

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS17th July 2023

Dear Parent/Carers,

In what is likely the final update from me before the end of the year I wanted to say Thank You for all of your continued support this year. Whilst Covid now feels a distance behind us in terms of disruption I fully recognise that the national industrial action over the last 6 months has caused disruption to the continuity of education for our students. I hope that last week's announcement by the Government around additional funding injections for schools may mean we are going to see a year ahead of some form of "normal".

Unfortunately the Inflatables Rewards Day planned for today has not been able to go ahead due to the weather but has been rearranged for 11th September.

We have a normal final week of term up until Friday. Friday morning will see normal lessons interspersed with the usual end of term Celebration Assembly for each year group. Students will then finish at lunchtime (12:40pm) on Friday 21st July. A grab and go lunch will be available for any students needing it and then students will leave site.

Last week was a very busy week of events for our students. Monday was Sports Day rebooted with a new format to encourage even wider participation. Despite a dubious forecast we made it to only 30 minutes before the end of the planned programme before rain stopped play. Well done to Performance Panthers House who took the trophy when all events were collated. Tuesday evening saw 'Met Fest', a wonderful music concert held in our main atrium (weather stopped it being the intended outdoor showcase). Wednesday evening saw the art department offer a showcase of student work at 'Sparks Bristol'; a re-purposing of the old Marks & Spencers store in Broadmead. Finally, across Thursday and Friday Year 7 and Year 8 Met Mastery students performed 'High School the Musical' to a number of audiences. All of the events were a real credit to the students and the staff who provide the opportunities and I know that students appreciated all of the events.

As we head to the final days of term below are a few updates and messages both from the Academy and some wider partners:

Airbus – many families will have heard of the 'Airbus Programme' that has been running at Bristol Met across the last 6 years. We have been incredibly fortunate to have had this relationship for so long. Originally it was meant to be for one year with Airbus planning to rotate to a new school each year. They enjoyed their time with us so much that they extended another year (and then another). However, like many good things, the time has come for it to end and Airbus have decided that they really must move on to another school. Whilst we are sad to lose the programme we fully understand why Airbus must move on. We know that students in current Y7 & Y8 may have been looking forward to their opportunity to apply for a place on the programme and we are sorry to be bringing this news. We are however talking to some other exciting partners and if we can find a replacement programme we will communicate details of this as soon as we can.

Fencing – last weekend saw the final Fencing tournament of the year. It's always a hotly contested battle between Bristol Met competitors and White Eagle Fencing Club. Marnie took Bronze in U14. Eli took Bronze in U16 in his first tournament. Well done also to Mae, Toby, Darya, Aayan and Rafael for competing. A massive Thank You to Mr Cooley for all of his work on Fencing over his time at Bristol Met. Mr Cooley is retiring at the end of this term so it is somewhat the end of an era. A sizable number of students have had the opportunity to experience fencing at Bristol Met in the last





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15 years owing completely to Mr Cooley. We have been exploring options to try and ensure the legacy of fencing can continue at Bristol Met in the future and will update when we can.

Lockers – across these final few days of term please ensure that any items in lockers are removed and brought home safely for the Summer. As part of our contract with Skanska they will empty and clean **every** locker and they will remove any items inside. We cannot guarantee that any items left will be reunited in September so please do ensure everything is removed before Friday. All lockers will also have new key locks fitted over the summer which will mean reliable locks and fast issue in September. There are enough lockers for every individual student so in the first two weeks of September every student who pays a key deposit will be able to have their own individual lockers for safe storage of items for the rest of the year.

Summer Activities for Families and Young People – Bristol City Council and the family partnership have put together a document collating a huge variety of activities open to families and young people across the Summer. You can find this [document here](#).

Safeguarding Bulletin – our own Safeguarding Team have collated some useful links and documents on how to support young people in staying safe across the summer break. Please take a moment to have a look through [this document](#)

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.

Return in September – I know we haven't yet finished and am definitely not wishing the time away! All current students will return on **Wednesday 6th September** at normal time (8:30am). Tuesday 5th September will be for new Y7 students only.

I wish all of our students and families a lovely and relaxing summer and look forward to seeing everyone back safely in September.

Yours sincerely

Cameron Shaw
Principal