



Message from the Headteacher



The autumn term always feels busy. Partly that's because the relaxation of the summer is replaced by a return to the frenetic pace of school life; partly that's because of the natural world changing around us: the green leaves of summer trees are replaced by resplendent gold and crimson. Mainly, however, it feels busy because it is! And this time "busy" doesn't really do the term justice. There's been a vast amount going on: open

evening, the historic first of the whole school photo, countless sporting events, the first rehearsals for the school play, year seven students learning the ways of "big school" and performing at this week's music evening, the awards evening at the Pittville Pump Rooms (which also hosted a beautiful music event for us last week), history, geography and RE trips, the careers fair... the list goes on. Two things deserve a particular mention, however. Firstly, the fantastic start to learning in the classroom: every day I see students ardently engaged in their learning, exploring new ideas and learning new skills. Secondly, of course, there was the visit of Ofsted. The report still has not been issued to us and so I'm afraid I'm still not allowed to disclose their findings but, as soon as we are able, we'll share the report with everyone. I look forward to being able to do so.

Congratulations to all on reaching the end of this term. I wish you all a relaxing week and look forward to seeing you again for the next - no doubt equally busy - term!

Student success

VOICEBOX at the Cheltenham Literature Festival



Two Bournside students, Julia and Laura, represented our school on Friday 14th October, interviewing Naomi and Natalie Evans, authors of The Mixed Race Experience for the Cheltenham Education Partnership SpillTheTea student-led podcast. Discussing issues to do

with race, the live recording followed a discussion on youth mental health and how young people can be better supported.

Diary dates

Friday 21st October
Term 1 ends

Monday 31st October
Term 2 starts

Tuesday 1st November
Y10 GCSE support evening (for parents/guardians)

Wednesday 9th November
Y9 School Shakespeare Festival performance

Thursday 10th November
Year 11 parent teacher conference (PTC)

Friday 18th November
Year 8/9 report 1 (sent via email)

House points

Congratulations to Owens House who are at the top of the leaderboard this week!

Owens	Rowling	Frank
7508	7469	7290
Attenborough	Hawking	Parks
7208	7034	6859

Student success continued ...

House design competition winner



The House design competition came to a close yesterday and we have been blown away by the entries designed by our talented students. It was indeed a challenging task to pick a winner!

Congratulations to Freya, Y13, Frank House and Lottie, Year 7, Frank House for developing the winning design (pictured on the left).

Runner-up is Khadija, Year 12, Hawkings House, who will receive 5 House points.

Freya and Lotties' design will now be made professionally and installed as a permanent feature in our 50th-anniversary garden.

Thank you to all students who took the time to enter, you will be rewarded with a house point for your efforts.

School updates

Community litter pick



This week a group of students volunteered to be a part of our first joint community litter pick. Twelve Bournside students worked alongside pupils from Warden Hill Primary school filling over 12 bags of litter! The team made the Salsbury Avenue play area a cleaner and tidier environment for the residents of Warden Hill.

Our next event will take place in December and we plan on continuing to run these events in the future.

Careers fair



Thank you to everyone who attended our Careers Fair yesterday evening. It was fantastic to see so many students in Year 9 and above engaging with over 50 exhibitors. We heard so many inspiring conversations and many employers commented on the maturity students during discussions.

If you attended the Careers Fair, we'd be grateful to hear your feedback - please let us know your thoughts on the event by completing this [online form](#).

The Bruisers train with professional rugby players



With rugby season well underway, our U14 girl's rugby team (The Bruisers) have stepped up their training.

Last weekend, The Bruisers were lucky enough to attend a training session held by Gloucester Hartpury Women's RFC players. The team joined over 200 girls from local secondary schools to practice their techniques, meet the players and watch the Gloucester Hartpury team play against Exeter Chiefs in the Allianz Premiership Cup match.

DofE awards ceremony

We will be hosting a Duke of Edinburgh Award evening on Thursday 1st December to showcase the skills, determination and mentality of our students who have completed either a Bronze, Silver or Gold award within the past year.

An official invitation with more information will be sent out after the half-term.

Year 9 Outdoor Activities Camp, Mendip Outdoor Pursuits - Expression of Interest

As part of the Year 9 activity week in July, your son/daughter has the opportunity to take part in a 2-night/3-day outdoor activity camp. The camp will provide students with the opportunity to develop their teamwork and communication skills and build new friendships through a range of activities including; archery, rock climbing (on real rock!), Mission Impossible problem solving, target sports, building campfires and night walks. The campsite is made up of small villages, with each camping village having their own private, purpose-built toilet and shower cubicles. Catering will take place in a large communal marquee. There are two camps running throughout the week.

- Camp 1 Monday 10th July - Wednesday 12th July
- Camp 2 Wednesday 12th -Friday 14th July

The cost for the trip will be approx. £195.00 which covers travel, accommodation and full board catering.

If your child would like to attend either of the above camps, please fill out the expression of interest form by Monday 21st October.

BEBRAS: Computational Thinking Challenge

After the half-term, Year 7-9 and GCSE Computing students will be taking part in [BEBRAS](#), a Computing challenge that introduces computational thinking to students.

Organised in over 50 countries, the challenge is designed to get students all over the world excited about computing. Students with the best results nationally will proceed to the second round (which is known as [The Oxford University Computing Challenge](#)).

There is no requirement for students to study prior to the challenge, however, students are welcome to prepare by completing the practice challenges [here](#).

Work permits

If your child is between the ages of 13-16 and would like to work after school, at weekends or during school holidays, the law states that they must be registered for work with Gloucestershire County Council, who will provide a work permit that needs to be completed by the child's parent/guardian and employer.

There are two parts to the application process, the application for an employment permit form and the job checklist - the full details can be found [here](#).

In accordance with bye-laws, it is the responsibility of the employer to ensure this form and the Job Checklist are fully completed and sent to the Local Authority within 7 days of employing a child.

Community notices

Join our team

We are currently recruiting for a cleaning assistant to join our team to find out more view the [candidate information pack here](#).

A new opportunity has arisen to join our team as a school bus driver. More information on the role can be found [here](#). If you would like to apply please email your CV to lpk@bournside.gloucs.sch.uk. We will be reviewing applications on a rolling basis, so we encourage you to apply as soon as possible.

Useful links

[Sport fixtures](#)
[School calendar](#)
[What's for lunch?](#)
[Extra-curricular timetable](#)
[Careers newsletter](#)