

**HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS**11<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Today is the official middle of this term! With such a short, but busy, term the time is truly flying by. Although I sit writing this on a rather dreary day of weather the week to follow looks much brighter. We have been enjoying having the field back open on the nicer days and it has been lovely seeing the majority of students spending their social times outside in the fresh air. There is a message below from our catering providers and then various 'nice news' stories from the first few weeks of term.

**Canteen Prices** – firstly, an apology from us on behalf of Aspens (the onsite catering providers) for this not being communicated in advance of the changes being implemented as I know it has caused some confusion for our families. A recent change in the Aspens management personnel meant this fell through the gaps in communication. We have met with the area manager to discuss a system to ensure this does not happen in future. With regret Aspens have had no alternative but to increase the prices of some of the food items that are on sale during the mid-morning break periods. Aspens have been holding off price rises for as long as possible however due to the increased costs of food items/ingredients as well as transport and labour increases, they are unable to sustain this any longer. Please be assured that the price of a main meal deal will remain at £2.40 which we believe does offer good value for money still. The current Aspen's Price List can be found [here](#). Aspen's have committed to ensuring that any potential future price increases are communicated *in advance* so that we can let our families know.

**Culture Day** – on Friday this week (13<sup>th</sup> May) BMA are hosting our "Culture Day". This has been organised in its entirety by our Student Leaders (supported by Mr Cooley and a few other staff) who were very keen in their election manifesto to celebrate and highlight cultural backgrounds shared by the students and staff at Bristol Met. They hope to make a success of Friday and grow the event to feature involvement of families in the future. For Friday there will be 'Cultural Dress Day', live performances from students at social time, a varied menu in the canteen and a number of different themes that will be interviewed into normal lessons. For the cultural dress it is essentially a non-uniform day but with the encouragement to wear something that you think represents your own culture or identity. The student leaders have deliberately tried to keep this a broad definition that can be interpreted in any way that students feel comfortable (traditional outfits, sports clothing etc). As always with non-uniform, we do ask students to ensure that what they wear allows them to participate fully in their learning for the day. We are asking for the usual £1 voluntary donation to charity where able.

**Meerkat Trail** – Y7 Art Club designed a Meerkat that featured in the Easter Meerkat Trail in Broadmead and Cabot Circus. You may have spotted it when you were out and about. Esme led the winning design and the Y7 Art Club, supported by our amazing Art Technician Ms Cox, brought it to life.

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**Basketball** – The U14 Girls Team are National Finalists for the first time ever! Now off to Manchester for the finals on Friday where we aim to be crowned National Champions. Fingers crossed and good luck to all players. In addition, Kamilah and Angel have been selected for England Basketball national team training camps and will participate in tournaments across the summer. Best of luck to both players.

Unfortunately the U16 Boys Team lost their semi-final yesterday by a very small 7 point margin. They did however, according to Mr Hooper, have the “game of their lives” against a team that are hotly tipped to be crowned national champions on Friday and should feel thoroughly proud of making it to the final stages of the tournament after 2 years of heavily disrupted training.

**Boys Y8 Football** – the team have been **undefeated this year** and are now winners of the Bristol League having defeated Bedminster Down 2-1. We will now play the winners of the South Gloucestershire league in the District Finals. Again, fingers crossed and best wishes to all the players.

**Islamic Relief and the Penny Appeal** – throughout Ramadan Mr Ahmed has supported a number of our students with fundraising activities which have involved selling cakes and tinned dates. This has become something of an annual event and last year £1300 was raised. This year the very persuasive student team managed to sell over £1700 worth and have contributed significantly to the work of these charities. Well done to all the students involved for their efforts.

We hope our families enjoy the (predicted) sunny weekend and the weeks ahead.  
Best wishes,



Mr C Shaw  
Principal