy budget meals, developing important skills in cost-effective cooking.



YEAR 8

The growth of CAD/CAM across all years studying DT has been positive over the last term. The new laser cutter and 3D printer have opened-up access to Digital Manufacturing for students.



YEAR 9



This term in Food, Year 9 have taken on a more advanced task - making chicken pie with homemade puff pastry, building their confidence in pastry techniques such as lamination. Well done!

In this week's cooking class with selected students, we made chocolate chip cookies. Students followed instructions perfectly and experienced the fun/mess of using electric hand blender for the first time. The three students (and the odd lucky staff member) found the freshly baked, crispy-goey cookies so more-ish and there almost were not enough to take home! Why not have a go yourself at home?

Chocolate Chip Cookies

Ingredients:

- 120g butter, softened
- 150g golden caster sugar
- 1 medium egg
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 180g plain flour
- ½ tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 150g dark chocolate, cut into chunks

Method:

1. Heat oven to 180C/160C fan/gas 4 and line two baking sheets with parchment.
2. Cut the chocolate into chunks.
3. Cream the butter and sugars together until very light and fluffy
4. Beat in the egg and vanilla.
5. Stir in the flour, bicarb, chocolate and ¼ tsp salt.
6. Scoop 10 large tbsps of the mixture onto the trays, leaving enough space between each to allow for spreading – you could roll each spoonful into a ball, place on tray and then gently flatten out.
7. Bake for 10-12 mins or until firm at the edges but still soft in the middle – they will harden a little as they cool.
8. Leave to cool on the tray for a few mins before eating warm, or transfer to a wire rack to cool completely.

Equipment

- Mixing bowl
- Weighing scales
- Hand whisk
- Baking tray & greaseproof paper
- Fork & large spoon

tbs = table spoon
tsp = tea spoon

Makes 12 cookies
Will keep for three days in an airtight container.



Easy chocolate chip cookies recipe (with video) | Good Food (bbcgood)

YEAR 7-9

Well done to the super sewing bees of 7XDT1, 8YDT3 and 9XDT1. It is always a rush to the finish line of a rotation, but due to the consistent effort over time, these students have finished with a week to spare. After they have finished their own evaluations and reflection, they will have the very special jobs of 'class sewing buddies', working collaboratively, helping those who need support.



YEAR 10

Year 10 students had an 'own choice' assessment on Wednesday where they cooked for a different life stage - children, teenagers, adults or the elderly. They showcased their skills and chose dishes with consideration for the nutrients. Well done to all of Year 10 for completing a range dishes from different cuisines, for working safely and for serving the food in the correct time frame. Chefs of the lesson were Lillyana W, Laila and Nathaniel.



SIXTH FORM

Year 12 DT students have been working on evaluating their flat pack chair project.



SIXTH FORM

On Thursday this week, Year 13 had their final Pastoral Day of their time as a student at BFS.

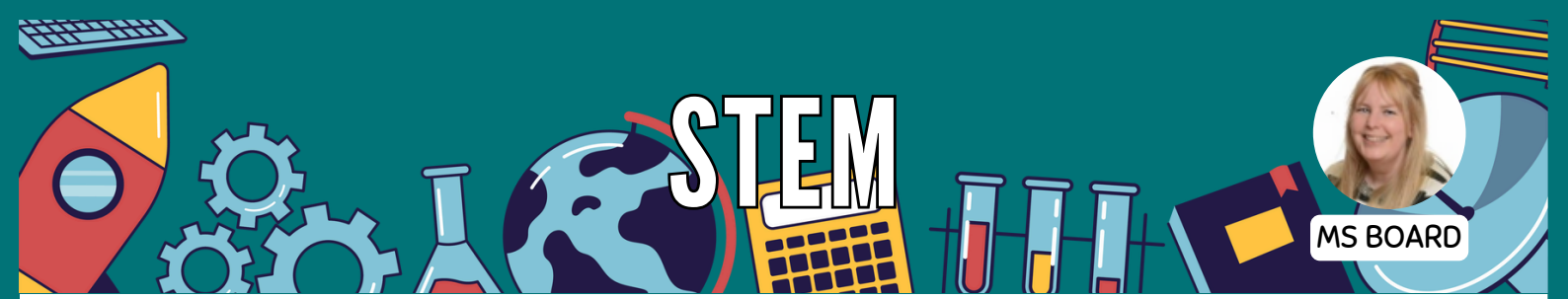


To start the day, students were treated to a fascinating talk by Michael Scott-Baumann on the history of the Israeli-Palestine conflict. Michael has lived and worked in the region and has written academic books on the topic. It was a powerful insight into the background to the conflict, exploring multiple perspectives and giving students a strong grounding of understanding on one of the most complex and controversial issues facing the world today.

Throughout the remainder of the day, students participated in a range of sessions designed to prepare them for adult life.

Mrs Slade led a series of cooking workshops where students learned how to prepare healthy meals on a budget. BFS staff facilitated CPR training sessions using our CPR kits and resources provided by the British Heart Foundation. We were also pleased to welcome Ellie Anderssen from The Hollie Gazzard Trust, who delivered workshops on sexual harassment, with a particular focus on how to be an active bystander. Kate Harvey from Ntruth led discussions on the harmful effects of pornography. Finally, Nicky Rogers and Rosie Lunt from the University of the West of England gave a presentation to students aspiring to attend university, offering guidance on how to best prepare for higher education. Those who are planning to do an apprenticeship or go into the workforce, spent time with Mrs Morgan-Jones looking for opportunities and making applications.





STEM



MS BOARD

Young Green Briton Dragons' Den

Last week, seven teams voted by their tutor groups took part in a Dragons' Den event as the next step in the national Young Green Briton Challenge.

We were joined by judges Liam and Jo from Ecotricity, and Ximena from Bristol University, all experts in their field, who really raked through the teams' business plans and asked a lot of probing questions.

Amongst the amazing ideas to make our school community and society more sustainable and eco-friendly, teams promoted plastic alternatives, book recycling and seeding, repairing and customising clothing and even getting local businesses to sponsor trees!

All of our groups presented with enthusiasm and professionalism and really impressed the judges. The next stage of the challenge is to work with industry mentors to develop their projects further with funding. We cannot wait to get started!

YEAR 7





RELIGION AND PHILOSOPHY



Ramadan and Lent

The Christian season begins this week and last Friday we had the start of Ramadan, the fasting month in Islam. A season of worship, prayer and scripture. It is not often the two meet in the calendar, but they share many similarities.

Many Christians and Muslims describe it as a chance to have a spiritual 'clean'. As the sun is peaking out of its long slumber, both religious communities will attach a lot of meaning to the planets aligning and the two holy events meeting. For both communities, it is a season of prayer, fasting and giving to charity. Here is a scripture from Ray-Simpson to use as reflection on this time:

Let us use this time of peace and reflection,

A time to rethink and reorientate ourselves,

A time to withdraw from getting, having and desiring

And remember the love which holds us.

Now is a time for clarity, as when the bare boughs of winter shows the shape of the tree in austere beauty.

Let us clear away the clutter of our lives in order to see the underlying pattern

Facts about Lent

- Lent is the period of six weeks (40 days not including Sundays) leading up to Easter, the most important festival in the Christian calendar.
- Lent starts on Ash Wednesday. The last week of Lent is called Holy Week.
- In 2025, Lent begins on Wednesday 5 March and ends on Thursday 17 April.
- Lent is an old English word meaning 'lengthen'. Lent is observed in spring, when the days begin to get longer.
- One of the central practices of Lent is fasting, which allows the faithful to grow closer to God through sacrifice and self-discipline.



Facts about Ramadan

- Most Muslims fast between dawn and sunset.
- Fasting allows Muslims to devote themselves to their faith.
- It is thought to teach self-discipline and reminds them of the suffering of the poor.
- However, children, pregnant women, elderly people and those who are ill or travelling do not have to fast.
- During Ramadan, it is common to have one meal (known as the suhoor), just before dawn and another (known as the iftar), directly after sunset.



LIBRARY & READING

Happy World Book Day!

Thursday was World Book Day 2025 and BFS students let their reading take flight. Students across the year groups shared their reading by writing down the name of a book or a quote from within its pages. These were written on paper feathers. Hundreds of feathers now adorn an installation of wings that are hanging in the Library - perfect for a photo opportunity. The World Book Day buzz was brilliant as students came to find their contribution and pose for a picture.

Book recommendations were also showcased in assembly with books including Michael Grant's 'Gone' being reviewed by Mr Hill, 'A Wizard of Earthsea' by Ursula Le Guin as suggested by Mrs Gordon, and Mr East told us about the book that hooked him to reading years ago, 'The Player of Games' by Iain M Banks. These and more were shared in assembly and on the BFS Instagram page. Take a look and get your next great book lined up.



Library House Competition

Congratulations to Canford House, the current leaders in book borrowing from the school Library. Remember, borrowing a book can earn points for yourself and your House. House points have been won and awarded last week to students with borrowed books in 7TG1, 8TG6, and 9TG1.



Accelerated Reader Balloon Race

The AR quiz balloon race in Year 7 is being led by Miss McMurdo's class (Shakespeare) and in Year 8, Mr Treen's class (Ness) are in first place. All quizzes passed receive a house point too, so keep reading and quizzing.



MS SLATER



MS URCH

BFS SPORTS



BFS_TeamPE



MR LANGEVELDT



MR HOWARD

YEAR 9

On Monday, the Year 9 boys' rugby team participated in an exciting Rugby 7s festival, showcasing their skills against several independent schools. The atmosphere was electric, with teams from various schools coming together to compete in a series of fast-paced matches.

Throughout the festival, the Year 9 squad demonstrated impressive teamwork and determination. They played with great enthusiasm, adapting quickly to the 7s format, which emphasises speed and agility. The players executed well-coordinated passes and tackled fiercely, making it clear that they were not intimidated by their opponents.

The experience was not only about competition but also about camaraderie and enjoyment. The players celebrated each other's successes and learned from every match. Overall, the festival was a fantastic opportunity for the team to grow, both individually and as a unit, and they left with a sense of pride and excitement for future challenges.



U12 & U14 GIRLS

On Monday, the U16s (mixed with U14s) and U12s travelled to Shine Sports Ground to play two teams from Cotham School. With the sun beating down on both pitches, it was perfect spring-like conditions. BFS started brightly on both pitches scoring early goals to put them ahead. The half times score for the U14/16s was 7-1 and for the U12s, 3-0. After a quick team talk and change of ends, both teams continued with their attacking prowess and scored more fantastic goals. The final score was a 10-1 win for the U14/16s (Lottie 3, Lexi 5, Polly 2) and a 6-0 win for the U12s (Lola 1, Hattie 1, Sophia 1, Lola 1, Esme 1, Chloe 1). Player of the Match - Lola (U12) and Flo (U16).



On Wednesday, the U12 and U14 teams travelled to Fairfield High School. The U14s went 1-0 down not long after the start but managed to play some free-flowing football to be back in front at half time with a 3-1 lead. The U12s game was a 0-0 stale mate at half time with both teams having many chances to go ahead. It was hard going for the U12s, as both teams only had the 5-a-side goals to aim for. After half time, both teams came out with more fire and determination to win. The U14s scored one more goal and eventually won 4-1. Jess was POM and goal scorers were Lottie 1, Jess 1 and Evie 3. The U12s played more attacking football during the second half but just could not find the back of the net. Their game ended 0-0 with Lola being given POM. Well done to all the girls that played this week.

YEAR 7



Our Year 7 boys' football team attended Blaise High School this week to continue in their football competitions for Bristol Schools. The team started off slowly, building momentum and with a brief team talk from Miss Slater at half time, worked their magic and got straight back on with a goal scored in the first 3 minutes! That streak continued with another 2 goals scored and final score of 3-0 to BFS!

YEAR 8

Year 8 attended Blaise High School and also had a slow start, finishing the first half 2-0 down. But after a team talk at half time and some motivational conversations, the boys really brought it back! With a first goal scored about 15 minutes into the second half and then a final goal with a few minutes to go to get the score line at an even 2-2!

All credit to the Year 8s, who demonstrated incredible independence and maturity in the fixture!



YEAR 8

In a thrilling match filled with excitement, the Year 8 teams from BFS and Orchard School showcased their incredible skills. Orchard School sparked joy early on with a brilliantly executed free kick that sent them into the lead in the first half.



BFS responded with passionate determination, coming close with two fantastic one-on-one opportunities to equalise, but Orchard's defence was up to the challenge, holding onto their slim advantage.

As the final whistle blew, Orchard celebrated their hard-earned 1-0 victory, while BFS walked off the pitch brimming with pride in their effort.

YEAR 9

The Year 9 boys' football team travelled to Blaise High School this week. They took an early lead through Lewis and despite a route one tactic from the opposition, we went into half time 1-0 up. Unfortunately, we gave away a penalty to make it 1-1. Zac scored to make it 2-1 and Blaise scored with 2 minutes to go to finish 2-2. Shout out to coach Rory who led the team brilliantly! Player of the match: Harley G



YEAR 10

The Year 9 boys' football team travelled to Blaise High School this week. Year 10 started strong and went 1-0 up with a shot from Dan (Josh assist) inside the box. Dan doubled the lead from an Austin corner.



Will W then slotted home from an Austin assist. To make it 4-0, Austin scored straight from a corner! Will W made it 5-0 going into half time. In the second half, Edrisa passed through to Louis to make it 6. Blaise brought it back with 2 goals but were nowhere near as strong as our boys and Will D made it 7-2 final score. Player of the match: Austin

CLUBS

Come and train to make sure that you get a game! Full details of all extra-curricular clubs can be found [here](#). If you cannot train, please email Mrs Ballard to make her aware.

Monday

Sports Leaders (invite only)

Basketball Club

Year 7 Football Club

Year 7 Dance Club
(for STAGES dance competition)

Year 9 Dance Club

Tuesday

Badminton

Wednesday

Year 8 Football Club

Hockey Club

GCSE Intervention Club

Thursday

Years 7-8 Trampolining

Years 9-11 Football Club

Years 8-9 Girls' Volleyball Club

Friday

Sixth Form Sports

NOTICES

Extra-Curricular Clubs

All PE clubs due to run on Thursday 13 March have been moved to Tuesday 11 March due to a whole school staff meeting.

This affects Trampolining, Volleyball and Year 9-11 Football (girls and boys).

UPCOMING FIXTURES

Monday 10 March	U15 Boys' Rugby Sevens	Collegiate School
Monday 10 March	U14 & U16 Girls' Football vs Montpellier High School	Lockleaze Sports Centre
Tuesday 11 March	Y7 & Y9 Boys' Football vs St Bede's Catholic College & Oasis Academy Brightstowe	Oasis Academy Brightstowe
Wednesday 12 March	Y7 Girls' Football (9-a-side) vs St Bede's Catholic College & Redland Green School	Redland Green School
Wednesday 19 March	Y8 & Y10 Boys' Football vs Oasis Academy Brightstowe	Oasis Academy Brightstowe
Wednesday 19 March	Y10 Girls' Netball vs Hayesfield Girls' School	BFS
Thursday 20 March	Y9, Y10 & Y11 Boys' Football vs St Bede's Catholic College	St Bede's Catholic College
Thursday 20 March	U12, U14 & U16 Girls' Football vs Cathedral Choir School	Cathedral School Ground