



A 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!

Diary dates

Friday 21st October

Last day of Term 1

Monday 31st October

Term 2 starts

Friday 4th November

Y13 report 1 (*emailed home*)

Thursday 24th November

Y13 parent teacher consultation evening

Friday 2nd December

Y12 report 1 (*emailed home*)

Student success

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 update

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](#).

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.

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](#).

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](#)

House points

Owens

7508

Rowling

7469

Frank

7290

Attenborough

7208

Hawking

7034

Parks

6859