



# Weekly Update

**Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 20 February 2017**

**Monday**

KS4 Fitness  
Classics Club

**Tuesday**

Latin GCSE Year 2  
Year 8 Parkour  
All years Girls' football  
Trampoline  
Textiles Club (Y9 & 10)  
Art Club  
School Musical  
Italian Club  
Science Club  
Flying Start Challenge  
Model United Nations  
Year 10 Young Enterprise  
D of E Drop-In

**Wednesday**

Latin GSCE year 1  
Girls' basketball (Y10 & Y11)  
Y7, 8 & 9 Boys' Football  
Orchestra  
Year 9 Punk Band  
Outdoor Club  
Commercial Dance  
A Level & GCSE Drama Rehearsals  
Year 12 Young Enterprise  
French Film Club  
Warhammer School Alliance

**Thursday**

**NO CLUBS—Year 7 subject evening**

**Friday**

Sports Academy

**Words from the Headteacher**

We were fortunate to welcome in two remarkable people this week. On Wednesday the school held a Duke of Edinburgh's Award presentation evening organised by Dr Cooper. It is just one element of Dr Cooper's tireless efforts to develop the scheme in school. Former bomb-aimer George 'Johnny' Johnson was our guest of honour. Mr Johnson won the Distinguished Flying Medal for his role in Operation Chastise (the Dambusters raid) and the raid on the Sorpe Dam as a member of 617 Squadron under Guy Gibson. He told tales of bombing runs at 30 feet, flying beneath church steeples and under electricity cables, but also recounted the sombre details and the human cost for the aircrew involved; 53 of the 133 who took part in the raid were killed.



On Thursday Zigi Shipper came in to BFS. He was born in Łódź in 1930 to a Jewish family. During the war Zigi was imprisoned at Auschwitz and then at Stutthof concentration camp. Zigi shared his testimony as a survivor of the Holocaust with our Year 9 students. It is the second year he has visited, and as with Johnny Johnson's visit, we felt honoured and privileged to hear first-hand of experiences which normally reside within the pages of



textbooks. The profound effect of living memory on all who listened cannot be underestimated. An atmosphere of contemplation permeated the room, accompanied by complex feelings of what it means to survive and to overcome the most extraordinary of challenges and traumatic experiences.

Whilst we fixate on the famous and read ephemeral biographies of people in their early 20s who spring to success through the fickle world of the TV talent show, it strikes me quite forcibly that true heroism and genuine achievements lie in the endless capacity of ordinary people to do extraordinary things. True heroism lies in the testimonies of Zigi Shipper and Johnny Johnson. They represent the accomplishments and stories of everyone who lived through the Second World War.

Our students and young people here have begun to do extraordinary things; to test themselves and to face up to challenges. The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme is just one example. My hope is that they never have to face the same challenges that Zigi and Johnny have encountered; but that they approach life with the same degree of humility, resilience, humanity and courage.

**Paul Jones**

**Spanish Spelling Bee**

The Year 7 Spelling Bee preliminary rounds will take place in Spanish lessons in the first week back after half-term. Look through the key Spanish words, available on Show My Homework, to brush up on your Spanish spelling and be in with the best chance of getting through to the final round. Good luck! ¡Buena suerte!

**Sixth Form Trips!**

We currently finalising plans for our Year 13 trips to the CERN laboratory (the place in Switzerland where they do scary things inside the Large Hadron Collider that threaten the very existence of the universe and time itself) and to Nepal. We will also be inviting Year 11 students who will be joining Year 12 in September. The CERN trip is particularly pertinent and an amazing opportunity for budding Physicists and Engineers. If you are in Year 11 and are interested speak to Mr Mabey for more detail. For information on the Nepal trip catch up with Mr Mitchell.

**National Geography Competition**

Fiona Gibbs in Year 10 has won a place in the national final of the African Adventures School Geography Challenge. To win her place Fiona completed a decision making exercise, focusing on how best to help an Kenyan village after a flooding event. Fiona’s work was commended by the judges for being “*well written with brilliant development of points*”. Fiona will compete with nine other finalists at the end of March and the Geography Department are keeping their fingers crossed for her, as first prize is a week long trip to Kenya for four students and two teachers. Well done Fiona!

**FoBFS Annual Quiz**

This year’s quiz will take place on Friday 10 March at 7pm for a 7:30pm quiz, teams will be for a maximum of 6 players. Tickets will be on sale via the office after half term.

**A date for the diaries...**

Our Y10 Prince’s Trust students are organising the BFS Community Spring Fair, here, on Saturday 1 April, 11am—2pm. There are prizes to be won in the tombola and sporting events as well as the chance to try new arts and crafts or just share lovely food and drink with friends, families and staff. All proceeds are being shared between our New Pals for Nepal charity and St. Peter’s Hospice and tickets will be on sale soon.

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	
<b>Monday 20 February</b>	Year 12 Assessments Results Day
<b>Tuesday 21 February</b>	Sixth Form MAGT Evening, 5pm—6pm
<b>Wednesday 22 February</b>	Blood Brothers trip  Flying Start trip  Y10 Pathways students to Bristol Science Day  Eating for Learning workshop, 6:30pm
<b>Thursday 23 February</b>	Year 7 Subject Evening
<b>Friday 24 February</b>	
<b>Saturday 25 February</b>	Young Enterprise Trade Fair

**Maths Mock Examinations - Week commencing Monday 20 February**

Calling all year 11s. Important information about Maths Mock Exams after half term: Straight after half term Year 11s will sit 3 exam papers throughout the week. The exams are 1 hour 30 minutes each.

**Paper 1: NON-CALCULATOR EXAM**

Year 11 Y-Side: Monday 20 February Period 1 and 2  
Year 11 X-Side: Tuesday 21 February Period 1 and 2

**Paper 2: CALCULATOR EXAM**

All year 11s: Wednesday 22 February Period 3 and 4

**Paper 3: CALCULATOR EXAM**

All year 11s: Wednesday 22 February Period 5 and 6

Students should be continuing to complete their MathsWatch assignment homework and doing any additional revision homework that their teachers have set.

Students should remember to bring all the necessary equipment, i.e. a CALCULATOR, protractor, pair of compasses, ruler, pencil, rubber and pen.

The Maths GCSE exams are only a few short months away. It's great seeing so many Year 11s stepping up their focus and work effort in recent weeks. Your support in helping them prepare for these important exams makes a huge difference and is greatly appreciated.

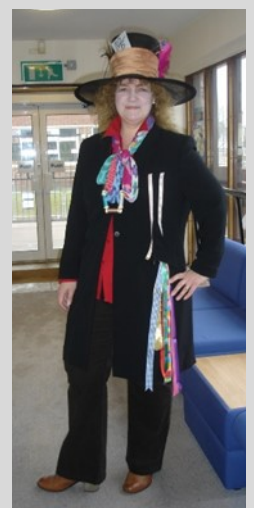
**World Book Day Announcement**

One of the most exciting literary events in the English department calendar is approaching once more and we need YOUR help to make it the biggest and best yet BFS! That’s right, WORLD BOOK DAY 2017 is upon us!

Thursday 2 March is when our literary extravaganza starts. Keep an eye out for a themed canteen menu, quizzes, activities and lunchtime events. Students will also receive their £1 book token to spend on a novel of their choice.

The eagerly anticipated fancy dress is back; which department will win this year’s award? Which teacher will go to extreme lengths to bag the honour of best dressed? Ms Huzzey has been planning for months, or so I am told... Utilise your half term wisely- plan your costume. Individual or group costumes are allowed; the rules are simple, dress as a character from a book!

I look forward to seeing the school become a fantastical world full of literary heroes and heroines! *Miss McGrath*







**NEW North Bristol Support Group!**

**Bristol Parent Carers invites parents and carers who have children/young people (0-25) with special needs, disabilities, or life-limiting conditions to:-**

- Meet others and share experiences
- Get advice and information
- Relax with a 15 minute therapy session
- Participate in art/crafts or movement activities

**We meet on a Wednesday from 10.30am - 12.30pm**

2016 : Oct 19, Nov 16, Dec 14  
2017 : Jan 18, Feb 22, Mar 22, Apr 26, May 24, June 21, July 19

At: 169th Bristol Scout Group, The Scout Hut, Tranmere Ave., Brentry, Bristol, BS10 7JN

No need to book, just come along. Travel and childcare costs reimbursed with receipts.  
For details: Tel: 0117 939 6645 Ext. 204 (Mon, Tues & Thursdays) or email: [rosie@bristolparentcarers.org.uk](mailto:rosie@bristolparentcarers.org.uk)  
Free car park, Buses: 1, 2, 4, 76  
For additional support call Carersline on: 0117 965 2200  
For more information about Bristol Parent Carers please go to: [www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk](http://www.bristolparentcarers.org.uk)

**We also run a support group in Central Bristol**




**Art Exhibition**

The Art department would like to celebrate the following student's work that will be entered into a senior schools' exhibition and competition at Bristol Cathedral. It will run from 10-21 February and prize winners and their families will be invited to a prize giving evening on 21 February at 6:15pm. More information about the exhibition and where to see it is at the end of this newsletter.

Well done to:

- |                 |                          |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Rhys Smith      | Indi Exell               |
| Maddie Hobbs    | Emily Whiteway Wilkinson |
| Faith Ross-Hand | Alex Dunkley             |
| Olivia Clapp    | Jessie Neale             |
| Sophie Fulford  |                          |



**Children's Mental Health Week 2017**

Bristol Free School prides itself on its wellbeing focus and has developed a number of systems, projects and interventions to try and tackle mental health issues. Feedback from our Wellbeing Survey will follow in future newsletters. The Wellbeing Ambassador Scheme has been set up as part of this focus and aims to promote wellbeing from within the student body. Wellbeing Ambassadors are recruited to support primary transition, act as peer mentors and champion wellbeing in the school. They have received training on wellbeing and are developing ideas to embed mentally healthy behaviours and attitudes in our school community.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors have been promoting children's mental health weeks' 2017 theme by spreading kindness around the school. Being kind to others has a number of benefits in a school; it can make someone else feel positive, it can make us feel more positive about ourselves and it can work to improve the "feeling" of the school. To promote this idea of kindness, the Ambassadors have been out every day this week decorating outside areas with "kindness graffiti". This is in addition to running tutorial sessions with our year 7 students to talk about the importance of kindness.

If you would like to have some more information on how to support your child's mental health and wellbeing then you can visit [www.youngminds.org.uk](http://www.youngminds.org.uk) or contact Juliet Young (Lead Pastoral Learning Mentor) on [j.young@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:j.young@bristolfreeschool.org.uk) or by calling the main reception line. More information will soon be available on our school website.



**JHJK Productions**

This week saw JHJK Productions put on another of their renowned plays in the AEN Department! Jade, Harry, Jess and Karolina performed a stellar version of The Wizard of Oz, which included some amazing puppetry, inspired sound effects, and some harmonious singing of the classic 'Follow the Yellow Brick Road' that wouldn't be out of place on the stages of the West End. We are all looking forward to the next performance!



**Battle of the Bands**

At Wednesday lunchtime last week, there was a Year 9 *Battle of the Bands* in the canteen. First up was LG2 doing 'Chasing Cars' with some fantastic guitar playing. Next was LG3, "Set Fire to the Rain" was my personal favourite; who knew Abby could drum? (A hidden talent). After that came LG4 with 'Thinking Out Loud'. They were all amazing. Finally, a surprising belt-out of 'Demons' by Alex and his band from LG1. The people eating lunch were asked to vote, and the winners were 9LG4!  
*Izzy Tucker, 8TG2*





# Bristol Cathedral

*Supported by the Bristol Savages*

## **Senior Schools' Art Exhibition**

10th - 21st February 2017

**Free Admission**



Bristol Cathedral is proud to host this annual exhibition with artwork from senior schools in and around Bristol.

Come and admire the creativity of our young people in this magnificent setting.

**Prize-giving: 6.15pm on 21st February**

**All are welcome**