

Bristol Brunel Academy

Termly Newsletter

April 2024



From The Principal

It has been an incredibly challenging term for us and I want to start by thanking our staff, students and parents for all of the support you have shown us as we navigate the loss of Ashley Jackson. Our students have had the opportunity to suggest ways in which we can commemorate and celebrate Ashley and we look forward to sharing this with our students in their assemblies in term 5.



This term we are saying goodbye to staff who leave us to go onto pastures new. Yvonne Lopez, our Academy councillor, is leaving us to take up a similar role closer to home. I want to take this opportunity to thank Ms Lopez for all that she has done for our students and our staff. The work of our counselling team is a quiet process, something that happens in the background but is fundamental in ensuring that our students are supported with their mental health and wellbeing.

We are also saying farewell to Nathan Rutter. Nathan has an exciting opportunity to work with Bristol Hospital Education Services. The work he has done here at BBA will live on, he has been instrumental in his relentless support of our students ensuring that they get the very best at all times. We wish him the very best of luck.

Josh Sterling leaves us on a secondment to Digitech, which is the CLF's studio school. Mr Sterling will take up an Assistant Principal role and will return to us in Easter 2025, which we are delighted about. Mr Sterling leaves behind a strong legacy in the Quality of Education team, particularly the work he has done around our KS3 homework provision. We wish him the very best of luck and look forward to welcoming him back to BBA next year.

We are also saying goodbye to Lou Coles. Mrs Coles is taking up a central role for the CLF, so will not be too far away from us. She has been a part of BBA since the very beginning and also worked in Speedwell Technology College. I cannot begin to document all the things that Mrs Coles has been personally responsible for in ensuring that we are supporting our most vulnerable students, making decisions which are entirely student focused and being the consistent advocate, without hesitation, for our students and our parents. We will miss Lou enormously.

Term 4

27-29/2/24 Engineers without borders.

Over three days we welcomed 3 sets of 4 Bristol University students who are part of the 'Engineers Without Borders' club at Bristol University.

They ran a wind turbine workshop for each of our Y10 Engineering classes.



They first introduced themselves and talked about their schooling experiences (most were first educated in other countries and then came to the UK as children.)

They then talked about energy, where it comes from and how it is transported.

Finally they introduced the wind turbine that was designed and built by a 14 year old in Africa to supply electricity to his village. Students made their own wind turbines in teams and each was tested on a spindle using a hair dryer as 'the wind'.

Students were fully engaged and loved the workshop. Many asked the students questions about university life and courses.

World Book Day

World Book Day (07/03/24) was a great success last term

Staff and students had a great time.

Mr Rogers won the student vote for best costume with his Maleficent

WORLD BOOK DAY



2024

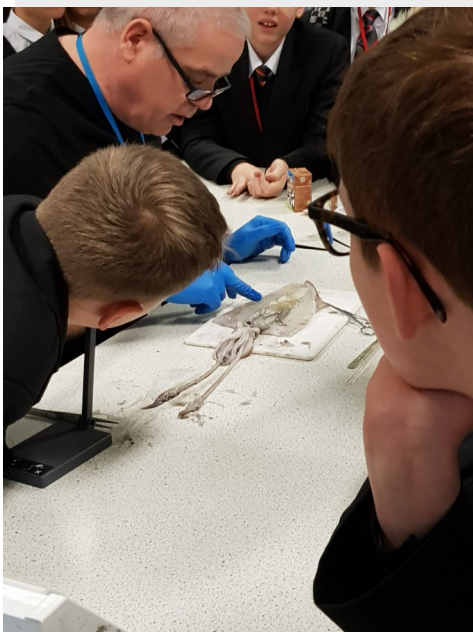
Science Week 18-22/3/24

Science week took place in the 4th week of term with a variety of activities and competitions for students to engage with.

Year 7 had sessions with engineers from UWE who explored what it is to be an engineer and what they actually do. The year 7s engaged really well and even made some pretty impressive elastic party poppers.

Year 8 students became forensic scientists for a day. A “drug lab” was created in the hive and students had to collect evidence and then go back to their labs to process the evidence and solve the crime.

Year 9 had sessions provided by MoSAIC run by our ex-colleague Mr Campbell and looked at the interactions between art and astrophysics.

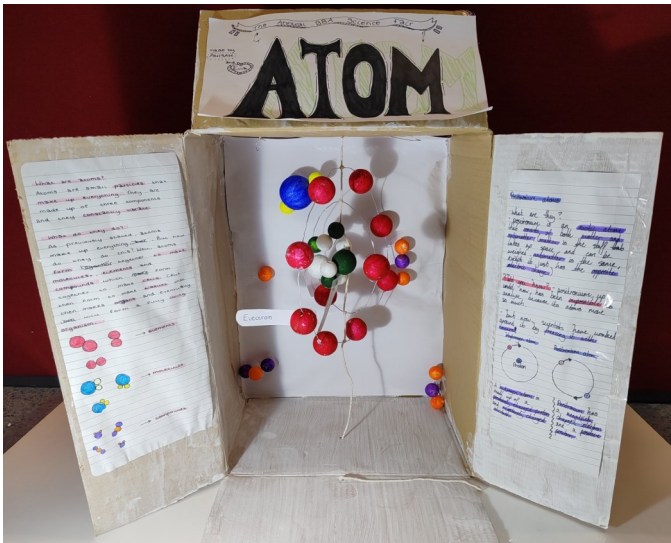


In addition, during lunchtimes students could book into watch dissections of a variety of organisms and structures including a squid , rat, brain, skull and heart.

If that was all a little too squeamish then there was an option to see episodes of the BBC documentary Planet Earth.

There were two competitions running, one on photography and the other to produce a physical presentation for a science fair.

Science Week 18-22/3/24



SCIENCE FAIR 1st Place

Anisah Mulk

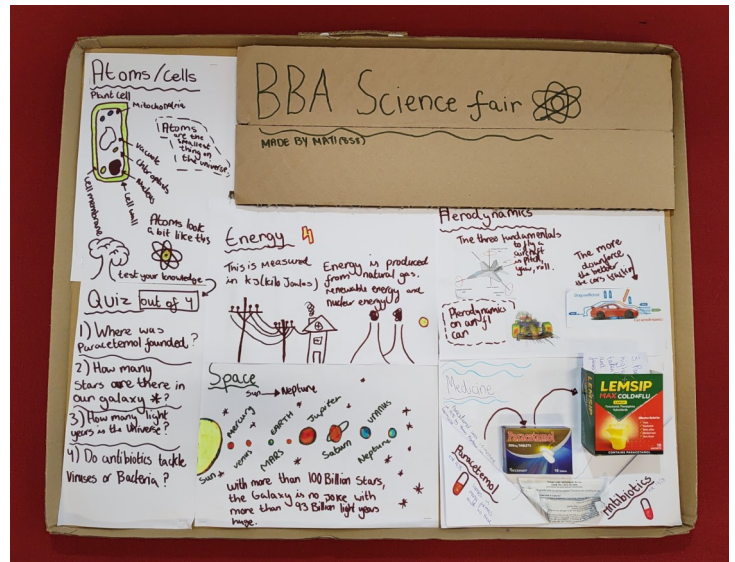
+ Ella Burley

For Atom Model

2nd Place

Mati Szymanski 8S8

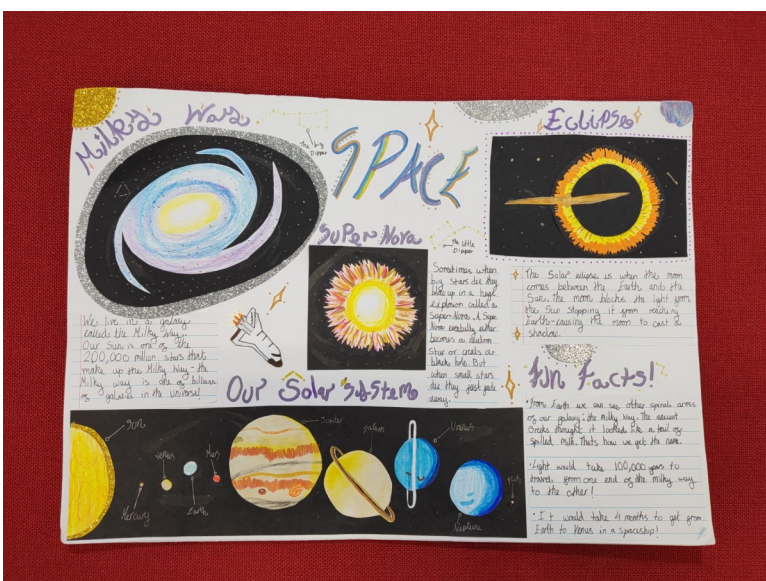
For Multi-Topic
Board



3rd Place

Fleur Bernice 7R6

For Space



Science Week 18-22/3/24



Photography

1st Place

*Elsa Cederholm-
Melling 7A3*

2nd Place

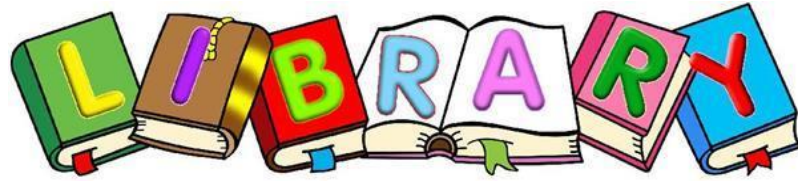
Fleur Bernice 7R6



Ramadan 2024

On Monday 18th March staff and students took part in a fast for Ramadan. In the evening they broke fast together and enjoyed some delicious food at our staff and student Iftar. It was also lovely to see a large number of students fasting, many of which joined us. A massive thank you to Rizwana, Hanifa, Sana, Zakera and Nay who all went to a big effort to provide a fabulous range of culinary delights. A special mention also goes to the grandmother of Muhammed Yusuf who cooked and donated several dishes of lovely food.





Wow!
We now have 14
Word Millionaires!

Congratulations to:

Luke Rees, Aditya J, Jackson R, Isabella H, Rayya K, Habiba M, Liam B, Declan J, Hashim H, Poppy D, Fleur B, Glade W, Sam P & Zach B
6 DOUBLE millionaires: Ayesha H, Rhys C, George H, Alex R-J, Aariz K & Muhammad-Qasim H and a **TRIPLE** millionaire Sumayya Karim



Congratulations to our **TOP SCORING:**
Year 7s - Since January

Sumayya K passed 36 quizzes
Stan K, Ralph McQ passed 19 quizzes
Jackson R passed 18 quizzes
and **Year 8s**

Izi O passed 33 quizzes
Zain Asif passed 16 quizzes
Abdimalik H passed 15 quizzes



BOOK SALE

An amazing response- thank you for donating and buying! 250 books found new homes!



And thank you to our amazing volunteers!



All the money raised is going to a book charity:

<https://bookaid.org/aboutus/our-mission/>

Neurodiversity
Week 18th-22nd March



The Library is open at break/ lunchtime
check the timetable on the library door
and before & after school for homework/quiet study
Also try these great sites for some online reading:
<https://www.worldbookday.com/online-masterclasses/>
<https://manybooks.net/>
<https://library.thenational.academy/>

School Council

On Tuesday 12th March, we were given the opportunity to represent BBA at the West of England School's Summit. We spent the day interacting with other schools, learning about future developments within our local community and discussing important social issues within the area.

The aim was to empower youth voices and to invite us to share our ambitions for our future, lending us a space to express our worries, concerns and hopes for later life.

As part of our ambitions for the future, we presented a pitch to the Metro Mayor—Dan Norris—discussing social issues, specifically concerning young people within our area. Our pitch detailed the lack of facilities and support for young people in East Bristol and we urged the Metro Mayor to invest in areas for youth. We believe that youth clubs would help young people, such as ourselves feel more involved within our community, enabling us to build positive relationships and together, pave the way to a safer, more supported, positive future.

We believe everything starts with young people, so we need to invest in youth before it is too late.

We also listened to pitches from other schools highlighting knife crime, the importance of student voice, plastic waste from school canteens and period poverty.

Overall the day proved an invaluable opportunity to contribute positively to the future of youth in East Bristol. We felt that even though we are not able to vote yet our voice was heard.



“People who can’t yet vote can be left out of important conversations, but I am determined that I hear the voices of young people as I create policies and deliver for the region. The ideas from students will be used to inform the plans of my West of England Mayoral Combined Authority.”

School Council



Our student council meeting the Metro Mayor Dan Morris



Pitching our ideas on developing youth infrastructure and facilities in East Bristol to increase youth engagement.

Anna Osborne, Sam Murray, Madinah Hussain, Kairah-Essiene Pochot-Fleming

Last term the School Council discussed ways to build community spirit across the Academy by increasing charity fundraising for the House charities.

The School Council have big ideas for term 5 and 6 and are currently in conversations with Ms Cusack about what is possible!

Watch this space!

There are currently 3 spaces available on the BBA School Council:

- Amika House Captain
- LGBTQ+ Ambassador
- Eco Club Ambassador

If you are interested in any of these positions please speak to **Mrs Milburn** or one of the other **School Councillors**.

School Council



For the second CLF Pupil Parliament, Ella Burley (standing in for Anna Osborne) and Sam Murray attended an online meeting (8th March) focusing on the new target points to discuss and work on with the rest of the School Council.

During the meeting, the chair, Suzie Weaver expressed how important student voice is to the CLF. She discussed the three aspects of a wider, overall commitment to student voice; Pupil Parliament—Trust wide, Student Advocate—School Council and Pupil participation—Academy approach. She shared this model:

As part of the meeting, students from Frome Vale Academy shared with the pupil parliament their new rewards initiative, where rewards are given to students who help staff. This includes the system of rewarding points to earn their own currency (the penguin pound) which could be used by the students to buy them a small gift. We liked this idea, however we didn't feel it was suitable for a secondary school. Nevertheless it has got us thinking about the BBA reward system. This is something we will be following us as the School Council with Mr Saunders.

Furthermore, Suzie Weaver revealed to us the recent meeting of Kerry McCarthy and the CEO of CLF schools. This was an unexpected visit so there was little time left for preparation, so no questions were asked on behalf of students which is incredibly disappointing. Due to this, next meeting's main objective is to create questions for any other unexpected visits from local political leaders. The School Council we be sending out a form for students to submit questions they would like to raise on their behalf.

It is frustrating that we still need to deliver on the environmental aims that were mentioned during the last Pupil Parliament but with our Eco Team representative leaving this is proving hard.

If you have any suggestions or there is anything you would like soe help with, please contact us via the School Council email (SchoolCouncil@bba.clf.uk).

Support

Celebrating Neurodiversity

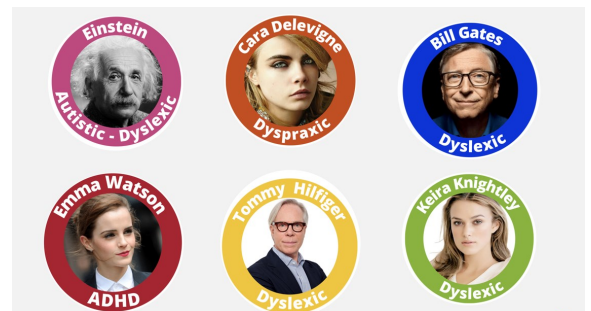
The Neurodiversity Group at BBA celebrated Neurodiversity Week with a series of engaging activities and displays that highlighted the importance of diversity and inclusion within our school community.

Throughout the week, there were assemblies led by students from the group, who were fantastic, and provided valuable insights and opportunities for learning.

Tutor time was enriched with activities designed to encourage dialogue and understanding.

Displays showcased the beauty of diversity, linking to positive role models, reinforcing our commitment to creating an inclusive environment for all students, promoting acceptance and support.

Neurodiversity Week served as a reminder of the value of embracing differences and fostering a culture of inclusivity at BBA.



If you would like to join the Neurodiversity Group it runs on Friday during tutor, please speak Ms Pearce or email senco@bba.clf.uk

Webinars to support your mental health: on-demand

Schools and Colleges
Early Support Service

A partnership of



Anna Freud



How to manage my low mood

We all experience low mood in different ways. It can not only impact upon how you feel but it can also affect how you live your life day to day. It can stop you from enjoying the things you normally would. This webinar will help you to understand what low mood is, help you to spot the signs of low mood and support you to look after yourself by using self-care strategies.



Passcode: 8u*8j+NI

How to manage peer pressure

Peer pressure means feeling like you have to do something because people around you want you to or expect you to. This webinar will support you to understand peer pressure, spot situations where you might experience this and give you helpful strategies to manage this.



Passcode: .9H^J\$#k

How to manage my anxiety

Anxiety is a normal part of life and can affect anyone. A bit of anxiety from time to time is normal, however, if anxious feelings don't go away, they can interfere with our ability to concentrate, socialise with friends and generally enjoy life. This webinar will help you to recognise the signs of anxiety and understand how anxiety impacts on our thoughts, feelings and behaviours. The webinar will also support you to reduce and manage anxious feelings by using self-care strategies.



Passcode: CWuA+2#2

How to manage exam stress

Stress levels can be higher than usual around exam time. A bit of stress can help us to stay motivated but too much can be unhelpful. This webinar will help you to find the best ways to manage your stress levels, before, during and after your exams.



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Year 7 News

Year 7 Team



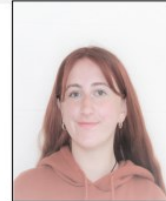
Mrs Milburn
Associate Assistant
Principal



Mr Slocombe
Achievement Year Leader



Miss Bruford
Pastoral Year Leader



Miss Rumming
Pastoral Support
Assistant

Tutors:

7M1 – F6A



Mrs Coke

7M2 – S2A



Miss Walsh

7A3 – S6



Miss Fuorvito

7A4 – S12A



Miss Minns

7R5 - FS4



Miss Woods



Mrs Soper

7R6 - FS3



Mr Rogers

7S7 - FS9



Miss Shakil

7S8 - F6B



Mr Busby

Academically | Professionally | Socially | Personally | Within the Community

Already at the start of term 5! The terms pass so quickly but it's lovely to see our year group progressing and becoming members of the BBA community. The students are working hard and have the best attendance and behaviour standards across the whole school, something we are really proud of.

They are also making a positive contribution to extra-curricular activities in the enrichment and sports clubs as well as winning lots of the in school competitions.

BBA has so many ways for you to contribute and it's always been true that the more you put in the more you get out.

Camp is getting closer, we are all looking forward to it but if there are any issues then feel free to contact the team via email.

BBAyear7team@clf.uk

Year 7



18/3/24 Quarter– Finals Bristol Schools Football

Cass Gordon scored two goals in the first half with the third coming from a mix up in the 6 yard box , where the ball was kicked away by an away player into their own net. The fourth goal came from Cass Gordon, yet again. With 6 mins to go the away team had a through ball and managed to score. Final score 4-1 BBA winners.

Great work Year 7!!

Rueben Lawrence, Inder Singh, Logan Skinner, Ronnie Pitchford , Cass Gordon, Kardell Tucker, Mohamed Abdirahman, Marley Green, Ollie Webber, Oliver Jimenez Spence, Stan Kershaw and Jack Spence

Year 8 News

Hello from the Year 8 team.

It has been lovely to see the number of Year 8s involved in enrichment activities through this term. Plenty were representing the year in the school production with some outstanding performances.

Our sports teams have also excelled with the boys football team unbeaten and the girls representing us in the under 14 girls team.

If you ever need to contact us, your first port of call is your child's tutor. Here are their emails:

Findlay.Hazel@clf.uk (8M1)

Rizwana.Hussein@clf.uk (8M2)

Michael.Smerdon@clf.uk (8A3)

Farva.Ali@clf.uk (8A7)

Ianthe.Huntington@clf.uk (8R4)

Martin Ngai@clf.uk (8R5)

Huw.Solari@clf.uk (8R6)

Kealy.darby@clf.uk (8S8)

John.thorne@clf.uk (8S9)

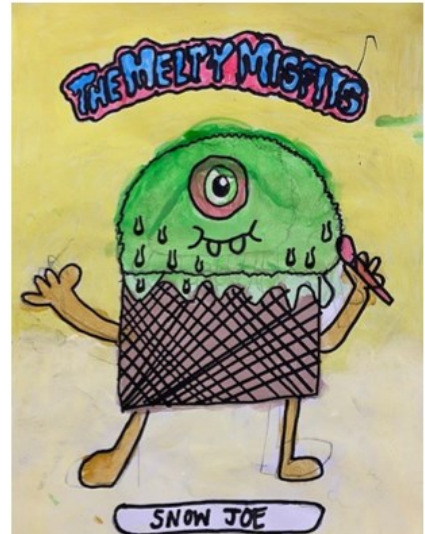


Alternatively, you can reach the Year 8 Team at BBAYear8team@clf.uk or by calling 07599101211

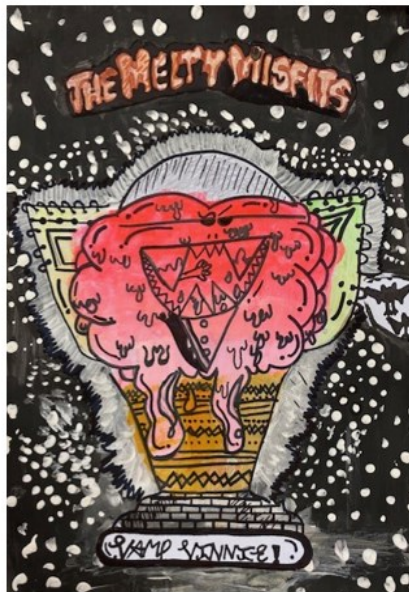
Best wishes,

The year 8 Team

Well Done Y8!
 Mrs McBride's classes.
 Exploring the work of graffiti artist, BUFF MONSTER, and creating their own MELTY MISFIT character in his style.



Ellis



Ayaan



Flo



Ruby



Maryam



Zac



Ianna



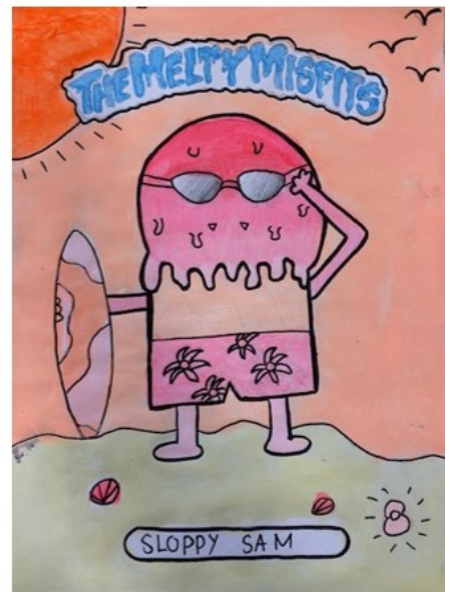
Coco



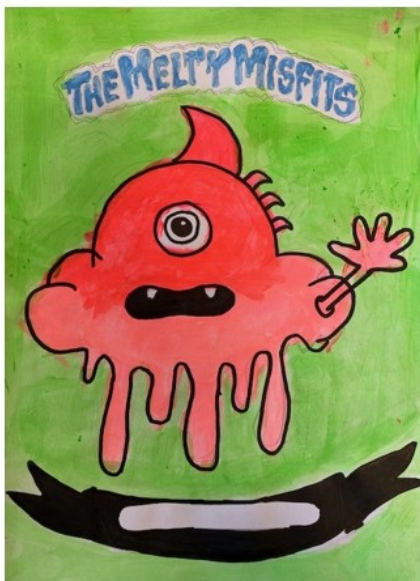
Ayesha



Vena



Rehana



Kyreece



Marcus



Elhud

Year 9 News



Mr Ferguson
Associate
Assistant
Principal



Ms Baker
Academic Year
Lead



Mr Hall
Pastoral
Year Lead



Ms Tazaoui
Assistant
Pastoral
Year Lead

Term 4 was an exciting one for Year 9. Congratulations to those 60 students who completed their expeditions for the Bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. The sore legs and tiredness were worth it!

Congratulations also to the winners of the science week science fair and photography competitions who are all Year 9s!

It was lovely to see so many families both at parents' evening and options evening, we are working hard alongside the admin team to pull together the timetabling and staffing for next year so that we can confirm options subjects in term 6.

We're looking forward to another successful term, please continue to contact your child's tutor or the year team with any queries or concerns.

Careers

Raising Aspirations 2024

On Wednesday 6th March Year 9 students at BBA took part in a trust wide Raising Aspirations event.

The event saw students take part in a series of workshops designed to get them thinking about the next steps and future career aspirations.

Key themes of the day included transferable skills and a focus on green skills.

The live workshops our students encountered were on green skills and sustainability delivered by DETI inspire at UWE, presenting your best self sessions delivered by Department of Working Tax and Pensions, university insight session delivered by Future Quest at UWE. They also had sessions to develop their CV and learning about labour market information.

Envision cohort Year 9

Our envision cohort 2 have been working with Hargreaves Lansdown staff with the development of their Envision pitch that will be presented at University of Bristol.

The students have been receiving business mentoring to develop skills in 4 main areas. These are team work, creativity, presentation and communication.

Sports Result

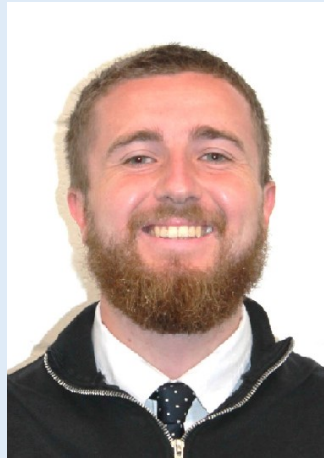
29/2/24 Year 9 Boys Football.

A hard fought match against Oasis Brislington saw our boys come back from being a goal down at half time to win 2:1 at the whistle. Goal scorers were Roman Chiswell and Jahmareon Bennett.

Year 10 News



Mr Leahy
Associate
Assistant
Principal.



Mr Withers
Academic
Year
Lead



Mr Sanday
Pastoral Year
Leader

Contact details: bbayear10team@clf.uk

Hello,

My name is Mr. Withers and as of the start of term 5, I will be the new Achievement Year Leader of Year 10. You may have heard my name before as I currently teach history at the Academy. I would first of all like to thank Ms Cicero for her hard work and dedication with the year group over the last 4 years. I'd also like to pass on my thanks to Ms Cicero, Mr Leahy, Mr Sanday and Miss Kaur for welcoming me into the Year Team and making my transition into the role a smooth one. I am looking forward to working with our students, and you as parents, so they have the best opportunity for success come the end of the academic year. It is going to be a busy but exciting couple of terms, with things like work experience week and end of year mocks on the horizon.

Kind regards,

Mr. H Withers

Year 10 Art

Art shout outs from Mrs McBride
Y10 have been creating their own
acrylic paintings, inspired by
their own photos. AMAZING WORK!

Olivia



Kairah



Finn



Chloe

Olivia



Careers

BT Get Ready Friday 8th March

Year 10 students from Bristol Brunel Academy took part in a day entitled 'Get Ready for work' hosted by BT and organised by Graphic Science as part of National Careers Week 2024.



The students took part in a series of workshops, highlighting the wide range of career options within this tech giant, held at their Bristol hub.

This action packed event gave the students an insight into the opportunities that BT and the technology sector can offer.

Students took part in business, engineering, cyber security and VR activities. This complimented the talks from the experts in their respective fields. The students all had the opportunity to present their pitches in the boardroom.

The day was also attended by two other schools. It was fantastic to see our cohort work so well with counterparts from the other schools.

Craig Jordan, BBA & CEE lead for the trust, said: "The students were engaged from start to finish, they demonstrated some of the key employability skills including team work, communication, presentation and creativity. They did themselves and BBA proud"



Year 11 News



Ms Abbi Bainton
Associate
Assistant
Principal

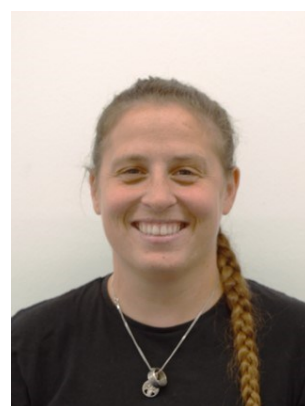


Mr Iwan Jones
Academic
Year
Leader

Ms Clare
Buckingham
Pastoral
Year
Leader



Ms Heatherson
Pastoral
Support
Assistant



Hello all parents and carers.

We are the support team for Year 11 students. We can be contacted via the group school email address of BBAYear11Team@clf.uk

It's the final push. With only a few weeks to the start of the main GCSE exams its time to get your final preparations organised.

Exam timetable ==> displayed clearly.

Revision times and timetable organised.

Rest / relaxation / mindfulness times planned for!

Remember this, you have worked hard for this for 5 years now. You have already done so much to prepare yourself. The final push is all about that final bit of effort that will give the results you are dreaming of.

Work Hard Be Kind.

Enrichment Clubs Term 5

Days	Enrichment	Years	Time	Where	Who
Monday	Duke of Edinburgh (Bronze and Silver)	Year 9 – Bronze Year 10 - Silver	3:15 – 4:15	SC2 SC3	Ms Jackson and Mr Smerdon
	Cricket Club	all	3:15-4:15	PE	PE
	Y7 Textiles Club	Year 7	3:00 – 4:00	GT7	Ms Simmons
Tuesday	Arabic club	Year 7 and 8	2:30 – 4:00	GT3	Ms Tazaoui
	Adventurers' guild (D and D)	All	3:05 – 4:05	S12A/B	H Greensmith, Mr Thorne and V Stevenson
	Lego Club	Year 7	3:05 – 4:05	S5B	Humanities
	Rounders	all	3:15-4:15	PE	PE
	Card Club	Year 7 and 8	3:15-4:15	S14	Ms Mimmms
	Chess Club	All	3.05-4.05	S9	Mr Fraser, Mr Duncan
	Cheerleading		3:15-4:15	Dance studio	Ms Chaplin
	Athletics	All	3:15-4:15	PE	PE
	UKMT	Year 9 - 10	3:05 – 4:05	F6B	Ms Harrison
	Crochet Club	All	3:05- 4:05	GT7	Quinn
Thursday	Board game club	all	3.05-4.05	s12b	Ms Clovis
	Engineering	Year 10-11	3.05-4.05	GT8	Ms Bush
	GCSE Art Club	Year 10-11	3.05-4.05	SC2	Ms Darby
	STEAM	Year 7-9	3:05- 4:05	FS9 / GT1 / GC1	Ms Forcina Ms Shakil
Friday	Tennis Club	All	3:15-4:15	PE	Mr Solari
	Astronomy GCSE	Year 11	3:05- 4:05	FS5	Mr Smerdon

Enrichment

Term 5 sees quite a change in the enrichment clubs running.

There is a big switch from winter sports such as football and rugby to the summer sports of cricket, rounders, athletics and tennis.

Some of the more sedate clubs continue to run through the year and are as popular as ever such as STEAM Club, Adventurers Guild (D&D) and chess club and board games.

This term is a very busy one for teachers, many will be involved in running revision sessions with year 11s and this may take them away from enrichment clubs.

It is important that you check each week that your chosen club is running.

There will also be some clubs starting up after coursework deadlines have passed so keep your eyes on the school noticeboards.

Cheerleading.

On Friday 22nd March the cheer squad travelled to Bristol Metropolitan Academy to do some collaborative work with the Storm Angels team at Met ahead of an upcoming competition for them. Students took part in drills, jumps and some tumbling.



In addition to this we were able to gain a sneak peek at both the level 1 and 2 team performances that Met had created. It was a really inspiring afternoon for our Cheer squad, who came away with lots of ideas going forward for the future.

Enrichment



Two Bronze expeditions were completed in the final two weeks of this term. The students did well, with all of them being successful in completing the expedition.



Despite a lot of weather anxiety we were quite lucky as you can see from the photographs.

But of course why would you take a photo in the rain!

As with all expeditions students learnt a lot about team work and resilience as well as developing some campfire cookery skills.



We hope to have a chance to present the student projects and perhaps certificates in the near future.

Eco-Club

Lush Product Review:

LUSH FRESH
HANDMADE
COSMETICS

As a part of Eco Club, we have been researching Lush products. Lush is a cosmetic company that provides eco-friendly products. They have been a company since 1995, made by the people Constantine and Weir. The cosmetics that they sold were made of fresh fruits and vegetables. 18 students and teachers gave a review of the products given by Eco Club. The statistics are as follows:

The average rating for people who liked the scent was 4/ 5

The average rating for people who thought that the products suited their hair/ skin types was 4.3/ 5

The average rating for people who found the products easy to use was 4.3/ 5

The average rating for its practicality was 4/5

The average rating for people who would recommend this brand's products was 4/5

Most people had no trouble storing the soaps, but some did have trouble. One example of this is people not being able to store it easily due to it disintegrating. Everybody was very satisfied with the scent of the product. It was an overwhelming favourite in the survey, with 16/18 survey takers saying it is its best quality. Some people did manage to drop the soap. Lots of the survey takers felt they were helping the planet by buying this product. From all the people who took the survey most people said they would spend about £5 on the product.

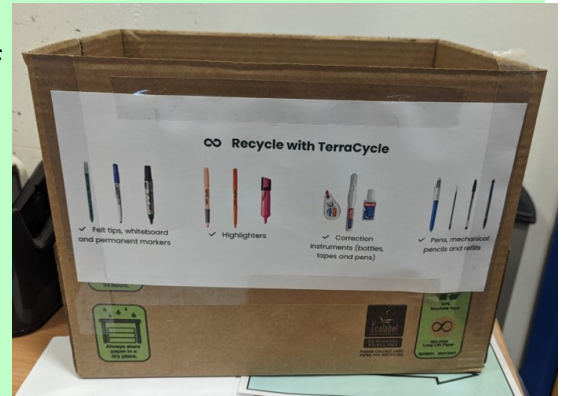


Recycling Writing Equipment:

Eco-club have started a project to recycle writing equipment.

This is a project by teracycle where we can drop off old writing equipment to certain locations.

Collection boxes have been placed all around the school detailing what can be recycled.



Quote from an eco-club member:

“We are now recycling most pens, mechanical pencils and highlighters. You can hand your old stationery in to your teacher for it to be recycled. We are doing this to reduce the amount of wasted stationery we generate as a school. We hope for you to recycle your old stationery.”