

Words from the Headteacher

The trees are displaying their autumn tints and the nights are drawing in; we have reached half term. This well-timed week is a chance for everyone to stop, pause and reflect on the very positive start to the school year at BFS. I love this time of year, because there is still the opportunity to enjoy days outdoors before the winter really takes hold. We are very lucky living in this part of the world because we have so many outdoor places to visit and there are plenty of things going on within the city over the half term break.

One of the highlights this week has been the Year 7 team building days at Clifton College. It has been lovely to see our excellent Year 7 cohort working together on a range of outdoor challenges, which included orienteering, campfire building, archery and tomahawk throwing! I would like to thank Ms Rowden and Ms Townsend for organising and leading the camps and all the tutors who supported their tutor groups. It was a fun team-building experience and we were very lucky with the weather.

Year 11s will need to strike the balance between rest and revision for their first mock exams this half term. There are only two weeks after half term before the mock exams will be upon us. I have asked all subject teachers to set revision checklists and revision tasks on Show My Homework for Year 11, so parents and carers please check if you are unsure of what has been set.

Best wishes to Mr Green, supporting staff and students who will be enjoying some late Italian sunshine on the Naples trip. I look forward to hearing about their experiences on their return.

Finally I would like to thank all the staff and parents for their hard work and support this term and I wish you a much deserved half term.

*Mrs S King
Headteacher*

A Level Geography Fieldtrip

For the week of 7 October, BFS met with our sister school, Becket Keys, at Slapton Sands fieldwork centre in Devon. Over the duration of the week, the students worked tirelessly to design and execute their own NEA fieldwork investigation.

Some late nights were had, pushing students to crystallise the logic behind their line of enquiry. Some notable experiences include the navigation of tight country lanes in the minibus, the discovery of a washed up seal at Slapton Ley and students getting to grips with conducting ethically sound questionnaires with the general public!

It was amazing to see the students getting on so well with the group from Becket Keys, I am sure that they will continue to stay in touch.

Mr Green



Year 7 at Clifton College

This week from Tuesday—Thursday, our fantastic Year 7s took to the great outdoors like ducks to water. Luck was with us as we conquered the elements and threw ourselves into the activities chosen to develop teambuilding skills whilst having lots of fun!

In the mix this year was shelter and fire building, trebuchet (medieval catapult), geocaching, team skills, axe throwing and archery.

New skills gained, old fears conquered, new personal bests set, old friendships rekindled and new friendships struck.

A huge thank you to Mrs Foster, Mr Gowen, Ms Lavis, Ms Townsend, Ms Dawson, Mr Stevens, Mrs Yahaya, Mrs Sherman, Dr Marshall and Ms Rowden for accompanying the year group.



Netball Festivals

On Wednesday of last week, the Year 10 netball team played a fantastic series of games at the Clifton College Netball Festival.

The team won all of their group games, beating Fairfield 5-3, Colston Girls' 12-2, Oasis Brightstowe 17-2 and Cathedral 7-4. Lucy was voted as player of the match for three games due to her outstanding scoring record and accurate passing, and Gwen was voted as player of the match for one game for her decision making and accurate shooting.

We faced Redland Green in the semi finals and unfortunately lost 12-5 to a very strong opposition. With no substitutes, all girls played exceptionally well in a very intense series of games.

Well done to Becky, Natalie, Niamh, Sarah- Lou, Charlotte, Gwen and Lucy.

This week, it was the turn of Year 9 for their Netball Festival at Clifton College.



The schools were split into two pools to play a round robin tournament. The girls beat every team very comfortably: Oasis Brightstowe by 12-1, Cotham by 11-0, Blaise High by 17-2, Redland Green by 4-1, and finally St Bede's by 4-1. Georgia, Amber H, Megan and Amber G all received player of the match votes from the other teams.

In the semi-final, we faced a strong Cathedral side but despite a more resilient opposition, the defensive trio of Amber H, Rosie and Lucy restricted Cathedral from having an clear goal scoring opportunity. We won 2-1 to then face St Bede's in the final. Having only beaten them 4-1 in the group stages, we knew it would be a hard game however the fitness and skill level of the girls excelled and we won the final 10-0!

Both teams are a credit to BFS, representing the school exceptionally well both on and off the court. A huge well done to the Year 9 team; Megan, Amber H, Sophie, Amber G, Grace, Eden, Georgia, Rosie and Lucy who are now the **North Bristol Champions!**

Mrs Ballard

Nut free school

As we have a number of students in school with severe food allergies, please could we remind all parents that school premises are **NUT FREE** and no products containing nuts should be brought into school grounds or taken on school trips.

Thank you.



Wet weather

Please can parents/carers ensure that students have, and wear, a coat on their journey to and from school to prevent them having to spend the day soggy and/or cold.

Blazers are not waterproof!



Apprenticeship information

There are number of apprenticeship opportunities in Bristol and the local area, which we will promote to students and parents through means such as Show My Homework, tutorial sessions, employer talks and the newsletter. It is a dynamic and ever-changing job market, which provides great opportunities for our young people.

Apprenticeships are a way of gaining work experience whilst also achieving qualifications. During an apprenticeship, a student would work for a company but also go to college/university to study a related subject.

For more information about apprenticeships, please see this [guide](#).

If you are able to offer apprenticeships or are willing to visit the school to talk about your job sector to students then please do get in contact with Mr Parry via the school office.

Please see information below that we have received from Renishaw:

Apprenticeship or University? An information evening for school/college leavers

Renishaw will be holding their annual event for school/college leavers on the evening of Wednesday 20 November. If students are considering a careers path in Engineering, Design, Technology, Software, Maths or Science then come and find out more about our opportunities for young people.

Renishaw is one of the world's leading engineering and scientific technology companies, with expertise in precision measurement and healthcare. The company employs 5,000 people worldwide and supplies products for use in applications as diverse as jet engine and wind turbine manufacture, through to 3D printing, dentistry and brain surgery.

The event will be held at their Headquarters site at New Mills, Wotton-under-Edge and is suitable for students in Years 11 -13. A parent or carer is also invited to come along too, there are 2 sessions being held this year to accommodate larger numbers as this event has been sold out in previous years:

Session 1 will run from 5:00pm – 6:45pm, Session 2 will run from 7:00pm – 8:45pm.

For more information and to book tickets to the event please visit <https://renishawinfoeve19.eventbrite.co.uk>



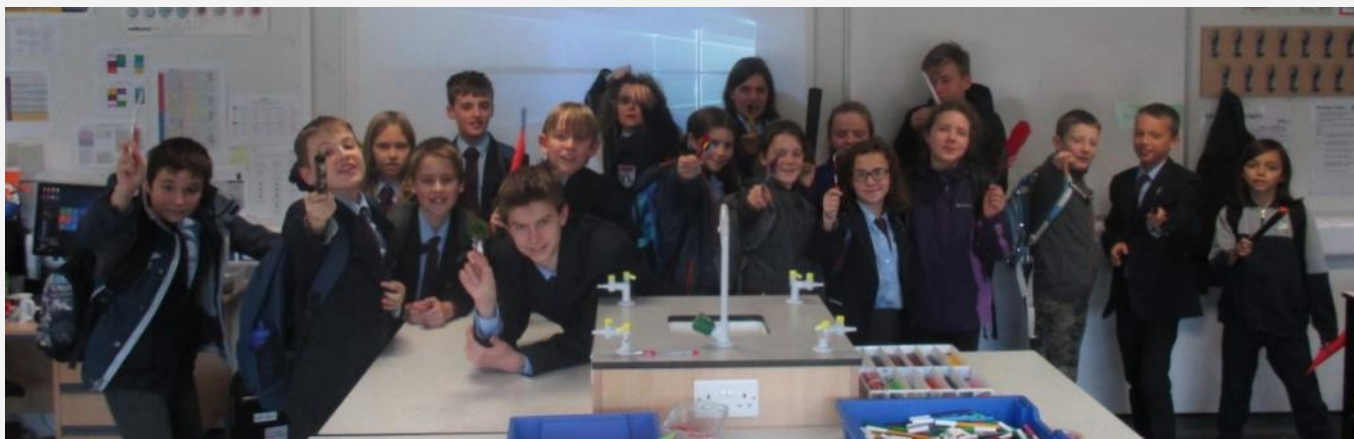
Science Club

For the past term Science Club have had a 'riddikulus' time learning some spellbinding witchcraft and wizardry. We rounded up last week by experimenting with the science of invisibility.

Using the physics of refractive index and after getting to grips with a potion master's tools we conjured away most of the glassware in Miss Smith's lab! She can still be heard shouting "Accio beaker" in order to find them!

This week we tried our hands at some science journalism by writing up our experiments for The Daily Prophet. Articles can be seen on the Science Club display board in C Block-and maybe one day, in New Scientist!

Be sure to come along to Science Club every Tuesday next term for our new project: *Shipwrecked!*



Playwriting Club

This term the Drama department have been working alongside Papatango, a multi-award winning writing company on a playwriting project. Students from KS3 worked independently or in small groups to write a one-act play, which were then rehearsed and performed by professional actors.

Even more excitingly, the plays have been published in book format, with a copy for each student and spare copies for the school LRC. It was a pleasure to see their hard work pay off in what were some creative and unique pieces of theatre.

Well done to all involved!

Ms Clifton



Jamie's Farm

Last week, we took 10 students from Year 8 and Year 9 to visit Jamie's Farm in Hereford.

The students had 2:1 pastoral mentoring throughout the day whilst taking part in farming and crafting activities such as mucking out the animals, visiting the cattle, feeding the sheep, pigs and horses, working in the barns, woodworking, cooking and gardening.

The students absolutely loved their day on the farm, even asking "please can we stay longer?". A huge well done to the students for taking part in all the activities, and learning some valuable skills throughout the day.

Mrs Giblin and Mr Cosgrove



Clubs for Term 1 and 2

Please see the website for the fantastic schedule for Term 1 and 2.

<https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/extra-curricular-clubs.php>

All clubs run from 3:05—4:15pm unless stated otherwise.

Our after school engineering club, Flying Start Challenge, will commence on Thursday 7 November.

<https://www.flyingstartchallenge.co.uk/media/photos-videos/>

To sign up and for further information see Mr Lam in CG22 at break and lunchtimes.

Remembrance



On Friday 8 November we will be having our whole school remembrance assembly.

We will be selling poppies to students on behalf of the Royal British Legion in the first week of term.

Lost Flute

A flute in a black case has unfortunately been misplaced. The music department have searched high and low but had no luck.

Please could parents/carers of flautists check that the instrument at home is the correct one. If found, please return to main reception.

Thank you!

Brexit

Bristol has 21,000 non-UK EU citizens living, working and studying in the city. The Government has advised that all non-UK EU citizens must apply for the EU Settlement Scheme.

Further information can be found on: <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/eusettlement>

Education Art Prize 2019

Entries are open for the prestigious Education Art Prize 2019. The brief this year is: *Using clay, develop a piece which could become commercially scalable.*

10 Finalists will be invited to a Pottery Workshop with Keith Brymer Jones – you may recognise him from 'The Great Pottery Throw Down' on BBC2!

Students can find more information on the competition board outside of Art, or please speak to Mrs Suter, Mrs Stokes or Miss Dawson. Closing date for entries is 26 November 2019.

Key Events Calendar

Please see our website for key events throughout the year. This has been updated from Term 2:

[https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/documents/Information for Parents/BFS Key Dates 2019-20v2.pdf](https://www.bristolfreeschool.org.uk/documents/Information%20for%20Parents/BFS%20Key%20Dates%202019-20v2.pdf)

FoBFS Quiz Night



On Friday 15 November, the FoBFS Quiz will be taking place. Ms Huzzey will dust off the glitter compère jacket, and the fish and chips will be ordered in abundance.

Please place your ticket order [here](#).

November

04/11/2019	GCSE maths and English resits this week
05/11/2019	Y7, 8 & 9 girls' netball vs Cotham, home (NO KS4 TRAINING)
06/11/2019	Y10 PSHE Day
	Y7, 8 & 9 girls' netball vs Redland Green, home
	Y7 Bristol Schools' Rugby Festival Christmas Market Parent Information evening
07/11/2019	Y12/13 Senior Maths Challenge (P3&4)
	Year 10 Curriculum Evening
08/11/2019	Whole School Remembrance Assembly
09/11/2019	
10/11/2019	
11/11/2019	GCSE maths resits this week
	Communicate+ Conference, 4pm
12/11/2019	
13/11/2019	Y8&9 Options Conference
	Year 8 Netball Festival at Clifton College
14/11/2019	SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENING
	Cross Country Trials at Bristol Grammar School
	SD & FB Governors Meeting
15/11/2019	Children in Need - MUFTI
	FoBFS Quiz
16/11/2019	
17/11/2019	
18/11/2019	Y10 DT trip Bath museum
19/11/2019	
20/11/2019	Year 7 Netball Festival at Clifton College
21/11/2019	Y11 vocational music recital Mock 1, p1&2
	Y9 Subject Evening
22/11/2019	
23/11/2019	
24/11/2019	
25/11/2019	Y11 Mocks begin
26/11/2019	Y10 & 11 girls' netball vs Redland Green, away
27/11/2019	
28/11/2019	Y10 & 11 girls' netball vs Cotham, away
29/11/2019	
30/11/2019	Dynamics Choir at Westbury on Trym Fair
01/12/2019	

Safeguarding information—child safety and cyber-flashing

Cyber-flashing happens when a stranger sends an obscene picture, unsolicited, to a mobile phone via Wi-Fi or Bluetooth. It's a form of sexual harassment and there have been prosecutions for it under existing laws. It's not just an iPhone issue. There are many file-sharing apps that make it possible on Android and Apple phones.

You may have seen news reports or heard concerns raised about the large number of young women receiving unwanted images, the potential for large-scale abuse of children, security problems with Apple's AirDrop and the range of file-sharing apps freely available. There are however, a number of options available to parents and carers to protect their child's phone:

- Most file-sharing apps will allow users to restrict who can send files to them via Wi-Fi or Bluetooth. Check the settings and user instructions for your child's apps, and make sure your child knows how to operate these controls. Some of the most popular apps are; Google Drive, Dropbox, Microsoft OneDrive, AirDroid, and Zappy.
- Advise your child to turn off file-transfer apps when they're not using the apps (including Bluetooth). If the apps need to be on, advise your child to use PIN protection and only allow contact from people they know.
- Tell your child never to open files from someone they don't know.

If an incident does occur, and your child does not feel in immediate danger, they should take a screenshot and report the incident to the police via the non-emergency numbers:

- If it happens on public transport, text 61016 or call 0800 40 50 40
- If it happens anywhere else, call 101

If your child feels scared or in immediate danger, they should call 999 straight away. They may also want to move to a place of safety – find someone in authority to talk to, e.g. platform staff, a security guard or a shop manager.



EVERYONE IS INVITED!

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DAY

SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER 11AM- 3PM

Lawrence Weston BMX track (L Dub)
Merrimans Drive / Henacre Open Space



TRY FOR FREE | BIKES FOR ALL | BMX SKILLS



❄️ WESTBURY ON TRYM CHRISTMAS FAIR ❄️

Saturday 30th November 2019

Canford Lane & Carlton Court

2pm to 6pm

- ❄️ CRAFT STALLS
- ❄️ CHRISTMAS GIFTS
- ❄️ LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
- ❄️ FAIRGROUND RIDES
- ❄️ FOOD AND DRINK
- ❄️ FACE PAINTING
- ❄️ HEALTH AND BEAUTY

Come along and enjoy the fun at this
fundraising and community event!

Sponsored By:


HAROLD STEPHENS
YOUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL ADVISER

Kemps Jewellers, Sarah C Green, Marie's,
Westbury Barbering Company, Suzie B

In aid of BUST (Breast cancer Unit Support Trust)

