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Principal Mr C Shaw

HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

26th May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

As we approach the end of Term 5, our first full term together since before Christmas, I wanted to start by thanking all of our community for the continued support. It has been so great seeing our students settling back down into a more "normal" routine of schooling. The weather in May seemed to make up for us missing the January weather in school but hopefully the weather across next week's break (and beyond) will be somewhat kinder.

I wanted to start off with some nice news stories...

Cake Sale – Some of our Year 11 students completing their Prince's Trust Award organised a covid safe cake sale in aid of the Jessie-May Trust. The trust provides hospice care in the home for children. Supported by Ms Smith and Mr Dixon, Halle and Aiden they raised £218.71 for the trust.

Non Uniform - on 21st May was in aid of CLIC Sargent. Proposed by our amazing Year 11 Student Leader, Yasmin. A charity very close to her heart as she is the big sister of Khaliil, a Year 7 Bristol Met student, who lost his fight to cancer in 2019. Together we raised over £850 for the charity. Amazing work to Yasmin and all of our students.

Professional Footballer - Kyrie P, one of our Year 11 students, has been signed for Aston Villa. We have had to keep a bit quiet on it during the finalising of the process but as it is now public domain we can say how delighted we are for Kyrie and his family. Leaving Year 11 to start a career as a professional footballer is many young people's dreams but for Kyrie he has turned it in to a reality. Kyrie will also be leaving with some excellent grades across a whole suite of subjects. This article in the Bristol Post really does epitomise Kyrie as a well rounded and grounded young person. Well done Kyrie and good luck!

'Buy a Bike' scheme – we have joined with Sustrans and TravelWest to be able to offer some good quality bikes (BMX and Road Bikes) at 33% under the retail price. We secured some commercial sponsorship to enable the purchase of the first stock and then our plan is to use the sale of these to fund future purchases to enable supply of reduced price bikes for commuting to school. If you would like to find out more please ask students to speak to Mr Cooley to obtain details.

Year 7 Cycle Training – we have also this week been able to put a few groups through Level 3 cycle training. This includes some theory but also accompanied road riding to build confidence and safer riding skills. Well done to all of those who have had the opportunity to take part and complete the course. We will continue to offer groups as and when we can secure the instructors.

Bristol Teen Book Awards – we were humbled to be invited to attend (virtually) the final of the Bristol Teen Book Awards. A group of our students were able to work with one of the finalist authors for a period of time and then attend a further workshop and Q&A with all 6 of the authors. The winner this year was Sue Cheung, author of 'Chinglish'. Our students were extra excited at this announcement as they had voted Chinglish as their favourite and they had worked with Sue in their workshop.

These bits are applicable to families of Year 11 students:

Y11 final day plan – as you will no doubt be aware of by now given many Y11 will have been marking off the days (tinged with sadness of course), tomorrow (Thursday 27th May) is the final day on site for Year 11 before they leave for the next stage of their education. There were many requests to allow Year 11 a non-uniform (work dress is actually how some of them approached it, clever argument really) which we have agreed to. In return we have asked any who are able to donate unwanted uniform (ties, blazers, PE kit etc). Anything that still has life left in it. We will launder and iron it and then make it





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available within our stock for other families who may need. In time we hope to facilitate a better market in second hand uniform as we know students grow often quicker than they wear out items. If you can encourage your Year 11 to bring anything in (or feel free to drop it into Reception at any time) it will be gratefully received. They have a "normal" day and then in the afternoon there will be time for the obligatory shirt signing and farewells before they leave site at 2:15pm.

Celebration Assembly – Friday 18th June however Year 11 will return one final time to have their Celebration Assembly in the afternoon. Exact timings and details will be communicated after the break but make sure they have the date in their diaries for this one last extravaganza.

Online Transition Plan – A reminder that Bristol Met are offering a suite of online sessions aimed at transition to post school life for the first two weeks of next term. The timetable is here with session links in student emails. CLF Post-16 are also offering sessions for anyone, the plan is here. Finally, Digitech Studio School & Boom Satsuma are also offering some Online Sessions

Finally, I would like to wish all of our community a safe, happy and healthy break next week. I know the last 15 months have been demanding for everyone. Things seem to be moving in the right direction but of course we remain vigilant around the Government guidance and requested precautions. We are asked to request that students and staff continue to LFD test twice weekly. Students should have collected their next supply last Friday but if you are short then please ask students to collect a box from Student Reception tomorrow to bring home as we have plenty of supply available.

Until next term,

Best wishes,

Mr C Shaw Principal

