

Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 3 October

Monday

KS4 Fitness
Classics
Fencing

Tuesday

Latin GCSE year 2
Boys' rugby (Year 7)
Girl's football (Y9, 10 & 11)
Boys' basketball (Y8 & 9)
Textiles Club (Y7 & 8)
Art Club
School Musical
Poketeering
Italian Club
Science Club
Model United Nations
Year 10 Young Enterprise

Wednesday

Latin GCSE year 1
Boys' basketball (Y10 & 11)
Boys' rugby (Y8 & 9)
Girl's netball (Y7 & 8)
Orchestra
Year 9 Punk Band
Outdoor Club
Commercial Dance
Macbeth Rehearsals
French Film Club
Year 12 young Enterprise

Thursday

Boys' rugby (Y10 & 11)
Boys' basketball (Y7)
Cross Country (All Years)
Girls' netball (Y9, 10 & 11)
Street and Hiphop Dance
Jazz Band
HJunior Jazz Band
Dressmaking (Y9 & 10)
Craft Club
Warhammer School Alliance
Wellbeing Club

Friday

Sports Academy

Words from the Headteacher

The Bristol admissions process is a complicated hydra. It's made up of oddly angular catchments, following medieval ward boundaries, and every school seems to offer a series of ever-so-slightly different versions of the same criteria, with the subtle wording carrying hidden depths of meaning. I'm going through the primary process at the minute, and have made the silly mistake of living in a house that is equidistant between three schools with catchments tighter than a renaissance whalebone corset. With luck, we will probably be offered a school somewhere in Ulan Bator. It's an enigma that would tax even Alan Turing. Nevertheless, it is how it is, and other such truisms. I know that BFS sits within this landscape, but I also know that the school is embedded in the local community and with each year we become that bit more engrained within the cultural, educational and familial context of BS9 and 10, and each year we welcome from our catchment those parents and students who recognise the values and ethos of the school. Our Open Evening this year was the culmination of three open mornings and afternoons. Our students toured the visitors around the school; every visitor stopped to say how brilliant they were, how erudite and how engaging. We expect nothing else, but it's great to be reminded how lovely they are.

We are launching our Period 7 curriculum next week; it's a bespoke package of additional Year 11 academic support and study which runs until 4.30pm every day. We harness the double-pronged assault of our own brilliant subject teachers along with a clutch of venerable RET staff, all of whom are highly skilled in getting across the key details young people need to know in order to get spectacular grades. Non-attendance fits squarely inside the box marked "actions to be taken in order to not allow students to fail" and will result in consequences.

Monday after school is the Y half of the year for English and the X half for Maths. Be there or be in detention in perpetuity. Further details will follow, including letters home and an email follow-up with full details of the changes.

Paul Jones

Fixture of the Week

Our valiant netball teams took to the hallowed turf of St Bede's in Long Cross this week for a battle royale betwixt the two educational titans. Our Year 7s enjoyed their first competitive outing as a unit; passing the ball beautifully, one step then two, a cross-court tango of tactical excellence as they came out on the wrong side of an 8 hoop thriller, with Lucy Wilson the player of the match.

Pride was restored by the Year 8s, with Martha Haines increasing the pace with all the metronomic efficiency of a conductor's baton. Players swapped positions, creating total netball and flummoxing their deadened opponents with movement and brio, chief instigator Polly Garton pulling the strings taut and unleashing wave after wave of attacks.



FoBFS AGM

- 12 October, 8:00pm in the Sixth Form block
- Drinks and nibbles will be provided
- An update from Mr Jones All welcome.



Free School Meals

If your child is eligible for free school meals please ensure that you have renewed online to enable your child to continue to have their meals next week.

Please go to <https://myfreeschoolmeals.com/> and click on "Apply".

Key dates for next week	
Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates	
Monday	Barton Camp 1—Year 7s
Tuesday	Barton Camp 1—Year 7s
Wednesday	Barton Camp 1 & 2—Year 7s Y7&8 girls netball vs Orchard School, away Y11 rugby vs St Bedes, away Y8 rugby festival away at Oasis Academy Brightstowe
Thursday	Barton Camp 2—Year 7s Y9 & 10 girls netball vs Orchard School, home Y7 rugby festival away at St Bedes
Friday	Barton Camp 2—Year 7s

Year 10 Computer Science *Breaking News*****

Computer Science learning does not always take place with computers or indeed using any form of technology!

Year 10s experienced a double lesson learning about logical thinking, how a computer works and sorting networks. In this activity we use sorting networks which do several sorting comparisons at the same time through active learning. First in pairs they played Tower of Hanoi to get their brains thinking logically which is a key aspect of computational thinking and the underlying theme of the new GCSE specification. Then in groups students learnt about how components of a computer communicate with each other by delivering and following instructions precisely to produce an image hidden in code. Finally the class went outside where students marked out the components of the network in chalk before lining up with numbers in random order and following rules to sort the numbers from highest to lowest. Even though computers are fast, there is a limit to how quickly they can solve problems. One way to increase the speed of a computer is to write programs that use fewer computational steps - in 10D there was certainly one team that had demonstrated more efficient processing capabilities and experienced no computer 'crashes', achieving a record time of 8 seconds!

Grokfest competition preparation

As part of ClubFest, students experienced a taster session in Python where they combined literacy skills and computing and wrote programs that produce random poems. Students were engaged throughout and built up their programs - and poems - step by step before the final randomised poem was complete. The outcomes were all successful and very amusing with a variety of random food and objects being mashed, squished and squashed throughout the poems produced!

Programming Club will commence with Mrs Sherman on Thursday 20th October where students will prepare for the Grokfest competition where they will compete nationally to complete two Python challenges a week throughout November.



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