



Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 4 December 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
French Film Club
Flying Start Club
Homework Club

Thursday

Y8 & 9 Basketball
Y7 & 8 Netball
Y10 & 11 Rugby
Programming
Jazz Band
Junior Jazz Band
Public Speaking Club
Craft Club—by invitation only
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

It's been a very busy week. Year 13 geographers were busy analysing the sediment size of various Somerset deposits and assessing the impact of coastal regeneration projects, or similar. They must have been cold! It's been a week for scarves and gloves, and as the cold snap is set to continue (El Nino is only warming up and as such is stealing our warm westerly) can I remind students to bring the appropriate apparel to school? I would also remind them to remember to take it home! Lost property continues to grow and will soon be a sovereign state in its own right (I've heard rumblings that it plans to make its own case to remain in the EU). It would be helpful if students could visit Lost Property (next to Student Services) to remove items that once belonged to them, so that they belong to them once again.

Tomorrow sees the Year 10 Young Enterprise team take to the streets of Bristol selling their wares at St Nicholas' Market. The Fair opens at 9:30am and it would be wonderful if families could tear themselves out of their comfortable slumbers and make their way to St Nick's. Our students are part of a Bristol-wide competition and are raising funds that they will reinvest into their business. I've been assured that they are stocking the finest array of Christmas treats, trinkets and finery. The event is a real treat and definitely worth a visit...just don't spend your money on the stalls of our competitors.

Finally, long overdue congratulations to the students who have recently had their Duke of Edinburgh awards signed off. It is always a pleasure to read about the wonderful work being done in the community by our students and finding out about their unknown talents. The Duke of Edinburgh awards require a high degree of perseverance and commitment, so well done to all those students who have stayed the course and earned their Bronze and Silver awards.

Ben Sillince
Acting Headteacher



Take the hassle out of your Christmas shopping and raise money for BFS by shopping online using Easyfundraising. It's quick and easy to use (via App or PC) and it's absolutely free. Whenever you buy anything online you will be collecting free donations for FoBFS. There are over 3,000 shops. Please sign up and share with your friends and family. Thanks and happy shopping! <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/fobfs/>



Science token reminder

Just a reminder that Bristol Free School are once again entered for the Bristol Post '10k Science Giveaway' competition.

Tokens are printed in the Bristol Post every week day until Monday 4 December. The more tokens we collect, the greater chance we have of winning £10,000 for our Science Department.

Tokens can be sent to the address printed in the newspaper. For more information please see the Bristol Post website.

Senior Maths Team Challenge

On Tuesday 15 November, our Sixth Form maths team fought through the rush hour traffic to join Mathletes from 20 other schools across the wider Bristol area competing in the Senior Team Challenge competition at UWE.

Daniyal and Jeevan from Year 13, joined by Izzy and Matthew from Year 12 faced a variety of challenges set at a very high standard, competing against the elite from our area. Working in pairs to solve a range of challenges, team work, communication and problems solving skills were very much to the fore.

The BFS6th team acquitted themselves very well in each of the rounds, achieving scores comparable with far larger sixth form institutions in some rounds. Placed a creditable 8th out of 20 this year we are gradually climbing up the leader board year on year and will be back!

DofE update

A reminder that the deadline for any Year 12 students wishing to participate in the Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award is Friday 8 December. Hand in your reply slip and deposit to Student Services. If you have any questions regarding any level of the award please email dofe@bristolfreeschool.org.uk.

Christmas Crackers

Year 7, 8 and 9 students... Would you like to send your friends a Christmas present and spread a little Christmas cheer whilst raising money for our local community? Take part in the first ever *BFS Christmas Cracker* project!

Year 12 students will be visiting your tutor groups between the 5 and 7 December to receive your orders and the final deadline is 9 December.

Please bring in £1 per cracker and your friends will receive their cracker on the last day of term! All proceeds will go to the North Bristol Food Bank.

Key dates for next week

Please see the calendar at www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk for other important dates

Monday 4 December 2017	Meningitis Vaccinations—Year 9 Year 7 Christmas Concert (LG1-4)
Tuesday 5 December 2017	Year 7 Christmas Concert (LG5-8)
Wednesday 6 December 2017	Christmas Lunch! Community Involvement Project visiting St Katherine's Dynamics Choir singing at Southmead Hospital Year 11 Game Changers to Christmas Chemistry Conference
Thursday 7 December 2017	Year 9 Guided Choices Evening
Friday 8 December 2017	Post 16 Programming Jam

Art Trip

On Monday 20 November, the Art department had the wonderful opportunity to be invited to Bristol City Museum for a one off event, to meet the famous potter and TV presenter (from the Great Pottery Throw Down) Kate Malone.

Bristol City Museum closed its doors for the event enabling Kate to share her experiences with the students, drawing upon her own experience of a career spent making things, as well as the practical aspects of the job of a potter. The visit included a look at the Radical Clay exhibition, an activity in the permanent ceramics gallery at the museum and an opportunity to handle some ceramics from the museum collection with a museum curator. Students were enthused by Kate Malone's inspiring talk and have gained new and exciting ideas to bring back to the classroom.



Launching our RocketFund pitch

After taking part in exciting workshops at PyCon UK, we are using Rocket Fund, a crowd funding site set up to enable schools to purchase technology resources, to raise funds to purchase a set of Raspberry Pis, PiTops and additional accessories. The aim is to allow further development of our Programming Club, including the launch of a Coding Club for Girls in the next 6 months, the ability to host coding competitions and hacks within school as well as for local primary schools and community groups. We will also be able to enhance the hands on experience our students have of Computer Science within the curriculum. We have a good number of pledges so far which is excellent but still have a way to go to reach our target. The pitch closes on **Wednesday 13 December** and I would be grateful if you could share with local businesses and organisations who might benefit from working with us should our pitch be successful. Click the link to donate <https://spsr.me/SbjX>



Outdoor Club

This week at outdoor club we were using inspiration from nature to write a haiku; a descriptive but short form of Japanese poetry. We used a paint-blowing technique with straws to create beautiful borders of trees and plants that fit the theme of the poetry, as you can see in the photo! The session finished off this week with a scavenger hunt outside just before it got dark, and we were lucky enough to see a family of foxes having their own scavenger hunt on the field just as we arrived!



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