



# Weekly Update

## Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 27 November 2017

### Monday

Y10 and 11 Basketball  
KS4 Latin  
Chamber Choir  
Homework Club

### Tuesday

*Tutor and lunchtime—DofE drop in*  
Y9, 10 and 11 Netball  
Y9 Rugby  
Classics Club  
School Show Rehearsals  
Science Club  
Y12 Young Enterprise  
Philosophy Club  
Spanish Film Club  
Homework Club

### Wednesday

Y7 and 8 Rugby  
Orchestra  
Folk Band  
Outdoor Club  
Digital Leaders  
Flying Start Club  
Homework Club

### Thursday

Y8 & 9 Basketball  
Y7 & 8 Netball  
Y10 & 11 Rugby  
Programming  
Jazz Band  
Junior Jazz Band  
Public Speaking Club  
Art Club  
French Film Club  
Homework Club

### Friday

G&T 5-a-side Football  
KS4&5 Composition Workshop

*All clubs run from 3:15-4:30pm with the exception of KS4 Latin which finishes at 5:20pm, and Philosophy Club which runs from 3:10-4:00pm*

## Words from the Headteacher

Another tumultuous week at BFS, the biggest change from the norm being the commencement of GCSE mock exams proper which started, not literally, with a bang on Monday. As we would expect our students have demonstrated a commitment and desire to succeed that is beyond reproach. Yet another step on the journey to August, life post-GCSE, and the extended holiday that is a chink of light at the end of a long tunnel.

On the subject of next steps, on 14 December the Year 11s will spend the day experiencing life as a Sixth Former or college student so that they may make their next important decisions with the relevant knowledge in the bank. That extended holiday will become a distant memory and students will once again be confronted with the rigours and demands of courses designed to prod and poke neurones that have not yet been fired.

In other news, last night we welcomed parents and students to our Year 9 subject evening. Staff outlined the progress being made and the improvements that would be required for students to meet our expectations. The evening was wonderfully positive. A 90% turnout was equally impressive, demonstrating the commitment and dedication of our students, parents and staff.

Elsewhere, on Tuesday we hosted the Bristol round of the Young Chef competition. The best and brightest chefs, cooks and commis from Redmaids, Redland Green and St Bede's joined our gastronomic masters. The full report from Mr Dayment is overleaf. However it will suffice to say that once again our students wiped the plate with them and we will progress on to the District round.

Finally, Mr Pate and our superb ensemble groups have successfully negotiated two rounds of auditions, gaining a slot on the main stage at Disneyland during the summer term's music tour to Paris. Quite an achievement, although I do hope that we do not inadvertently find ourselves on La voix or Nouvelle Star. I will make sure Mr Sillince is able to accompany the tour again this year; I know how much he enjoyed the sing-along coach journey and I am sure the added Disney magic will add to the experience.

**Paul Jones**



**DofE Update**

There will be an information evening for Year 12s interested in taking part in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh's Award on Wednesday 29 November from 5pm in the New Drama Studio. The Gold Award is open to all Year 12s, regardless of whether they have participated in the Bronze or Silver Award.

Assessors for any section of a DofE Award cannot be a family member or friend. If you have any questions relating to the DofE, come to the drop in session on Tuesday at tutor time in ICT1.

**Young Chef Competition**

Tuesday night saw us take on the Bristol Round of the Young Chef 2017 Competition.

Four Schools competed in the heat including Redland Green, Redmaids and St Bedes. Competitors had to produce a main course and a dessert all within a budget and to the judges strict criteria! Some outstanding dishes were produced with exemplary performance put in by both of our students Marc Guerrero-Arias and Lily Barton. Judging time came and it was a nail biting finish with Lily Barton (below) in Year 11 taking 1st place! An outstanding effort, well done both!

*Mr Dayment*

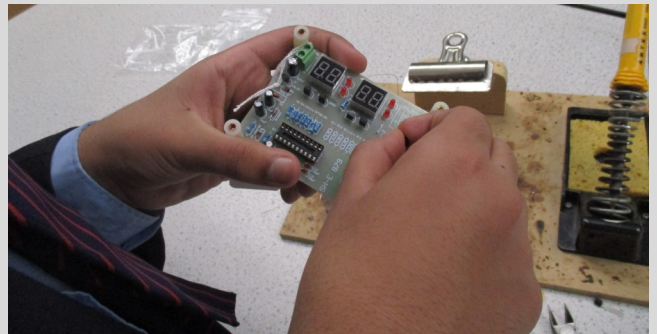


Key dates for next week	
Please see the calendar at <a href="http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk">www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk</a> for other important dates	
<b>Monday 27 November 2017</b>	Y11 and Y13 Mock Exams - ALL WEEK Y12 Geography Field Trip to Nettlecombe - ALL WEEK
<b>Tuesday 28 November 2017</b>	Y7 Netball Festival at St Bede's
<b>Wednesday 29 November 2017</b>	Y7&8 Athletics at Orchard School Gold Duke of Edinburgh Information Evening
<b>Thursday 30 November 2017</b>	Mock Interviews for Oxbridge Applicants Y9&10 Athletics at Orchard School Local Governing Body Committee Meeting
<b>Friday 1 December 2017</b>	
<b>Saturday 2 December 2017</b>	Year 10 Young Enterprise at St Nicholas' Market

**Science Club**

For the last 8 weeks, Science Club have been dabbling in electronics to make a digital clock. For many this was their first time soldering and putting together any circuitry, so it was a big challenge which everyone completed with aplomb. We were helped out by STEM Ambassador, local engineer and prolific inventor, David Huddart. David very generously donated his time, expertise and resources to give us all a chance to see what engineers really do, and how everyday items are made.

Now that everyone has a completed clock, there is no excuse for being late to school! Be sure to come to Science Club for the next three weeks of term for an exciting project from Dr Cooper, plus some seasonal science spectaculars!



**BFS Students Shine at Public Speaking Competition**

On 21 November 2017 the Bristol heats of the English Speaking Union (ESU) Churchill public speaking competition took place. I, along with my esteemed team-mates Molly Broderick and Stacey Kihumba, embarked on the public speaking adventure. Blood, sweat and many many words got us to the Bristol heat which was held at Colston's.

The roles which had to be placed were the chairperson, speaker and questioner. As the speaker, it was my job to choose the topic and create a five minute long speech on 'is the growing population of older people in our society all bad?' The evening was an incredible experience for me and I can safely say on behalf of the Bristol Free School representatives that although the evening did not end in victory for us it was most definitely an enlightening experience which we would recommend to any students interested next year.

Year 9 students Azaria Roshkani, Huda Khahin and Stacey Paul also took part in the competition, with Azaria presenting a convincing case for the idea that Hollywood is sexist. Up against the winning questioner from Colston's School, Azaria faced a rough grilling but coped well under pressure. Nerve wracking and exhilarating. Just two of the thousands of feelings I felt as I was up on stage. I am incredibly proud of my entire team and the other BFS representatives and extremely thankful for the most incredible opportunity.

*Eleanor de Melo Covill, Year 10*

**Online Safety at BFS**

We take online safety very seriously as do our students. Over the past few weeks, students have reported a number of incidents to me or other members of staff which have been investigated and acted upon with the support of social media sites. I am very proud of those students as it can take courage to

take a stand and report online activity that makes you feel uncomfortable, distressed or that you simply don't think is right. Please continue to take a stand and help protect each other, ensuring the Internet is a safe place for everyone. Report online using the Report Abuse button, on CEOP website or through individual social media settings.

Alternatively you can email [digitalleaders@bristolfreeschool.org.uk](mailto:digitalleaders@bristolfreeschool.org.uk), speak to or email Mrs Sherman or any other member of staff with any concerns you have, no matter how small they may seem. We will investigate everything. Stay safe online.

*Mrs Sherman*