

# The Brunel Times

February 2026 | Term 3



**Student Spotlight: By the Artist "Eli", Year 11**

## Message from the Principal

I want to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to all the staff and students who were involved in the Bristol Beacon event. It was an incredible success, and we are extremely proud of everyone who took part. A special thank you goes to Mr. Salida, who co-ordinated the programme across all of the federation schools; it certainly is a huge undertaking.

It has been a very busy term, and one of the most significant moments was our Ofsted inspection. Our students were fantastic throughout the visit, demonstrating real community spirit and showcasing the best of BBA. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support over the past few weeks. It has truly meant a great deal to our staff.

As we look ahead, our Year 11 students are now entering their final few months with us. We wish them the very best of luck as they prepare for their upcoming exams and continue working hard towards their goals.

We are excited to see what Term 4 brings. I hope that you have a relaxing break.

Jen Cusack



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# Key Information

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## Useful Dates

Date	Year	Event
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	All years	INSET day
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> February	10	Parents' Evening
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	9	Options Evening
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	10	Work Experience week
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	11	Parents' Evening
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> March - Thursday 2nd April	All years	School Production
Thursday 2nd April	All years	Last day of Term 3
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	All years	First day of Term 4

### Reminders:

- **Secondary school places will be released on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> March**

Year Group	Email	Phone
Year 7	<a href="mailto:bbayear7team@clf.uk">bbayear7team@clf.uk</a>	<u>07599101207</u>
Year 8	<a href="mailto:bbayear8team@clf.uk">bbayear8team@clf.uk</a>	<u>07599101208</u>
Year 9	<a href="mailto:bbayear9team@clf.uk">bbayear9team@clf.uk</a>	<u>07599101209</u>
Year 10	<a href="mailto:bbayear10team@clf.uk">bbayear10team@clf.uk</a>	<u>07599101211</u>
Year 11	<a href="mailto:bbayear11team@clf.uk">bbayear11team@clf.uk</a>	<u>07599101203</u>

## Year 7 Team

[bbayear7team@clf.uk](mailto:bbayear7team@clf.uk)

[07599101207](tel:07599101207)



Ms Griffiths  
Associate Assistant  
Principal



Mr Withers  
Head of Year



Mr Sanday  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Ms Kaur  
Pastoral Support  
Officer

A positive third term for Year 7s. Attendance has improved steadily, reflecting increased commitment and routine, alongside developing resilience and key skills as pupils continue to settle into secondary school life. It is great to see the amount of Year 7s taking part in extra-curriculum clubs. Please see the Term 4 schedule to see what is on offer next term.

Mr Withers

## Year 8 Team

[bbayear8team@clf.uk](mailto:bbayear8team@clf.uk)

[07599101208](tel:07599101208)



Mr Saunders  
Assistant Principal



Mr Jones  
Head of Year



Mr Buckingham  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Vacancy  
Pastoral Support  
Officer



**Congratulations** to our students for the excellent improvement in tutor attendance this term. Your dedication, consistency and enthusiasm have not gone unnoticed. We are incredibly proud of the effort you've shown —keep striving and shining, Year 8

## Year 9 Team

[bbayear9team@clf.uk](mailto:bbayear9team@clf.uk)

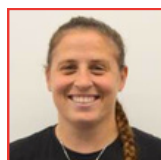
[07599101209](tel:07599101209)



Mr Green  
Associate Assistant  
Principal



Mr Slocombe  
Head of Year



Ms Heatherson  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Ms Ackerman  
Pastoral Support  
Officer



Since the start of the year, a group of Year 9 students have proudly taken part in the Envision programme, working closely with mentors from Hargreaves Lansdown. The students were outstanding ambassadors for BBA, demonstrating confidence, resilience and teamwork throughout. Their commitment and enthusiasm made the programme a great success, and their achievements are something to be celebrated.



## Year 10 Team

[bbayear10team@clf.uk](mailto:bbayear10team@clf.uk)

[07599101211](tel:07599101211)



Ms Curtis  
Assistant Principal



Ms Williams  
Head of Year



Mr O'Callaghan  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Ms Hamblett  
Pastoral Support  
Officer

Year 10 have had a really positive Term 3, starting with their first experience of formal mock exam procedures where their behaviour and compliance with rules was excellent. Those results are now trickling through ready for our Parents' Evening in Term 4. We are also looking forward to some of our students having the opportunity to do a work experience placement next term.

## Year 11 Team

[bbayear11team@clf.uk](mailto:bbayear11team@clf.uk)

[07599101203](tel:07599101203)



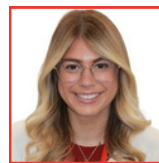
Mr Busby  
Associate Assistant  
Principal



Ms Baker  
Head of Year



Mr Hall  
Pastoral Support  
Leader



Miss Smith  
Pastoral Support  
Officer



Year 11 have entered their final set of mock exams with intent and professionalism, we are so proud of how far they have come from their first set of mocks in Year 10. It has been lovely to see the standard of coursework that our students are producing and we are excited to see what they are able to do in Term 4.

Ms Baker

## Attendance



James Ferguson  
Designated  
Attendance Lead

We're pleased to share that attendance showed a strong start this term, with Years 9, 10 and 11 making the biggest improvements as we moved into Term 3. Year 7 continued to set a fantastic example with consistently high attendance throughout.

Every day in school really does make a difference. Thank you to all families for your continued support in helping students build strong routines, even small improvements add up to big successes.

If you ever need support with routines, attendance advice, or want to speak to our team, you can now book a slot with us directly through the BBA Attendance Hub: 🖱️

<https://outlook.office.com/book/BBAAttendanceHub@clfacademies.onmicrosoft.com/?ismsaljsauthenable>

Let's keep the momentum going into next term!



# Art Gallery

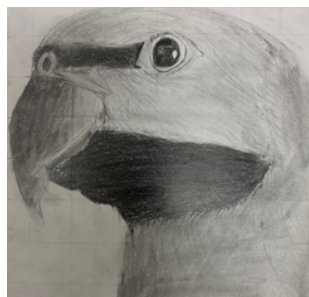
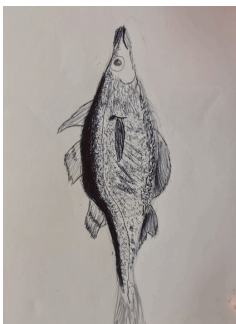
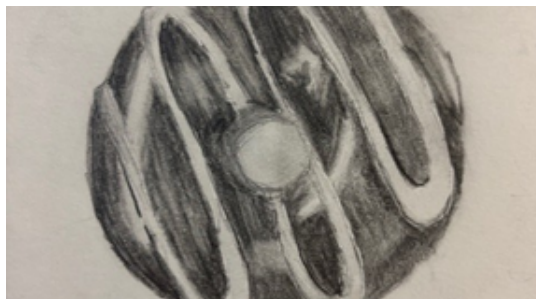


Term 3 in the Art Department has been an exciting time, with Year 10 students really getting into their skill development.

Bravo!



We are seeing beautiful work from Year 11 with students really coming into their own, see the images on the front and back cover.



Year 7, 8 and 9 have been focusing on basic skills and paying close attention to detail using colour, detail and tone.

# BBA Sport



**Year 7 + 8 Girls Basketball**



**U14 Girls Football**



**Year 9 Boys Football**



**Girls Rugby Training**



**Year 8 + 9 Girls Basketball**



Real success this term with the Year 7 & 8s basketball teams.

In a five team tournament, the Year 8 teams placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> and the Year 7 teams 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>.

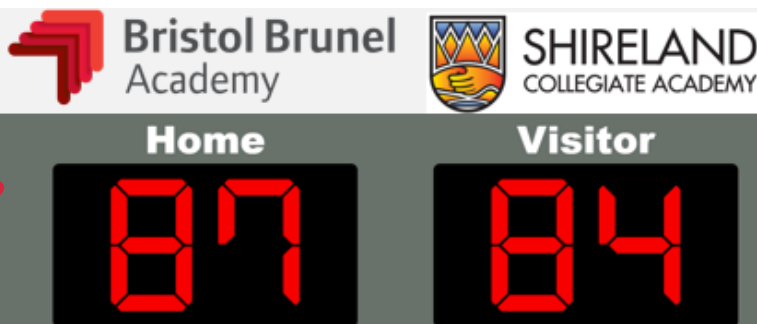
Year 8/9 beat Bristol Met with the Year 7 team sadly losing out.

The girls football team also played Bristol Met recently and narrowly lost 1-0 with a scratch team of Year 7s & 8s.

The Year 9 boys football team have had a good run in the Bristol Schools League, with wins over Trinity Academy and Bristol Met.

BBA Basketball: Proud, Present and Achieving.

Our U16 basketball team secured an excellent 87–84 win over Shireland Collegiate Academy in Dynamik National Basketball Playoff, showing our BBA values in action.



**well done!**

# BBA News



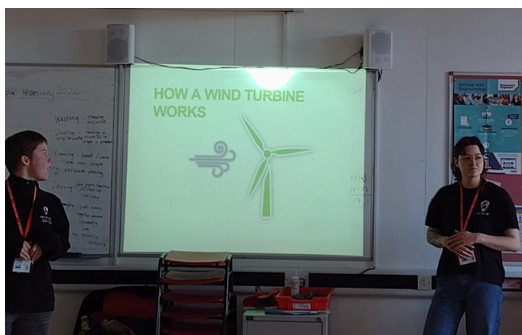
## AJ Day: Celebrating Mental Health

It was fantastic to see so many students and staff in yellow, enjoying Caribbean food and spreading positivity across the Academy. A special shout-out to Lois Walker, who raised over £100 for Off The Record

## Year 10 girls Design Technology and Engineering trip to UWE.

The trip was dedicated to inspiring female secondary school students from Bristol and South Gloucestershire to explore the dynamic and varied world of technology.

The workshops were hosted in the Engineering Faculty and was an employer-led initiative showcasing careers in information technology, robotics, and engineering. It gave our students an opportunity to explore the wide range of careers in this sector.



This term, we also hosted a group of Bristol University students who are part of 'Engineers Without Borders'.

They talked to our four Year 10 Engineering classes about the difference between renewable and fossil fuels and the challenges in providing electricity to developing countries and villages in remote locations.

The Year 10 students then had to design and build their own wind turbines in groups of 4. The turbines were tested to see how effective they were. Students were fully engaged in the workshops and had a lot of fun building and watching their designs being tested.



# BBA News



## Year 10 Hospitality

Students have been successfully working on their presentation skills with Mrs Soper



## School Production: 'Return to the Forbidden Planet'

Show dates:  
31st March, 1<sup>st</sup> April and 2<sup>nd</sup> April

Rehearsals are at full pace for the upcoming BBA production of 'Return to the Forbidden Planet' at the end of Term 4. Alongside the rehearsals, we've also had our incredible students be involved in the technical side of things and creating the props (look out for the multicoloured monster tentacles coming out from the stage wings!)


# Literacy



World Book Day is quickly approaching and we have lots in store this year!

We are starting with a student reading competition to see who can read the most books before WBD; our top readers will win some fabulous prizes.

On the day, we will have a book bingo extravaganza, staff dress up, badge making and a free book token for every student.



**Accelerated**  
Reader  
**WORD MILLIONAIRE**

Halima M read 3,496,637 words!  
Clark S read 1,960,061 words  
Jacob L read 1,497,067 words



## Staff Recommendation

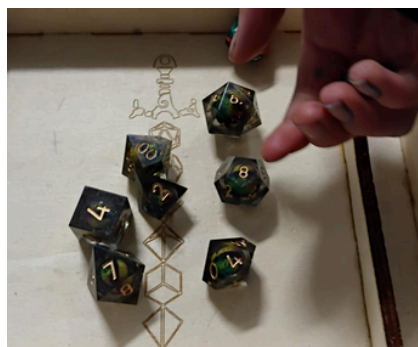
Todd Hewitt, the last boy in the town, is on the brink of manhood. Forced one day to flee through a nearby swamp, he stumbles upon a patch of silence and – surprisingly – the first girl he has ever seen.

# Enrichment

## Club Focus

The Academy provides a range of after school clubs **free of charge** to all students. This term, we are highlighting the ever popular clubs of Table Tennis for all (Friday) and Adventurers Guild (Tuesday).

Please [click here](#) to see the enrichment timetable for Term 4.





**Student Spotlight: artwork by Josie, Year 11**