

The Brunel Times

Term 4, April 2026



Student Spotlight: GCSE Art work provided by Ella

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As we approach the Easter break, I would like to wish our Year 11 students every success as they head into their exam season after the holiday. They have shown real commitment, resilience, and determination throughout their revision and preparation and we are incredibly proud of the hard work they continue to put in. We know they will give their very best and we look forward to supporting them through these final weeks.

I would also like to inform parents and carers that we are currently reviewing our mobile phone policy in response to recent statutory government legislation. As an Academy, we remain committed to maintaining a mobile-free environment throughout the entire school day. Over the coming weeks, we will be exploring the most effective ways to uphold this expectation consistently. We will share further details with families in Term 5 once our review is complete.

Finally, a huge thank you and congratulations to all the students involved in our school production. The talent, effort, and dedication on display were truly exceptional. A production of this quality requires countless hours of rehearsal and teamwork, and it was wonderful to see it so expertly led by our drama and music staff. We are incredibly proud of everyone who took part, both on stage and behind the scenes.

Wishing all students, families, and staff a restful and enjoyable Easter break.



Key Information

Useful Dates

Date	Year/Club	Event
Monday 20th April	Whole School	First day of Term 5
Thursday 30 th April	Year 9	Men ACWY/DtP vaccinations
Thursday 30 th April	Year 8	Parents' Evening
Thursday 7 th May	Selected students	Thorpe Park reward trip
Thursday 21 st May	Year 7 and Learning Support	Parents' Evening
Friday 22 nd May	Whole School	Last day of Term 5
Monday 1 st June	Whole School	First day of Term 6

Reminders!

- Monday 5th May is a Bank Holiday and the Academy is closed

Year Group	Email	Phone
Year 7	bbayear7team@clf.uk	07599101207
Year 8	bbayear8team@clf.uk	07599101208
Year 9	bbayear10team@clf.uk	07599101209
Year 10	bbayear10team@clf.uk	07599101211
Year 11	bbayear11team@clf.uk	07599101203

Year 7 Team

bbayear7team@clf.uk [07599101207](tel:07599101207)



Ms Griffiths
Associate Assistant
Principal SLT Link



Mr Withers
Academic Year lead



Mr Sanday
Pastoral Support
Leader



Ms Kaur
Pastoral Support
Officer

At the halfway point of the year, the Year 7 cohort has continued to make positive progress and is now well settled into secondary school life. Students have shown a good attitude to learning, with many working hard and staying organised. In the coming term, they should aim to contribute more confidently in lessons and continue developing their skills across all subjects and our values of honesty, respect, resilience.

Year 8 Team

bbayear8team@clf.uk [07599101208](tel:07599101208)



Mr Saunders
Associate Assistant
Principal



Mr Iwan Jones
Head of Year



Mr Buckingham
Pastoral Support
Leader



Miss Helm
Pastoral Support
Officer



Our Year 8 students have had an excellent term, demonstrating maturity, enthusiasm, and a consistently strong work ethic across all subjects. Their efforts to earn points have been particularly impressive, with many pupils showing real determination to contribute positively to our year group. These points not only recognise daily achievements but also bring students closer to securing their place on the upcoming rewards trip. We are incredibly proud of Year 8s continued progress and dedication. Well done, Year 8!

Year 9 Team

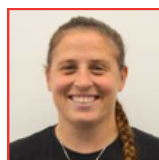
bbayear9team@clf.uk [07599101209](tel:07599101209)



Mr Green
Associate Assistant
Principal



Mr Slocombe
Head of Year



Ms Heatherson
Pastoral Support
Leader



Ms Kaur
Pastoral Support
Officer



This term has marked an important milestone for our Year 9 students as they have taken part in the process of choosing their option subjects for Year 10. Throughout the year, they have consistently shown an impressive level of commitment, resilience, and enthusiasm across all aspects of school life. Their positive attitude towards learning, alongside their willingness to rise to new challenges, has been evident in classrooms, around the school, and in the way they have approached this options process.

Year 10 Team

bbayear10team@clf.uk

[07599101211](tel:07599101211)



Ms Curtis
Associate Assistant
Principal



Ms Ahmed
Head of Year



Mr O'Callaghan
Pastoral Support
Leader



Abigail Hamblett
Pastoral Support
Officer



Year 10 have been busy this term with work experience- with many students taking on a whole range of placements from working in their primary schools, in construction, a music shop, care homes and offices. We received some excellent feedback from many employers and a couple of students have been offered possible apprenticeship opportunities when they are older.

Well done Year 10 for representing BBA so positively!

Year 11 Team

bbayear11team@clf.uk

[07599101203](tel:07599101203)



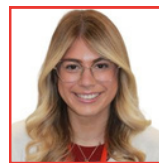
Mr Busby
Associate Assistant
Principal



Ms Baker
Head of Year



Mr Hall
Pastoral Support
Leader



Amber Smith
Pastoral Support
Officer



It was great to see so many families at parents' evening supporting their children as we head into the final straight of Year 11. A huge congratulations to the food and nutrition students who showcased a wealth of skills in their practical exams. We wish Year 11 a break full of rest and revision and look forward to welcoming them back for their last full term of secondary school!

Attendance



James Ferguson
Designated
Attendance Lead

Good attendance really does make a difference. Every day in school helps you stay on top of your learning, feel confident, and make the most of the opportunities on offer.

For Year 11 especially, with GCSEs coming up soon, being in every lesson is key to feeling prepared and performing your best. Whether you're in Year 7 or Year 11, turning up each day builds strong habits and keeps you moving towards your goals. Keep showing up

🌟 TERM 4 ATTENDANCE COMPETITION 🌟

TWO chances to win in every year group!

🏆 Prize: Early Finish at 2:30pm – Thursday 2nd April

Each year group will have two winning tutor groups:

1. **Highest Attendance – Year to Date.**
 - The tutor group with the best attendance so far this year.
2. **Most Improved Attendance – Term 4.**
 - The tutor group that improves the most from the end of Term 3 to the end of Term 4.

Yes... it could be the same tutor group winning both!

BBA News

Return To The Forbidden Planet



Return to the Forbidden Planet is a fast-paced science-fiction jukebox musical inspired by Shakespeare's *The Tempest*. Set aboard the interstellar ship *Albatross*, the story follows Captain Tempest, his daughter Miranda, and a bickering rock-and-roll crew after a monster attack sparks suspicion of betrayal. As systems fail and secrets surface, loyalties are tested and romance blooms between Miranda and officer Ariel. Packed with comedy, slapstick, and retro sci-fi flair, the show uses classic rock and pop songs to drive the action, celebrating teamwork, forgiveness, and the resilience of human connection against cosmic chaos, evil robots, wild gadgets, and gleefully rebellious energy.



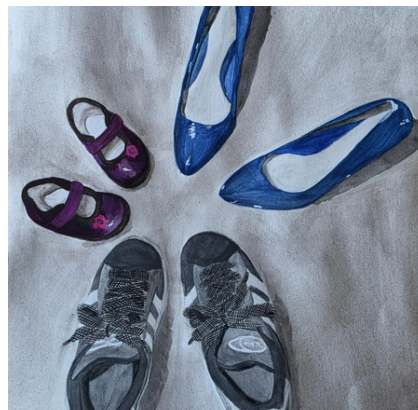
This production is the result of the hard work, creativity, and commitment of our talented cast, dedicated musicians, and hardworking backstage team. We are incredibly proud of every student and staff member who has helped bring this exciting production to life.

Please join us in celebrating the passion and teamwork of our cast and crew.

Art Gallery



Bravo!



Year 11 have produced outstanding work in their mock exam this term.

Starting from a variety of themes, students selected their own artists to inspire and develop their ideas.

They have demonstrated impressive independence and creativity throughout the process, resulting in a fantastic collection of pieces.

Sports



Congratulations to Betsy, Elsie, Brooke and Maddy. The girls worked so hard against teams with 16 swimmers and still managed a 5th place finish. They were given a special mention in results announcements and other schools commended their efforts.

14 of our Year 9 students took part in a touch rugby festival at the Bristol Bears High Performance Centre. They had a fantastic day!

Year 7 Boys have had some great success winning the "Brislington Cup" competition and have followed that up with further wins, including over CLF rivals Bristol Met.

Unfortunately, after good early season results, the U16 Boys basketball team bowed out of the national cup at the play-off stage. Their resilience and professionalism are a credit to them.

The Athletics Season is about to start and we have two strong teams based locally. Bristol and West are based at the Whitehall Athletics track and Yate and District train at the Yate Outdoor Sports Centre.

Contact details:
Bristol and West = nickh@bristolandwestac.org
Yate and District = jeremydale@btinternet.com



Could you be next?

Literacy

On World Book day, students enjoyed a fun book quiz in tutor. Do you know the answers?

1. In Percy Jackson, what is the name of the camp the demigods live in?
2. What district is Katniss from in The Hunger Games?
3. Which area of Bristol is the boxing gym from the The Boxer in?
4. George Orwell wrote Animal Farm and 1984, name one more book he wrote.
5. Which dystopian novel is set in the country Gilead?
6. How many Tokyo Ghoul books are there in the original series?



Staff Recommendation

Jasmine and Chelsea, frustrated by sexism at their progressive NYC high school, start a Women's Rights Club and share their voices online. As their posts go viral, they gain support but also face intense trolling. When the backlash grows, the principal shuts the club down—forcing them to risk everything to be heard.

Accelerated Reader

Congratulations to our new word millionaires

Loki K with 1,045,942, Ekam S with 1,024,054

words and Ted J with 1,224,310

Also congratulations to some of our top scoring readers this term:

Year 7

Year 8

Ekam S read 683,238 words

Saarah A read 407,543 words

Alfie S read 516,780 words

Ahmed B read 303,477 word

Enrichment

This term we are focusing on a couple of the creative clubs....

Crochet Club

This runs on Thursdays after school. It is one of the longest running and consistently well attended clubs

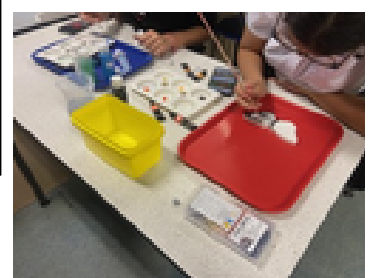


Miniature Modelling Club

This is a new club running on Tuesdays and involves students making their own model with a 3-D printer before painting it.

A reminder that enrichment clubs are free of charge.

[CLICK HERE](#) for the full Term 5 enrichment timetable.



BBA News

Uprising @ Bristol Beacon



There was a mind blowing duet performance from Leia and Martha of 'For Good' from Wicked.

Niko rapped his own original song 'Dat Way', giving one of the best performances of his time here, and was supported brilliantly by Sam on drums



At the end of Term 3, 35 students joined with other CLF students at "Uprising" - a collaborative music showcase with students across the trust at Bristol Beacon

Ki, Will and Ben performed a brilliant and high energy version of 'In Bloom' by Nirvana as their group 'Social Engineering'.

Taiye in Year 8 DJ'd superbly before the event and at the interval, playing a selection of tunes most teachers here I know would love!



Other students also performed in bands and in the grand finale with the CLF choir.

BBA News

World Book Day

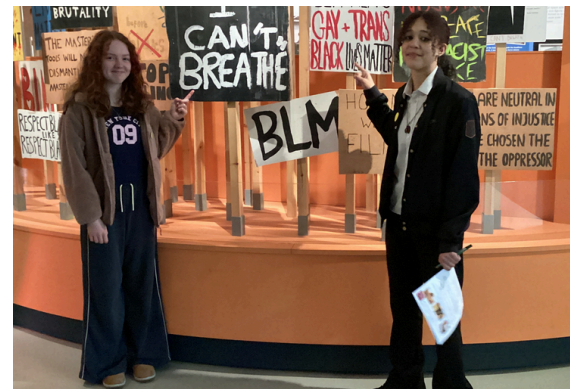
Our celebrations for World Book Day were a great success. It's always wonderful to bring books to life and to celebrate the importance of reading. Our staff dressed up as book characters and taught lessons wearing costume make-up, wigs and swishing capes! Students took part in a costume hunt, badge making and we announced the winners of our reading competition.



Well done to all our staff who embraced the chance to dress up- some fantastic costumes!

BBA News

Year 9 and 10 students completed a day long creative careers workshop hosted by MShed but delivered by Aardman. Students learnt about the vast array of careers available in the creative industries



Artwork

Produced by the students attending Fresh Start





Student Spotlight: GCSE Art work provided by Liam, Year 11
