



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

22nd July 2024

If you would like to convert this letter into another language, please [visit this website](#).

Dear Parents/Carers,

I cannot quite believe it is nearly the end of the Academic year, it really has flown by. At least we've seen a tiny glimpse of summer sunshine these last few days.

I wanted to bring a few information items to your attention and then finish off with some nice news pieces.

End of Summer Term – this term ends on Tuesday 23rd July for the Summer break. Finish will be at 12:40pm with grab and go lunch available for any students to collect before they leave.

2nd Hand Uniform Sale – In my last letter I announced the launch of our 2nd Hand Uniform Website. It has proved really quite popular so far. Using this [link](#) you can select our Academy and browse the stock available. You will find shirts, P.E kit and trousers live on the website to reserve. Once you have reserved item(s), we will arrange a time that is suitable for you to come into the Academy to view and pay for the uniform.

Donation of old uniform for gift/sale – just a reminder that if you have used uniform that you will no longer need and would like to donate it to the Academy to have available to other families then we will gladly take it off your hands. We will launder and sort all items so please just bag up and deliver to Main Reception at any point and we will do the rest. Thank you in advance for any donations.

Lost Property – we have quite an amount...but it is all unlabeled so makes reuniting hard. Please ensure all clothing (uniform but also PE kit, coats etc) are all labelled. Anything that isn't claimed before the summer break will be either put into our loan uniform stock or donated to charity so please do encourage students to check the tables of lost property by the main entrance in the final days of term.

Uniform Requirements – A particular message from the PE team. Our Astro Turf pitch is due for replacement in the coming months. Our current requirements is that all students have access to plastic moulded football boots for the astro turf (which is used for a variety of purposes, not just football), this is in our uniform policy and has been for a number of years. Once the new astro turf surface has been installed it will be compulsory to wear plastic moulded boots when using the astro in order to meet the manufacturer requirements and health and safety specification. Please take a moment to read Page 6 of the Uniform Policy [Uniform-Policy-August-2024-2025-5.pdf \(clf.uk\)](#)

Careers Programme Feedback - Year 7 to 10 – (from Ms Oatway, Careers Lead), As part of our careers programme, we look to gain feedback from all stakeholders. As such, please do click the forms link below which will take you to a short survey. It should take no more than 5 minutes to complete.

<https://forms.office.com/e/ANZ4nD4fs4>



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Sustainability with Minecraft – Mr Ward, Computing



Students from Years 7, 8 and 9 made sustainability projects using Minecraft. Engineering models, solar panels and flood defences were all created as part of computer science and geography lessons. These sessions were delivered by Sarah Behenna from the University of the West of England (UWE) on behalf of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

MetFest – Tuesday 9th July, Mr Miller, Music.



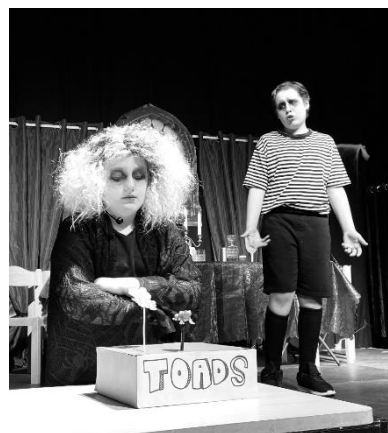
I know many of our families came to watch the MetFest performance. Despite the best efforts of the weather, for a 2nd year in a row, the students didn't let it dampen their spirits. What an amazing experience and an amazing set of performances across all stages.

Well done to all of the performers and to all of the staff who supported the event. Fingers crossed for sunny weather next year!

Addams Family Shows – wb 15th July, Mrs Vince, Drama



Across 4 different days we saw both matinee and evening performances from a total of 4 different casts. The logistics alone were impressive, never mind the performances!



Largely using a single rehearsal slot a week each cast produced something of the highest quality and had the opportunity to perform to their peers during the day and then friends and family in the evening. Each cast was equally impressive. A massive 'Well Done' to all students involved.



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Battle of the Bands – Tuesday 16th July, Mr Miller, Music.



Well done to the students who represented Bristol Met this year in the annual CLF 'Battle of the Bands'

Overall an outstanding performance and Flo gained a special mention from CLF CEO Steve Taylor for being a star bassist!

Eco Conference – Winterstoke Hundred Academy in Weston, Ms Lloyd, Science.



Students involved in the Eco Club and wider EnvironMET agenda in the Academy took a trip to Weston for the annual CLF Eco Conference.

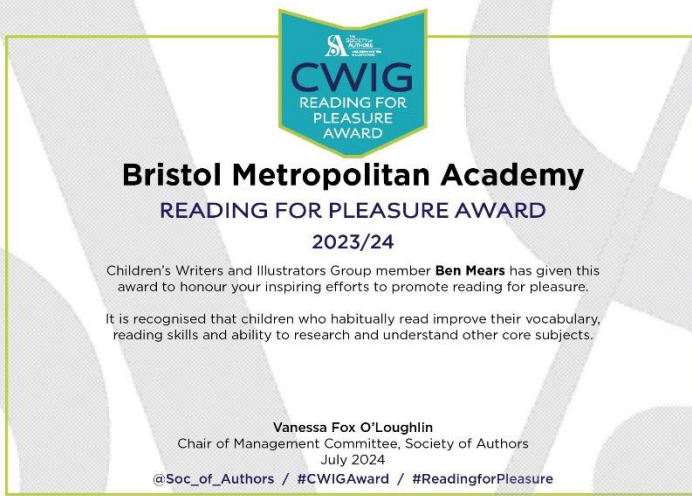
Students were amazing ambassadors for the academy and contributed to rich discussions about how we can improve our environmental credentials both within BMA and across the wider society.





HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Ben Mears Reading for Pleasure Award – Mrs Goldswain, Library



Last week we were informed we had been awarded a “Reading for Pleasure Award” for “wonderful work you do in fostering a love of reading in children”. We are very proud of our students and really want to thank Ms Goldswain for developing this culture within our Library and beyond.

Circular Artspace Exhibition – Ms Holton, Art



At the start of July the Art team hosted an exhibition of student work at the Circular Artspace in Fishponds. The gallery was a converted double decker bus which added a different dimension to your typical gallery display. The Art & Photography department pulled out all the stops to turn the collection of amazing student work into a stunning display. Thank you to the whole team but particularly to Ms Holton who was the driving force behind this different take on things. Thank you also to all families who made it along to look at the work on display.





HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Smartphones amongst Children – we have recently been approached by a group of parents interested in delaying or rescinding smartphones in children. We have agreed to highlight the information below for any families interested in finding out more or getting involved. *(Please note that this is parent/community led and not something led by the Academy itself).*

Does your child already have a smartphone, or are you considering other mobile phone options?

There is an active community in the UK (and a swell in Bristol) of parents/carers who, [based on growing evidence](#), have decided to delay giving their children smartphones until they are older - in some cases parents/carers have taken the hard decision to switch out their child smartphone for a more basic device.

Wherever you are on your smartphone journey – join the supportive ‘Bristol Met’ Smartphone Free Childhood (SFC) Community WhatsApp group, using the link below.

Resources:

- ‘Bristol Met’ WhatsApp Community group: <https://tr.ee/IIYSCOBZhL>
- Information on supporting young people in the digital age: <https://www.papayaparents.com/>

Supporting Families and Children – Online courses and resources – the information and links below take you to an array of free and online parenting courses which may be of interest to our community. There are also links to courses for teenagers to engage in to help them understand and explore their own mental health and feelings.

FREE VIRTUAL PARENTING COURSE OFFER

A new and FREE online parenting course resource has just launched for every family in Bristol!

To make your account visit the Bristol Family Hubs [website](#). You will only need your postcode and the code “GROWING” will enable you to access all the learning on offer.

All parents and carers can access a range of online courses to help understand their children’s feelings better and how they can best support their children through the years as they develop and grow.

The courses cover a range of topics to support parents and carers through all stages of a child’s development including:

- *How to understand your child mental health*
- *Help for understanding relationships*
- *Support for children with additional needs*

There are also courses for teenagers to help them understand their mental health and feelings.



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

Thank you to all of our families and community for the continued support over the last year. I hope all of our families have some good opportunities to rest and recharge over the summer (and that we get some weather that looks a little like summer). We return to the Academy on **Wednesday 4th September and Thursday 5th September as per the details below:**

Wednesday 4th September – Year 7 and Year 11 only from 8:30am for induction.

Thursday 5th September – ALL year groups from 8:30am for the start of the academic year.

Best wishes,

Cameron Shaw
Principal