

## Term 6 - Friday 21st July, 2023 Parent Bulletin

Updates for the parents/guardians of students at Cheltenham Bournside School

#### It's been a good year!

With the frenetic energy characteristic of this time of the year, the academic year of 2022-23 is coming to an end. This was the year we celebrated our 50th anniversary and an OFSTED report which praised our "ambitious" curriculum, our "high expectations" and our "strong sense of community". This was also the year of our first (and amazing) activities week, successful Duke of Edinburgh award expeditions, a raucous and fabulous production of Sister Act, Shakespeare School's Festival, National Theatre Project performances, inspiring musical evenings, dance performances, and repeated success on our sports fields and courts: this was the year our teams became the girls under 12 district football champions and our Year 9 boys won the county football championships. This was the year we gained the silver Cyber First award and when we celebrated the success of students past and present at a glamorous awards evening in Cheltenham's Pump Rooms.

There's more in store, too. We're starting a whole series of improvements to the school's facilities: three new English classrooms have been installed, the sixth form centre is undergoing a major facelift, more laboratories are being refurbished and, adding to the £800,000 spent on insulating the roof of B block, £800,000 is being spent replacing old windows. This is the year where we were awarded £4 million to install ground source heat pumps, being one of only a handful of schools to take advantage of this new, and environmentally friendly technology.

Of course, the core of our school is what happens in the classroom: teaching and learning. I'm therefore delighted to add to the list of our successes that, following a rigorous review, the Teacher Development Trust has awarded us their highest Gold standard recognising our daily commitment to providing the best possible teaching to our students.

In other words, it's been a good year! As it comes to an end, it's my pleasure to be able to thank all members of our community: parents, students, and colleagues for their support of our school and wish you all a relaxing and safe summer. I look forward to celebrating yet more success with our Year 11 and Year 13 students when they receive their exam results in August and to welcoming all of our students back to school in September.

#### - Mr Jefferies

## Diary dates

#### Friday 21st July

• Term 6 ends at 1.15pm. Happy holidays!

Anniversary

#### Thursday 17th August

• A Level Results Day (9am)

#### **Thursday 24th August**

• GCSE Results Day and Sixth Form enrolment (9am)

## 2023/24 Academic Year Term dates are <u>available online</u>

#### Monday 4th/Tuesday 5th September

• Inset days (students do not attend school)

#### Wednesday 6th September

• Term 1 starts for Year 7 and Year 12 only

#### **Thursday 7th September**

• Term 1 starts (all year groups)

#### Thursday 14th September

 Early school closure for Open Evening (1:10pm)

#### Friday 27th October

• Inset day (students do not attend school)

#### w/c 30th October

Half term





#### School updates and news

#### Our professional development for our staff is GOLD standard!

The Teacher Development Trust (TDT: the national charity for effective professional development for all staff in schools) recently completed a rigorous audit of our provision for staff: surveying all staff, interviewing a range of teachers, leaders and support staff in different roles as well as reviewing our policies and procedures. The TDT awarded us their Gold award, saying: 'The school has a proven track-record in designing and delivering a high-quality, research-informed programme of CPD, which senior leaders quite rightly take great pride in. It was a great pleasure to speak with a range of staff who clearly feel well supported and appreciative of the developmental opportunities unique to the school.'



Lucy Hemsley, Assistant Headteacher responsible for CPD said: "We are delighted to announce that we have been awarded the TDT's highest award in recognition of the exceptional level of training at Cheltenham Bournside. This is very much a reflection of our genuine, shared commitment to inspiring the lives of both students and staff through learning."

#### The new School Day and a reminder of our uniform policy

Please note there is a small change in the School Day timings for the new academic year with the introduction of a Period '0' to enable a daily check-in with tutors at the beginning of the school day.

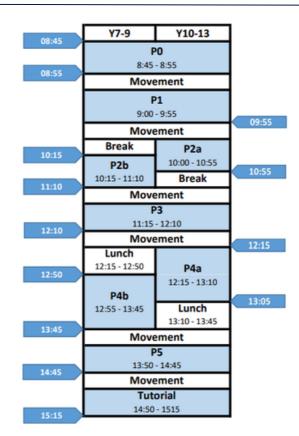
During the daily check-in, school updates will be shared for the day and uniform will be checked. Please be advised that the only jewellery permitted in school is a single stud earring in each ear and a wristwatch.

If your child is planning on having any piercings over the summer, please ensure these are done in enough time to allow for healing and removal ahead of September. Tutors will confiscate prohibited items and ask students to rectify uniform infringements during morning tutor time. Items will be returned during PM tutor time. Repeat infringements will incur a sanction as per our <u>Behaviour Policy</u>.

You can view the latest version of our <u>Uniform Policy</u> on our website. Let's start the academic year as we mean to go on.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a wonderful summer.

#### - Rob Waters





#### Dear students and parents,

I wanted to write a share a message in the end-of-year Bulletin to thank you all for your support, kindness and commitment throughout my time at Bournside. As many of you know, I am leaving at the end of this year to embark on a new challenge as Headteacher at Rednock School. I am excited about what the future holds, but sad to be leaving Bournside; a school that has been so close to my heart for 14 years.

Thank you to all the amazing students that have made each and every day different, exciting and special. Teaching is an amazing vocation. It has been my privilege to play a small part in the lives and development of so many talented young people. To share in their challenges, triumphs and successes has been a real joy.

To the parents, your support for our school, and commitment to helping us unlock your child's potential is what makes Bournside such a special place. Like all the students at Bournside School, I have exciting times ahead. I will be leaving Bournside with many happy memories that I will treasure forever. Thank you and good luck with your futures.

#### **Activities Week!**

#### Year 9 Camp

A miserable week weather wise but this didn't dampen the spirits of any of the students. Our aim of the camp is the fantastic setting of the <u>Mendips Basecamp</u> was to expand comfort zones, build resilience and grow in confidence and I think through the activities of rock climbing, axe throwing, archery active and team building, all of these were met.

Well done to all of our campers! A successful camp which we intend on running again in the future.

- Ms Goddard



### Bournside x Cheltenham Paint Festival achieves the impossible!

Year 12 Fine Art students were thrilled to be working alongside the Cheltenham Paint Festival to design and create 10 bespoke large-scale murals on the school site, in a challenging project spearheaded by Mr Freeman and Mr Taylor.

For the second year, Andy Dice Davis, founder of the Cheltenham Paint Festival, gave his expert advice and experience to help the students create stunning curriculum-themed displays. Fantastically, two of the students involved in the 2022 pilot have now been invited to paint at this year's <u>Festival</u>.

To see more pictures and to read Andy's praise of the project and the students involved, see our <u>Latest News</u> story.



#### Ardeche

More than 30 students joined four staff

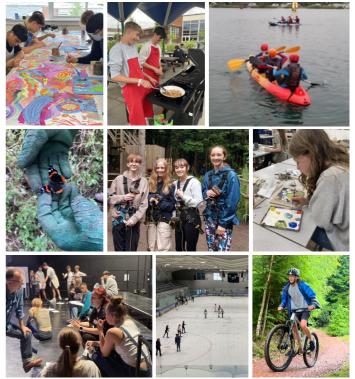
for adventures in the Ardeche during Activities Week and had a fantastic time! The trip was led by Miss Rudge-Wills and they documented the trip on the Bournside Twitter account.

Their moto from the week? 'Don't limit your challenges, challenge your limits!'

Take a look at www.twitter.com/bournsideschool



#### **Trips, activities and new experiences!** We hope everyone had a fantastic Activities Week!





#### **NTP Success**

Congratulations to all 84 students across Year 9 and 10 who have completed a 15-week extra tuition programme in English, Maths or Science. All those extra sessions and time after school has shown a big impact in your progress. Well done to all involved!

- Mr Kelly

#### Amend to website navigation

We have made a small change to the navigation of the website. The 'Calendar' tab has been moved and you will now find the **school** calendar, extra curricular activities timetable, term dates and details of the school day timings under the 'Parent' tab of the website. <u>https://www.bournside.gloucs.sch.uk/parents</u>

Click here to read this week's student careers newsletter





#### Call for guitar donations!

Do you have an old/unused guitar at home that you'd be willing to donate to the music department. We'd love to increase the number we have in school to offer a wider range of instruments to all students in their music lessons next year. If you can help, please bring the guitar(s) to reception. Thank you.

Ms Rheam

Useful links: Sport fixtures School calendar Extra-curricular timetable

# Call for pre-loved uniform

Do you have any Bournside uniform you no longer require at home? We would be grateful for any donations (including ties and shoes!) to stock our new pre-loved uniform shop. Please drop donations to main school reception.



2023

#### Could you be a Homes for Ukraine champion?

Join the many generous Gloucestershire people who have opened their homes to those fleeing the war in Ukraine.

We need people who have a spare room or two, an annexe, or even another property, to house a Ukrainian family and help them rebuild their lives.

Hundreds of Ukrainian guests have so far regained their independence and settled in Gloucestershire with the help of our champion hosts, and here's how you can help:

Sign up to express an interest in hosting. Find out more online or book an informal chat with the Gloucestershire Homes for Ukraine team.

The Homes for Ukraine team would then let you know about guests who match your household.

Meet the guests and get to know them before deciding whether to go ahead with hosting.

Hosting agreements are very flexible, and the Homes for Ukraine team are available to assist and advise you every step of the way.

All hosts receive payments of £600 per month to thank you for your help and to cover any additional household expenses. These payments are tax free, and hosting will not impact your council tax.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact us via HFUTeam@gloucestershire.gov.uk



Register your interest today:

Visit https://apply-to-offer-homes-for-ukraine.service.gov.uk or scan the QR code to express your interest in becoming a Homes for Ukraine champion!

HFUTeam@gloucestershire.gov.uk/ www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/ukrainian-support

