



Weekly Update

Extra-curricular activities during week commencing 30 April 2018

Monday

Tennis
KS4 Latin
Chamber Choir
Homework Club

Tuesday

Tutor and lunchtime—DofE drop in
Y9 Textiles Club
Y7/8 Boys Cricket
Y7/8 Girls Rounders
School Show Rehearsals
Science Club
Y12 Young Enterprise
Philosophy Club
Spanish Film Club
Homework Club

Wednesday

Y9/10 Boys Cricket
Orchestra
Y7/8 Girls Rounders
Folk Band
KS3 Art Club (limited spaces)
Digital Leaders
Flying Start
French Film Club
Homework Club

Thursday

All Years Mixed Athletics
Programming Club
Art Club
Jazz Band
Junior Jazz Band
Public Speaking Club
Homework Club

Friday

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

I have been reminded of the steady, incessant trickle of time this week. The 4th dimension's asymmetric, single directionality (as a biologist I'm not 100% sure that this makes sense however it sounds complicated enough to be correct) highlighted to me by the irreversible and seismic nature of events that have made the week's global headlines: the apparent thaw between North and South Korea (two nations still at war) and an overdue 'Windrush' apology for example. This present will become the past. History created by the passage of time. At times we focus too intensely on the present and the past and forget to consider where we are heading. I'm a keen advocate of taking the time to think about the future. Pausing briefly (not pausing time however, we can't do that...yet) to contemplate the history we are about to make. I wonder for example if any would ever have predicted news headlines focusing on the 'bromance' rather than the politics.

Our students are of course making their own history. Gold and silver medals awarded at national competitions, county championships won and national mathematics awards earned. I imagine that whilst many of our students are aware of their changing world they might not yet see that they are making their own slice of history. Change and uncertainty are not always easy companions and I hope they are reassured by the routines and habits of school. The fingers of Year 13 and 11 are almost to the bone, Years 7 to 9 are probably less aware of the fateful moments ahead, however their hard work and efforts will of course pay off in the future.

I was slightly befuddled by a conversation with a Year 12 student this week. That a second is not always a second and that time is still relative. If you were to move to a super massive neutron star then time would pass quickly but then if you travel really fast you can slow it down. So time it seems is not so consistent after all, although I think a physicist would tell me it probably is...

Leaving confusing science behind, what can definitely be said is that the school day is more consistent than the weather. Those students who asked if we could ditch the blazers during the heat wave of last week are now, I imagine, glad for the extra layer! As ever, I encourage them to check the forecast. I couldn't believe my eyes this morning when a student arrived with only a shirt and tie to protect their top half from the elements. Whilst it didn't seem to bother him I did think it rather foolhardy. Can I ask that you also encourage your children to consider their journey to school as we had a 'near miss' recently. It highlighted that bike helmets must be worn, bikes ridden with care and roads crossed safely.

Ben Sillince
Acting Headteacher

Fixture of the week—Y9 boys are Champions of Bristol

On a very windy afternoon the Year 9 boys played a classic game of two halves against St Bedes to become Champions of Bristol. Trailing by 2 goals at half time the boys really produced the spirit of Bristol Free School in supporting each other and pulling the game back winning by 3 goals to 2. A 30 yard free kick by captain Bailey Turner and two clinical finishes by man of the match Kyle Widger clinched the title and take us on to challenge the champions of South Gloucestershire, Bradley Stoke school.



Champions in full: James Russell, Oliver Moor, Jojo Pickering, Jacob Holt, Lucca Bellamy, Karim Elsharif, Theo Beavon, Bailey Turner (C), Qwade Kidd, Kyle Widger, Buster Reed and Mohamed Elnur.

Many congratulations to them all.

Coach Cosgrove



Slime

Please can all parents ensure that their children do not bring in Slime, bought or homemade, into school at any time.

If students bring Slime in to school, it will be confiscated.

Year 11 Hoodies

To mark the end of their studies, and as a way of providing a lasting memento of their time at BFS, we are offering Year 11 students the opportunity to purchase a leavers hoodie. They can be purchased online:

www.schoolleaverscompany.co.uk/shops/SL42152

The deadline for purchases is 1 May.

Year 11 must continue to wear their full uniform to school; the hoodie cannot be worn in once purchased.

Young Enterprise

Huge congratulations to our Young Enterprise team (below) who represented the school at the regional finals on Wednesday. They did brilliantly to get to the finals and were awarded Best Presentation, and Eleanor was awarded Best Managing Director. A special mention goes to Saffiyah who stepped up to present brilliantly at the last minute and made the T-shirts for the team to wear - well done team!



LRC news

Among the many lessons a literature student learns about Shakespeare, is that his themes and messages are timeless and can be as relevant today as they were 400 years ago. I suspect that many of them are rather sceptical, especially when they experience him in the original language or watch a film set in Elizabethan times.

A quick Google shows the many updates and re-writes that have been created by subsequent writers and film makes over the decades. A list of 'films to get teens interested in Shakespeare' includes *10 things I hate about you*, (*The Taming of the Shrew*), *O*, (*Othello*), *The Lion King* (*Hamlet*), and *She's the Man*, (*Twelfth Night*). All have been transposed to the modern era, incurred plot tweaks and certain characters undergone a gender or sexuality change in order to increase their accessibility to today's teenagers. However, the themes remain largely as Shakespeare intended – universal and timeless. In the LRC we have acquired a selection of modern re-writes that can complement and extend our students' understanding and appreciation of the Bard as his unique take on the human condition is transposed on to 21st century life. Come in and check them out!

Display (right) designed and created by Student Librarians Izzy, Jackson, Flo & Mia.

Key dates for next week

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

Monday 30 April 2018	
Tuesday 1 May 2018	Y7&8 Girls Rounders vs Henbury, at home Music Showcase Concert
Wednesday 2 May 2018	Community Involvement Project visiting St Katherine's House Y9&10 Girls Rounders vs Henbury, away U16 Girls Football County Final
Thursday 3 May 2018	Y7&8 Boys Cricket vs City Academy Valencia Parent Information Evening
Friday 4 May 2018	

Challenging Maths

It's been a week of Maths Challenges for KS3 students. On Thursday, 120 students from Y7 and 8 took part in the UK Maths Trust Junior Maths Challenge competition. It's called a Challenge with good reason; students need to apply their problem solving skills to complex tasks where it is not always obvious what to do. On Monday two Y8 students, Hebe Simmons and Justus Lay accompanied by Zoe Gibbs and Joe Warren from Year 9 competed against 25 other schools in the regional final of the Y8/9 Maths Team Challenge.

This year we achieved our best ever position of fourth which was a really impressive result against a very strong field.



Students were faced with a variety of problems to solve, including a very cryptic cross number task. What was particularly impressive about our team was their excellent collaboration, application of lateral thinking and ambition.

Knowing that they were in the top five throughout the competition meant that they had a realistic prospect of reaching the national final. They were just beaten to a podium position this time but will be back to build on the success next year.

FoBFS updates

We are holding a cake sale after school on Friday 25 May, and our summer BBQ is Friday 13 July from 6:30-9:30pm.

We look forward to seeing you there and would appreciate your help with manning the stalls.

