

# Weekly Update

## Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 17 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

Inset day

## Words from the Headteacher

Half-term is nearly here; the nights are drawing in and it's getting cold. Other staple features of the onset of autumn are evident: students not wearing coats or jumpers despite the inclement weather, braving the elements with chattering teeth, soaked to the skin. My mum wouldn't let me out the door unless wearing some kind of boil-in-the-bag cagoule that covered the entirety of my person. I'm not necessarily advocating this approach, but something other than a shirt and tie would help. There is a certain dank odour that emanates on mizzly mornings in a steamed up classroom full of coatless-children, like some modern-day interpretation of a William Blake poem, the incipient horrors of industrialisation replaced by the sadness of the coatless urchins.

One of the key elements of any secondary school worth its onions is a fully functioning and wondrous PTA. We are lucky to have the Friends of Bristol Free School; it's a collective of like-minded individuals, all committed to supporting the school, and more importantly, the students. They play a full and active role at events throughout the year, and you may have met them at the various music performances, or most recently, at the new Year 7 Activity Evening, where they put on a delicious barbecue. Around the school the benefit of FoBFS' hard work is much in evidence. They bought a super outdoor tennis table and it was an instant success. They then bought another one and it was immediately overrun. Every break and lunch the tippetty tap of ping pong balls and furious movement of seemingly endless round-the-table contests echoes along the avenue. We need another one. The only issue is trying to get students not to play ping pong in the pouring rain, such is their ardour for the game and their quest to emulate the mythical Desmond Douglas.

This week I was invited to speak at the FoBFS annual general meeting. Mr Sillince is the key link between the school and FoBFS; he has the necessary clout and gravitas to get things moving in school and to ensure that everyone is aware of their unceasing efforts. I felt fortunate to be able to thank them in person; both for the funds raised, but also for their role in being a part of the school and the community. It is a joy to behold and I am very grateful. This year Richard Deverson, the long-serving chair of the group, is standing down. He has been there from very humble beginnings (in the Dirty Duck, or so I am told) and has been instrumental in the old-fashioned art of 'getting things done'. I would like to take this opportunity to thank him; I see the outcomes of the group every single day when walking around the school and seeing children smiling. If you are interested in helping out and joining the FoBFS team, get in touch via [admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:admin@bristolfreeschool.org.uk)



**Fiddler on the Roof**

Well done to Ellen Corbett for her performance in Fiddler on the Roof at the Hippodrome last week! It was amazing to see one of our students perform in a professional show in such a fantastic venue. Mr Pate went along with a group of GCSE music students on Wednesday night and we are all very proud of Ellen's amazing performance.

**Government Right to Buy Scheme**

Natwest Bank will be in the Drama Hall on Wednesday 9th November from 5.30pm until 8pm to answer any questions or give any help to anyone interested in purchasing their council house under the Government Right To Buy Scheme. All are welcome (you don't have to bank with Natwest!)

**Rotary Young Chef 2016**

A National competition organised and run by the Rotary Association. It is a four stage national competition to support and encourage development of cookery skills .

The Bristol Free School heat is due to take place on Monday 17th October. 13 students are preparing to flex their culinary muscles competing for the 2 spaces available to represent Bristol Free School in the Rotary Young Chef Competition 2016.

Key dates for next week	
Please see the calendar at <a href="http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk">www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk</a> for other important dates	
Monday	
Tuesday	
Wednesday	
Thursday	Open Day Y7 Transition Evening
Friday	INSET day

**Barton Camp**

From the outset, it was obvious that the year group were exceptionally well behaved and eager to support each other through the range of activities provided. Despite particularly steep slopes and tiring walks, all students exhibited the growth mindset that we promote. The talent pool was also deep with a wide variety of entertaining, thoughtful and adventurous acts at the talent show. Notable performances included a pitch perfect rendition of a 'Pink' song as well as a comedy set with the timing and delivery of a punch from Mohammed Ali. Overall, the camp provided opportunities for students to bond with their peers and staff which will prove invaluable over the forthcoming years. It was an amazing experience for all staff and students involved. *Mr Green*



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