

## Message from the Headteacher

Last night BFS held their annual Easter Showcase concert (below) which was a wonderful whole school celebration for the end of term. The lucky audience was entertained with a fantastic range of musical performances from across the whole student community. I would like to say a big thank you to Mr Pate and Mrs Giblin from our music department for organising the concert, and spending many hours in lessons and in extra-curricular clubs rehearsing with students. I would also like to thank FoBFS for their support last night, selling raffle tickets and refreshments at the interval. We should be very proud of the large numbers of students who attend music clubs and lessons and how we use music to entertain and celebrate key times in the school calendar.



Last weekend Year 9 Bronze Duke of Edinburgh students completed their first practice expedition. It was a great success, if a little noisy at times! Thank you to Miss Carr and Miss Gould who gave up their Friday evening and Saturday to support them.

Year 11 and Year 13 have been given lots of guidance and revision tasks for the Easter holidays. Please ask for a regular progress update and limit access to electronic devices before 3pm. Tips for studying are on our website, and details of sessions taking place have been emailed home.

I will make a final plug for our school production 'Little Shop of Horrors' on 25 and 26 April. Tickets are available and I am sure like previous years it will be another sell out, so buy your tickets soon!

Another date for your diary; the FoBFS barbeque on 19 July promises to be a fantastic event with great food and an array of entertainment in which our students will be participating, including musical performances, art gallery and sporting activities.

I would finally like to wish you all a very happy and peaceful Easter break and we look forward to welcoming students back on Wednesday 24 April.

*Mrs S King  
Headteacher*

## Heath wins University of Oxford computational thinking competition!

In November, over 500 of our students entered the Bebras Computational Thinking competition. Success in this led to 74 of them being invited to take part in another competition led by the University of Oxford. I can proudly report that 26 of those were awarded certificates ranging from Participation to Distinction and even more proudly announce that Heath in Year 9 came in the Top 20 to go through to the final. Heath competed in the final on Wednesday 27 March and he won the entire competition!

I asked him how he prepared for each round of the competition and he said he practiced the previous years' questions for the age group above and knew that if he could do those, he would be confident with his own age group's questions. Such wise advice. Heath has been incredibly modest about his achievements in Computer Science since starting at BFS and I am so immensely proud of him, the support he provides other students and the way he approaches challenges and opportunities. What a fantastic achievement for an absolutely fantastic student!

We are looking forward to Bebras 2019 in November!



*Mrs Sherman*

### Clubs for Term 5 and 6

Clubs for the Summer Term will be published in the first week of Term 5.

The week commencing 22 April is **Blue Week**.

There will be no clubs in the first week of Term 5, including Homework Club. The programme will start again on Monday 29 April.

### Little Shop of Horrors!

Tickets for the school production of Little Shop of Horrors are still on sale.



The show will be performed at Redmaids' School, Westbury Road, Westbury on Trym, Bristol BS9 3AW on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 April at 7:30pm.

Tickets are available to buy for £5/£3 concessions from Student Services, with proceeds being used to cover some of the production costs.

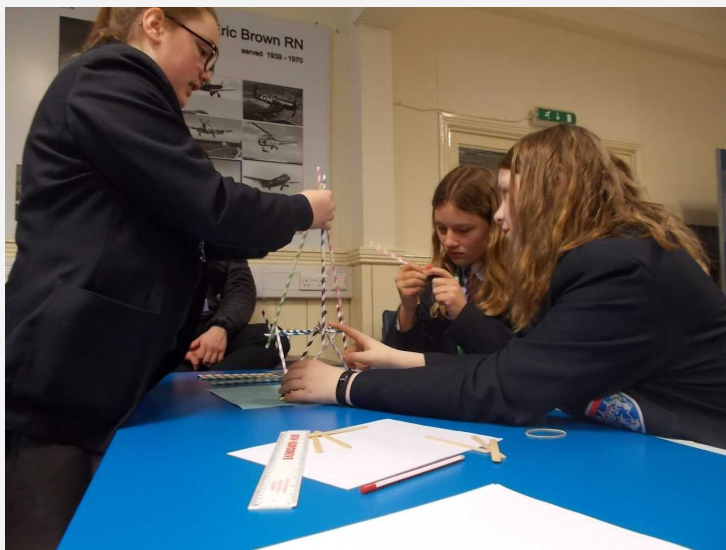
### Flying Start Challenge

Three Year 7 engineers, Maha, Leah and Ruby, or the "Rainbow Glider-neers", got through to the Grand Final for the South West Flying Start Challenge. This was last Wednesday, held at the Fleet Air Arm Museum in Yeovilton where they were up against eighteen other schools.

They were assessed on a number of things: their glider that was built during after-school club; the quality of their teamwork poster; quizzed on their knowledge of aviation and other practical challenges during the day. It was an eventful and inspiring day; seeing so many other young engineers from around the South West is fantastic.

Well done girls, a brilliant effort!

*Mr Lam*





### Bronze Duke of Edinburgh Practice Expedition

Friday 29 and Saturday 30 March saw 73 students take to the rolling countryside of Somerset. Students walked over 20km across the two days, carrying enough food to support an army. We were very lucky with the weather, but it got very cold overnight!

The practice expedition is an important stage in the completion of any Duke of Edinburgh Award, and the Bronze all the more daunting as it is a completely new experience for some. Our students did well stepping out of their comfort zones, and are now well on their way to completing their bronze award.

Well done to all the students who took part.

*Miss Carr and Miss Gould*



### End of year assessments - all year groups

During Terms 5 and 6, students in all year groups will have end of year assessments.

Topics for revision will be posted on Show My Homework by subject teachers, and will outline what your child needs to revise for their upcoming assessment. This will include content from throughout the year and not just the most recent topic studied, which we believe is essential preparation for future examinations at the end of Year 11 and 13.

All assessments, apart from Year 10 core subjects, will take place in classrooms during usual lesson time. Formal exam conditions will be applied along with access arrangements for those students who are entitled to them.

Assessments will take place on the following dates:

**Year 7** 1 - 12 July (Term 6)

**Year 8** 13 - 24 May (Term 5)

**Year 9** 3 - 14 June (Term 6)

**Year 10** 17 - 28 June (Term 6) (week 1 core subjects in the Sports Hall, and week 2 options subjects in lesson time)

**Year 12** 24 - 28 June (Term 6, more details to follow)

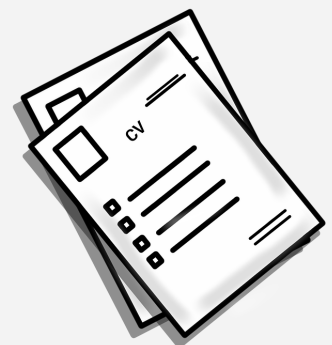
### Vacancies at BFS

As you will know, Bristol Free School is a vibrant school and therefore a great place to work too.

We are currently recruiting for a Cover Supervisor, which is a fantastic opportunity to support our students with their studies.

Please see our website for more information:

[www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/vacancies.php](http://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/vacancies.php)



**My Rotary Young Chef experience – by Pippa**

About two weeks ago, I participated in the Rotary Young Chef district finals after winning the local heats back in November.

I unfortunately did not get a space in the regional finals this Saturday but I am very proud that I got this far in the competition - especially since I was the youngest there. For my meal I made a starter of sushi followed by teriyaki salmon, and I made a Japanese dessert called mochi for my dessert. My meal was inspired by the country of Japan as I love their unique and beautiful food.

I loved my Rotary Young Chef experience and I will definitely be submitting another entry in October. I suggest that you do too if you enjoy cooking as, unfortunately, we didn't have many entries this year at a school level. It was an amazing experience and although I was disappointed at first about not getting through, I am very proud that I got this far in the competition.

*Pippa, Year 8*



**PSHE Day**

"It shouldn't work but it kinda does" - a Year 10 review of the global premiere of the 'Sexual Health Circus', performed here at Bristol Free School as part as last Friday's PSHE Day for Years 10, 12 and 13.

The project is the brainchild of sexual health educator, Jess Herman, who is also a semi-professional circus performer and had the vision of enhancing young people's experience of sexual health education through the engaging medium of circus. At times comical, at times hard-hitting, the result was a diverting hour of learning about sexual health and relationship matters such as consent through the metaphor of acrobatics and healthy and unhealthy relationships through an aerial silk performance.



Although initially stunned to find the Drama Hall set up for an actual circus, students were soon enthralled by the performers' break-dancing, uni-cycling and juggling through the maze of topics outlined to students.

Other parts of the day involved a return of the popular Sexpression group from Bristol University, leading smaller, more interactive workshops about sexual health and relationship as well as some important lessons about self-examinations and CPR. Year 12 also squeezed in some yoga for relaxation to help set them up for the exam period.





# BFS SUMMER BBQ

**MEATY**

- Beef Burger: 6oz Aberdeen Angus
- Traditional Pork Sausage

**MEAT FREE**

- Halloumi Burger
- Vegan Burger







**19th of July  
at the school**

Events in the next fortnight	
08/04/2019— 19/04/2019	Easter Holidays
22/04/2019	Easter Monday Bank Holiday
23/04/2019	Inset Day
24/04/2019	Students return for Term 5 Madrid trip information evening, 6pm
25/04/2019	Year 12 Physics Trip to Particle Physics Lab at Bristol University Little Shop of Horrors, 7:30pm, Redmaids' School
26/04/2019	Little Shop of Horrors, 7:30pm, Redmaids' School
27/04/2019	
28/04/2019	
29/04/2019	
30/04/2019	Year 10 Vocational Music Recital, 6pm Sixth Form University Finance and Courses Information Evening, 6:30pm Y9 Bristol Bears Rugby Festival
01/05/2019	
02/05/2019	PGL information evening, 6pm
03/05/2019	Sixth Form Bursary Application Deadline
04/05/2019	
05/05/2019	

**Sports Report**

On Tuesday the Year 10 boys' football team faced Abbeywood School in the Woodcock Shield quarter final. Abbeywood had a strong team that matched us in the first half and despite BFS dominating the second the score line remained 0-0 leading into extra time. An unfortunate slip led to an opener from Abbeywood, 5 minutes into extra time, bringing back cruel memories of Steven Gerrard in 2014. A well deserved equaliser from Xavier, just before the break, put the wind back in our sails and eventually Kyle was able to get a toe onto a cross from Bailey to make it 2-1.

Kyle and Xavier had other chances in the game and played well, as did our solid defence. Man of the match went to Cameron who was selfless and hard working throughout.

Congratulations to the boys who will face Mangotsfield for the right to play at Ashton Gate in the final. We are also in the Bristol Schools' Cup final which will make for an exciting Term 5.

A huge thank you to Mr Pollock and Miss Ludwell as well as the parents who regularly come to support the team.

*Mr Cosgrove*

