



Bournside Geographers Compete in WorldWide Quiz

Well done to the team of 9 Bournside Geographers (pictured) who represented us fantastically at the recent local branch heat of the Geographical Association's (GA) WorldWide Quiz.

Dean Close School hosted young geographers from across Gloucestershire for the event, where twenty teams of Key Stage 3 and 4 students from 7 local schools gathered to compete for a coveted spot in the next round.

We didn't win overall (this time!), but we were pleased with notable victories over Dean Close and Sir Thomas Rich's. Well done everyone!

Access Arrangements

Mrs Weir, SEND Lead Practitioner, has created a useful summary of the full policies for parents/carers who would like more information on Access Arrangements. [You can view it here.](#)

The document is a summary of the full policies that can be found on the school website.

Parents/carers of Year 8 - HPV Vaccine Consent

The HPV vaccine is available to all young people in Year 8 and any Year 9 who have not commenced the course previously. Please read the [information here](#) from the [School Aged Immunisations team](#) and complete the consent form online (one for each child, please). Thank you. - **Mrs Gatiss, First Aid Lead/Reception**

Diary dates

Tuesday 17th December

- Christmas Dinner Day
- School Awards Ceremony

Thursday 19th December

- Student Santa Fun Run (3-4pm)

Friday 20th December

- Last day. Early finish at 12.45pm.

Monday 6th January

- First day of Term 3 (Week 2)

Wednesday 8th January

- Year 9 Options Evening

House points

Attenborough Frank	Hawking
21193	21355 ★
Owens	Parks
19616	19612
	Rowling
	18794

School news and updates

Introducing *Nature's Notes*: Handmade Seeded Cards for Every Occasion!



Saturday 7th December was Small Business Saturday and we are proud of our Year 12 Sixth Form students who have launched their own small business this term.

Nature's Notes are a young enterprise team on a mission to make celebrations more meaningful and sustainable.

Why Choose *Nature's Notes*?

Small Business Support: Their handmade handpainted seedable cards go beyond traditional greetings. Once the message is cherished, the card can be planted, growing into beautiful flowers or herbs—turning your wishes into a lasting, green memory.

Their commitment:

Locally created handmade cards, designed with love by a passionate student team. Each card is created with sustainability in mind, combining celebration and environmental care.

Just in Time for Christmas!

Nature's Notes cards are available now, just in time for Christmas! Order now via MCAS to send a special seasonal greeting today. 3 cards for £6.

Please take a look at the *Nature's Notes* social media accounts to follow their journey too! The student team will have more designs coming up in the new year as they learn and grow themselves.

- Instagram: @naturesnotes_
- TikTok: @naturesnotes24
- Email: naturesnotes@gmail.com

Let's celebrate, plant, and grow together with *Nature's Notes*



Year 7 Disco



Year 7 got their festive season started this week, with the much anticipated Year 7 disco. The Sixth Form led social saw students dance the evening away in the main hall, whilst stocking up on important snacks provided by the enterprise team.

"The Year 7 disco is always a fabulous evening of fun and it's great to see our new group of Year 7s coming together in their new friendship groups after their successful first two terms at Bournside. Behaviour was excellent and my thanks to the Sixth Form students who helped to put on a great evening!" - **Mr Kelly, Assistant Headteacher**

School news and updates

BEBRAS Computational Thinking Challenge.



This year, 726 Bournside pupils took part in the BEBRAS Computational Thinking Challenge. The annual challenge introduces computational thinking to students worldwide and over 3 million students from more than 80 countries participated! If you want to look at some of the problems and try them out yourself, have a go here.

We have some excellent results, including **7 GOLD AWARDS**. The pupils with a Gold Award can take part in another round of puzzles in March 2025 with a more advanced coding challenge.

Congratulations to Molly, Aa'iyshah, Hayden, Theo, Alex, Ellison and Tyler!

- Miss Rubringer, Teacher of Computing

Senior students benefit from technical workshop with leading Silicon Valley company



We recently hosted a leading Silicon Valley company for a workshop with our KS5 Computer Science students.

The session introduced a toolkit for teaching digital logic design and exploring modern technologies like reprogrammable logic and design tools, using a Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGA)—a reprogrammable silicon chip—instead of a breadboard.

Students combined theoretical concepts with hands-on activities to better understand abstract ideas. They explored topics such as electrons, wavelengths, manipulating bits, and clock cycles, gaining valuable insights by seeing these concepts in action. They also wrote machine code, manipulated circuits, and adjusted clock speeds, sparking engaging discussions about the role of silicon chips in technology.

The session inspired our future engineers and computer scientists to discuss opportunities for gaining work experience and learning directly from the entrepreneur leading the workshop, making it a truly impactful experience.

- Abi Kumer, Assistant Head of Computing

More debating success!

The Bournside Debating Club took part in a recent Cheltenham Education Partnership debate, proposing the motion 'The US Supreme Court should not be allowed to intervene in the private lives of citizens'. We debated Dean Close and won, with a particular praise for our students' emotion, delivery, and well researched debate. The core team consisted of Sam Heard, Gabriela Jardim and Harriet Brown delivering speeches, and Julia Brown and Francis Lloyd taking on the Q&A section of the debate. Amazing!

- Mrs Griffiths, Teacher of History and Politics

REMINDER

Monday is the last day to donate, please help us to support this important charity.



Cheltenham Foodbank Collection

The Foodbank receives no Government funding.

Cheltenham Foodbank, affiliated to the Trussell Trust, is a local charity which supports some of the town's most vulnerable families.

Requested items:

- Tinned soup and baked beans
- Canned meat or fish
- Pasta, rice, instant rice or noodles
- Tinned vegetables and fruit
- Long life drinks - milk, juice, squash
- Tea bags, instant coffee
- Toiletries (soaps, shampoo, shower gel, toothbrushes/paste, deoderant)
- Festive Christmas items (chocolates, cakes, biscuits etc)

We cannot accept any out-of-date items, fridge items, alcohol or medicines.

Thank you for your support!
Mr Clarke, Mrs Shanks & Mr Kelly

Donate via your Tutor Group collection box by Monday 16th December

The rising cost of living means that more people and families are living in food poverty than ever before.

The need for foodbanks has never been more urgent.



Any Christmas treats or unwanted food/toiletries gifts are also appreciated. Further donations after the holidays will be gratefully received.



CHELtenham BOURNSIDE SCHOOL

Cheltenham **Foodbank**
Together with Trussell



REMINDER

Join us on Thursday to raise more funds for the Big Space Cancer Appeal. Spectators welcome. Santa Hats encouraged!



THE BIG **SPACE** CANCER APPEAL

The Sixth Form Fundraising Team Presents:

Student Santa Fun Run!

Join us on a sponsored **Santa Fun Run** on the **19th December**. We will be running as many laps of the school field as possible to raise money for our Charity of the Year, **Lions at Large** and we'd like **YOU** to join us! It'll be fun!

THURSDAY 19TH DECEMBER
3.00 - 4.00PM, BOURNSIDE FIELD

ALL STUDENTS WELCOME.
SIGN UP TO TAKE PART.



CHELTENHAM
BOURNSIDE
SCHOOL





International Civil Aviation Day

Safe Skies. Sustainable Future: Together for the next 80 years.

Last weekend marked the 80th anniversary of the signing of the Convention on International Civil Aviation. For eight decades, this defining international agreement has served as the foundation for the development of the global civil aviation system to benefit all nations.

Careers in Aviation

From working as [cabin crew at Virgin Atlantic](#) to training as a [Future Pilot](#), to working on [landing systems](#), or perhaps as an [Air Traffic Controller](#), there are a whole host of interesting jobs within the civil aviation industry.

Just type 'Aviation' into Unifrog to find out about the opportunities and job roles.

Work Experience Opportunities

For the last month the careers department have been promoting the work experience offered by a number of companies in aviation, click the links to find out more:

- [Early Careers - Bristol Airport](#)
- [Virtual Work Experience - British Airways](#)
- [Work Experience - Gloucestershire Airport](#)

Contact the Careers Team: careers@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk



**CHELtenham
BOURNside
SCHOOL**

“Inspiring lives through learning”