

BLC SECONDARY—NEWSLETTER

Number 4—April 2011

Message from Mr Willey, Head of Phase 3

During Term 3 and 4 it has been my pleasure to work with Years 6/7 football team. Whether home or away the boys have been a credit to themselves and the school. Unlike other secondary schools, we have the opportunity to send out a mixed age team and I feel that this has really cemented relationships, on and off the field. With a record of two wins, two losses and one draw (against completely Year 7 teams) I think they have done a fantastic job! I feel very strongly that sport and extra curricula activities should be a major part of every pupils life at BLC and I would encourage those who haven't taken part, to give it a go. You won't regret it!

Over the past few weeks, Phase 3 students have been taking part in Sex, Relationships and Drugs Education lessons as part of the theme 'Healthy Living' in Integrated Curriculum. A number of classes have received visitors to talk about these issues and they have all reported that the students displayed a mature attitude throughout.

As exam season will soon be upon us I would ask for your continue support in ensuring that your son or daughter's attendance and punctuality remains at a high level.

Many thanks and have a great Easter.

Message from Mr Edwards, Head of Phase 4

Term 4 has sped by very quickly and we are continuing to celebrate massive successes for our young people.

With just over four teaching weeks left until the GCSE exams start in earnest this is a crucial time for both Year 10 and 11. Students across Phase 4 will be completing one or two year courses and we wish them every success in the final exams. We appreciate all the support from parents in ensuring that students are taking every opportunity offered to achieve their potential. There is a comprehensive revision programme running over Easter and at Whitsun half term. This compliments the revision sessions running throughout the week.

Across Phase 4 the College is offering a breadth of opportunities for our students to showcase their talents and provide exciting learning opportunities! A group of our Year 11 students have taken part in the Stages dance competition and are dancing in the Gala Show at the Colston Hall. We have provided a number of opportunities for students to have taster sessions in courses that the Skills Academy have to offer them post 16. We also had a visit from Judge Horten who worked with groups of students to give them experience in the law and the judicial system.

The PE Department continue to offer a high level of opportunities for students to compete with other schools across Bristol. The Department involved a group of students in a 'Sports Festival' with an Olympic theme. They learnt how to coach a variety of sporting areas. Well done.

I hope you all have a pleasant Easter Break. Keep up the revision Year 11!



Special points of interest:

- Build a Plane
- Sports
- Parents—Try Something New

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Message from Mark Davies, Chief Executive

The other day a young student in Year 8 came up to me and said “Hello, Mr Davies how are you? It must be great being ‘head of the heads’ – what do you actually do?” I thought to myself that that was a good question and began to try to explain my role at the Bridge in trying to help the Heads move the schools forward.

Certainly my role is very different and sometimes it brings home the very different way we work here in an all through education setting. Over the last few weeks there have been some really great things going on throughout the Campus which sums up our special nature. For example, a few weeks ago I was at the Colston Hall witnessing pupils and students from both our primary and secondary schools performing dances brilliantly in the annual **Stages** production. It was lovely to see such great support for them from parents, friends and staff. A day or so later we had the launch of the **Build- a-Plane** challenge. At the launch were representatives from the aviation industry and included Boeing, Airbus, the British Aeronautical Society and many others. It was a great event with students receiving commemorative books and a few other goodies – all we have to do now is actually build the plane! A day or so later I read a dragon story to some Phase 2 students as part of our **Primary Book Week** and did some work with students from our special school. Then this morning I wrote a letter of congratulations to four Phase 4 students who have been selected to attend a **Summer University Placement** as part of the Aim Higher programme organized by Will Carson.

In my role I have the benefit and the privilege of witnessing many of the things that make the Bridge Learning Campus such a special place. It is sometimes easy to forget the great things that are going on to help support our children and young people.

The Easter break is now upon us and we will have a very short Term 5 to follow. Our students in Year 6 and in Phase 4 will soon be doing external tests in SATS and in GCSEs. This will be a really important time for them and we will all continue to support them in the every way we can.

Have a good Easter break.



Pero House

I'd like to start off by thanking all members of the Pero Team—tutors, associate tutors, parents and guardians and in particular Pero pupils for a fantastic term. There has been an improvement in all areas of schooling, particularly merits earned and attendance. Since half term issues with lateness has decreased due to support from parents and tutors and this has caused the number of C4's to decrease.

Pero storms the STEM Project

Congratulations to Jason Ash who was very successful in the STEM challenge bagging himself with a wad of cash and merits. Another Pero runner up who netted themselves with some prize money was Sandra Rowinska. They both had to attend a Dragons Den style presentation and promote their project. They were great under pressure and if I had some spare money I would invest.

Red Nose Day

This day was great fun with Pero pupils supporting and raising lots of money for the charity. As always it was Pero who set the bar with many organized activities including P-AU organizing a sponsored head shaving.

So why are we the best house?

More merits....

Highest attendance....

We are in a great position to win the House Cup but it is never over until the fat lady sings. Keep up the good work in lessons and ensure you are aiming to keep your attendance high.



Pero's Termly Top Tip

Improve your immune system with Vitamin C and Zinc supplements. On sale at your local Morrison's supermarket!

Congratulations to the following students who have received outstanding tutee nominations from their tutors—
Calum Chiddy, Mikey
Tucker, Archie
Rawlings and Chanelle
Dayus.

Have a good break

Mr Suchecki

Head of Pero House



Temple House

As the academic year continues to whiz on by we have reached the end of Term 4. As usual it has been another busy term. Many of our Year 6 students have started working towards their SATS tests and have been taking extra classes with Mr Willey in preparation for these.

Other members of Temple from Year 6 and 7 recently represented us in an inter house 5 a-side tournament. The boys performed well but were unfortunately beaten by Clifton to finish second in the league. Hopefully we can gain our revenge in the upcoming Inter House cricket tournament. Our Years 8/9 and 10/11 teams will have their opportunity to represent the House in their 5 a-side tournaments which are coming up.

The majority of our Year 10's have just completed their Work Experience in a variety of different environments. On the whole it seems to have been a positive and worthwhile experience for all involved and this experience should prove invaluable in the future.

Our Year 11's time at BLC is coming to a close and the majority of them are working towards the completion of their courses and preparing for their final exams. I would like to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best of luck for both their exams and the future. This is a very stressful time for them so it is important that all are as supportive towards them as possible. It is also important that all of the individuals involved take every opportunity to get the support and help on offer. Therefore it is of the upmost importance that all attend the relevant revision sessions which will run over the Easter break and in the run in to their exams.



It is important that due to the phasing at BLC that we remember that we have many Year 9's and 10's that will be taking their GCSE, BTEC or OCR's in the next couple of months. As such they will also be expected to attend a number of coursework and revision sessions. I would also like to wish these the very best of luck. It is important to remember that the more prepared that the student is the less stressful they should find the experience.

The House assembly and the awarding of the House Cup have been moved to after the break so no-one is clear as to who has won it for the two terms since Christmas. At the last point of data collection Temple were joint top of attendance, second in terms of rewards and third in the behaviour league. So overall it appeared to be quite close between the Houses. We shall find out on our return after the break!

I hope that all enjoy their extended Easter breaks but that all are ready for the final push on their return to school.

Happy Easter to all members of Temple House and their families.

Best Wishes

Mr Trudgen

Head of Temple House



Redcliffe House

I would like to start by congratulating all the students in Redcliffe House for their effort and hard work this term. I am pleased to report that there has been an improvement in attendance across the house. Redcliffe has managed to hit 90% attendance for Term 3 and 4. Well done to those students who have tried hard to improve their individual attendance. R-LC currently leads the way for attendance within our house. At the last data collection point Redcliffe were still in 4th position however the gap had closed between the other houses.



At the time of writing we do not know who has won the House Cup for Terms 3 and 4. Looking at the last round of three weekly celebration assemblies the competition between all four houses is very tight. Redcliffe behaviour has once again been good in comparison to the other houses for the number of C4s collected. R-PB are currently leading that league table well done to Mr Buckley and his tutor group.

As we move towards the end of term there are a number of house sports competitions taking place. It is important that we get teams to represent Redcliffe in all of these competitions. We now have Sports Captains for each year group who will be responsible for organising such events. They are the following students—Nick Lee, Jordan Godfrey, Courtney Inder, Jacob Lewis, Lewis West, Harry Bevan, Rachel Stenner, Correy Talbot and Rebecca Worgan

Last week many of our Year 10 students were out on work experience. It has been great to hear the positive feedback from both students and teachers regarding this week. I would like to thank Mrs. Curtis on behalf of the Redcliffe students for all her hard work in making the week such a success.

Our Year 11's time at BLC is coming to a close and the majority of them are working towards the completion of their courses and preparing for their final exams. This is a very difficult time for them. It is also important that all of the individuals involved take every opportunity to get the support and help on offer. Therefore it is of the up-most importance that all attend the relevant revision sessions which will run over the Easter break and in the run in to their exams.

Hope you all have a great holiday.

Best Wishes

Mr.M.Young

Head of Redcliffe House

Clifton House

Clifton students and staff are getting ready for the Easter holidays having worked tremendously hard during Term 4. Lessons have been good and behaviour continues to improve (we currently have the best behaviour record of the houses). We want to remain the top attending house, and we were not at our best during Term 3. We have turned that around during Term 4 and still have a shot at keeping the BLC Secondary Attendance Cup.

We need a big push on house merits next term, as there is no reason why we should not lift the house cup for the 1st time.

Following the Easter holidays, it is very important for those students taking exams (Year 6 SATS, Years 10 and 11 GCSEs) that the corridors and classrooms continue to be full of well behaved, achieving students. We are in this together, not just as a house, but as part of the wider BLC community.

Clifton students have generally been ready to learn when they come to school each day and we are grateful to parents and carers who have made sure that students are in correct uniform, bringing in the right equipment required to succeed in lessons and using their planners appropriately. The planners are very detailed and are very useful for communicating with tutors and teachers alike.

When we return after the Easter holidays (Tuesday, 26th April) it is important to hit the road running and give each and everyone of us the chance to thrive and reach our potential and individual goals.

Mr Mackie

Head of Clifton House



Maths @ BLC

Congratulations—this term we received the latest Maths results from our Year 11 and Year 10 students who sat linear terminal Maths in January. The results were brilliant with 55 students in both Year 11 and Year 10 achieving full C grades in Maths. Well done to all these students.

Intermediate Maths Challenge and Team Challenge

In Year 10 and Year 9 students took part in the Intermediate Maths Challenge. Congratulations to Jess Davey in Year 9 who won best in school. The team challenge (two Year 8 students and two Year 9 students) will go to St Katherine's School in Pill on Friday 8th April, fingers crossed they can achieve the same success as last year.



Census at School

At the end of this term Year 9 students will undertake their own Census project looking at data about the school and local area. They will start a project and analyse their results in chart and diagrams similar to the real Census which is happening this year. We hope they will also support the Primary in collecting a Primary BLC Census at School.



Skanska—Design a Playground Project

Well done to Phase 3 A1 who undertook our first link project with Skanska designing a new playground using their scale factor and area skills.



ICT

This is to let you know that BLC will be going through a period of change from Easter as a number of our ICT systems will change. The first change to inform you of will be that the Managed Learning Environment (MLE) will be discontinued in its current form. We will be replacing it with a similar system (that will much more reliable) over the coming weeks. There will be some interruption to all our ICT over the Easter break, so don't be surprised if you find that something isn't working.

The main points to note are:

- Pupils will no longer log into the MLE from the main front page, they will have to use the "Login to" links from the main school website.
- Also, pupils will be given new email accounts, but this is likely to take a week or two after the Easter holiday.
- Fronter, the virtual learning environment, will continue to run until the end of the school year, where again it will be replaced.
- Samlearning will need to be accessed from the main Samlearning page www.samlearning.com
- Myfiles will not operate from within the MLE, again the link from the main website would have to be used.

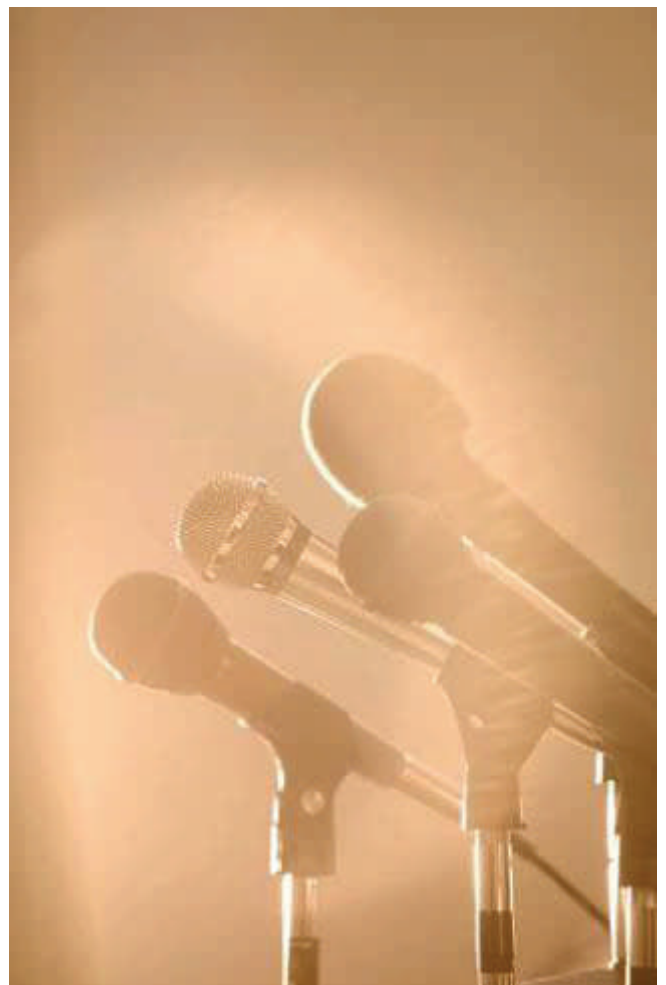
New systems will be coming along soon, which we will try and keep you informed of as soon as possible.

Music

Vocal Academy—I am proud to announce that I have started a new school choir that rehearses after school on Thursdays until 4 pm. The students choose the majority of the songs that we sing in preparation for concerts in and out of school. Singers who are a member of this group will be singing in a large choir as well as singing solo and small group items. They will also get the opportunity to work in our state of the art recording studio and write their own album. If you are interested in joining, see Mr Thomas for a letter.

Open Mic

In the Music Department, we have launched a new "open mic" performance opportunity for Phase 3 that takes place every Friday Week A. Students who have performed will have auditioned in front of a student panel and practiced their songs in the practice rooms at break and lunch times in preparation for a performance in front of the whole of Phase 3, which is a massive achievement! We are looking for more dance and stand up comedy acts to perform to give this event a bit of variety! If you are interested, please see Mr Thomas for details!



Build a Plane

On the 15th March 2011 we officially opened the Build a Plane project with a number of representatives from Boeing, the Royal Aeronautical Society, the Light Aircraft Association, Orchard school (our partner build school), New Fosseway, our own build team and the Lord Mayor of Bristol amongst others. After an initial welcome speech by Mr. Davies, many other leading figures in the build programme spoke and welcomed the project officially to the Bridge Learning Campus. All guests were treated to a tour of the engineering department, a look at the build area and all the component parts. The morning was extremely successful and a lot of very important and useful contacts were made. The launch event only



proved even further our intention here at the Bridge to be a recognised centre of excellent practice and vision.



Anyway the build has finally begun!! After several weeks of careful and meticulous inventory and storage planning we have now arrived at the point where we know where each and every part is located. This will mean that as each part is required for the assembly we can collate all the parts first so everything follows the build manual. We have produced a sheet where after every step I will sign



off the build event to say that it has been completed and then our LAA inspector can also then sign off to say everything is ok. When the plane eventually travels down to London for its final scrutiny this will hopefully prove everything has been done in order and completed properly.



Build a Plane— Cont'd

The first job has been to work on the fuselage removing some of the over-sprayed powder coating on the frame work. The legs of the plane which join the wheels to the aircraft have to be bolted onto the frame in a very tight fitting tube. After the coating had been removed using emery cloth and a drill and the tolerance and fit confirmed, the legs had to be marked

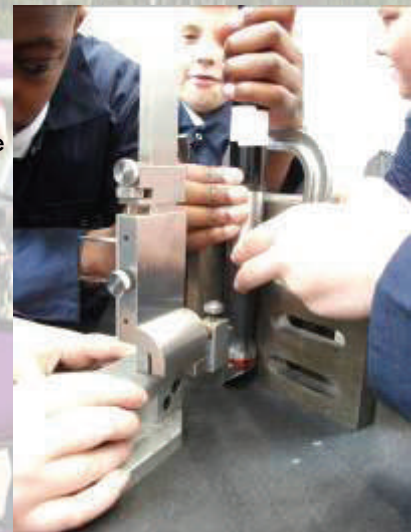


Because the plane has to be so precise we ensured our accuracy using some of our specialist engineering equipment. Using the granite surface plate, two angle plates and a height gauge we were able to mark exactly 0.8 of an inch from the end of each leg as required.



The red coating is an ink so that the scribed line shows up more clearly. Once the legs were installed and the new line centered with the hole in the fuselage we started to bolt on the wheel stub axles.

The axles obviously must be perfectly in line and level with the fuselage and this is where we are going to start off from next week!!



To be continued.....



Art Department

Well, what an exciting and busy term the department has had! Phase 3 have been learning new skills whilst second year Phase 4 students have been busying away preparing for and sitting their GCSE exam.

Phase 3

Over the past term, all students in Phase 3 have been working alongside Miss Tyrell learning new skills, based on the theme of 'Movement'. Lots of exciting sketches and paintings capturing figures in motion have been produced so far....

During Term 5, students will be transforming their 2D drawings & paintings into 3D wire sculptures based on the Artist Alberto Giacometti....

Phase 4

It has been an incredibly busy and stressful time for our second year Phase 4's over the past two terms. All have been working day and night preparing for their final exam which will conclude their two year course in Art.

Miss Tasker and I would like to congratulate them all for all of the hard work and effort that they have put in, on and leading up to their GCSE exam. Every pupil has worked extremely hard throughout the 10 hour exam and produced a successful and skilled final piece related to their current projects.....you've 'done us all proud'!!! .



Emily O'Brien patiently painting three canvases for her 'In Series' project during her 10hr exam!



Sports News

Reported by Mrs Healan and Mr Carson

Year 6/7 Boys Football Vs Oasis—Year 6/7 played Oasis and won 2-0 player of the match was Kallum Carey. They also played Bedminster Down in the cup but unfortunately lost 10 -0. The lads kept their heads up and kept going so well done boys keep up the good work.

Year 8 Boys Football Vs Oasis—The second game of the Year 8 league season was against Oasis School. This match was a very even contest with two well matched teams trying very hard to win. The conditions did not help as it was very windy and the pitch was hard, this made it very difficult for playing football. In the first half Oasis had more chances to score but were prevented from some good defending from Ashton Noel and Connor Griffiths. BLC's best chance came from an Ashton Noel free kick which produced a good save from the opposition Goalkeeper.

In the second half BLC had the majority of possession and tried very hard to make the breakthrough with good attacking play from Josh King, Reece Carey and Michael Stenner. All chances from Oasis were unable to beat goalkeeper Lewis Tolliver. Reserve Keeper Nick Eagle produced a good save in the last minute to ensure the game remained at 0-0.

Generally a great effort by all of the players in the team

Year 11 Football—Match Reports

Grange 4— BLC 0—A quickly rearranged fixture meant a depleted squad for this match. A good start from BLC in the first half, solidity at the back from Hamza Baayu and Ryan Buxton was ever present. Jack Prosser playing in a more midfield role tried to impose himself on the game giving the likes of Connor Godfrey and Connor Bressington a chance to link up in attack with Josh Brunt. Eventually Grange's midfield started to dominate and their central and wide midfield unit created more and more chances for their strikers to make the most of. Mac Porter had a great game in goal and the score line could have been worse if it were not for his efforts.

Dan Ferby, when in possession, looked dangerous but drifted in and out of the game due to a lack of service. A big thank you to Mitchell Baker for making sure we had eleven players taking the field.

A good effort gentlemen.

Oasis 3—BLC 2—How close was this? The lead changed hands three times in this game and in many respects we deserved to win. More solidity at the back from Hamza Baayu this time ably helped by Corey Talbot. Jack Prosser and Jordan Brown took the battle to the Oasis midfield with good honest challenges to break up their attacking play. Josh Brunt made the most of his chances scoring twice and keeping the Oasis defence busy with his determination and decisive running, Dan Ferby and Connor Henning giving excellent support on the flanks. At 2-2 the second half was a tense affair with chances for both team going close. Mac Porter had another outstanding game in goal, playing through the pain barrier with a damaged hand and wrist. Towards the end Oasis' central midfield player began to control things, putting great passes through to his wingers and strikers, their winning goal came from a lack of communication at the back. A disappointed team left the field but a great game to watch and referee, well done gentlemen.

From the Manager

As their manager in Year 10 and 11 it must be said that at times rules have had to be laid down in no uncertain terms. The lads have always taken it on board and returned the next day ready to give it another go. A big thanks to Connor Bressington for being captain in Year 10 and Jack Prosser in Year 11. Special mentions to Jordan Brown and Hamza Baayu, totally committed to the final whistle. Mac Porter, outstanding in every game. Mitchell Godfrey for his effort and apology. Ryan Buxton and Corey Talbot for their great attitude. Jake Walsh because he is 'Super Sub'. Finally Connor Henning, Connor Godfrey and Josh Brunt for their ability.

IT'S BEEN EMOTIONAL – MR CARSON

Working With Others

As we move towards the exams this has been an intense term of mocks and preparation for the real thing. Well done to all those students who have been working so hard to achieve success right across Phase 4.

HISTORIANS

There has been lots going on with the History groups this term. We have all started on our controlled assessment which has meant TWO field trips. The historians have been investigating the old Whitchurch site where the Old Airport used to be. Many were surprised by their local history and the important part Bristol played in WW2. If you were someone who remembers the Old Airport and would be willing to either talk to pupils or make a short video about it we would like to hear from you – so please contact us.

We also went off to Arnos Vale to look at the restored cemetery and education building and the way in which many buildings are adapted to re-use. We were told about old Bristol having too many bodies to bury (however we never reached the stage of them sticking out of the ground as in Exeter) - and how Arnos Vale now makes extra money out of things such as wildlife talks, selling barbeque logs and education talks.

Historians also had the History AST Andrew Steward come in to teach them – and he was very complementary about the groups with some students proving very impressive– so well done to all.



PSD

Ms Yates has established the new PSD course and students now have the booklets enabling them to increase their own performance by being able to work on units at home as well as at school. Remember this could be your extra GCSE so get going. Please see Ms Yates if any further information is required.

ETHICS

A really positive round of mocks with some pupils really showing what they can do. A few have let themselves down by not revising unfortunately – which is a shame as they know they can get the grade.

Nearly all Year 11 have been entered for the Ethics exam and 65 year 10 have been chosen for early entry. This could be that extra GCSE so make sure you collect your revision packages and attend half term revision sessions. Letters have been sent out to those we would like to see but if you would like some extra help please feel free to join in the session as seen on the Easter Revision grid sent out by Mr Kenna



Working With Others—Continued

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Well done to Mrs Amel for leading this group to achieve such fantastic results. Some of you may know this is a modular course where pupils gain qualifications but completing units. A number of students have already gained two GCSE's in this course with others having achieved four GCSE's in this subject. With the whole group being on course to achieve some of the highest grades ever! **WHAT A FANTASTIC RESULT!! Keep it up – we're nearly there...**



CAREERS

Gosh it has been all go up in the Careers department. What with Year 10 pupils being given the opportunity to go on work experience this term. Many employers were incredibly impressed with our students and there has been really good feedback. It has been so interesting to listen to pupil experiences (and a few may appreciate school a little more). Please ensure if you went out on work experience that you bring in all the right paperwork including the log books.



PSYCHOLOGY



Pupils have now moved on to looking at Attachment between child and parents – so if your child should start asking awkward questions it just shows they are thinking through our lessons. As they are all such a lovely bunch I'm sure none of them do have the problems with attachment that can lead to mental health issues. This course is proving to be very exciting and the pupils are doing extremely well.

Should you want any more information on anything to do with the Humanities team do pop down to Eaves and see us – we'll be happy to help.

Esther Deans MBE

Director of Learning Programmes Working with Others Team



Careers

At the end of Term 4 we have had yet another busy time. The main part has been taken up with Year 10 work experience week (21-25 March) and Year 11 applying for Post-16 places.

We had 84 students on work experience and for some of those that didn't have the opportunity we are looking to Leadership Team for another date to allow them this experience. As far as I am aware the majority of placements were fantastic. Tutors phoned the organizations and sent comments back to me, I phoned some too and apart from a very small minority all went well. I am really looking forward to reading the completed work log books and a successful moderation either in late April or early May by CONNEXIONS staff.

Year 11 continue to make Post-16 applications and I continue to write the references. We have very few students who have not as yet completed any application forms. It is not too late to apply for 6th Form/College of Further Education/Apprenticeships or jobs but it must be done as a matter of urgency.

We had Simon Pratt, ONSITE Bristol, into school on 17 March to take those young people interested in a construction apprenticeship through Mock Tests. Hopefully this will help when they sit the actual selection tests.

Year 8 went to the South Bristol Skills Academy on 15 March and they were told about their options for when they leave us and what The City of Bristol College can offer. They had some discussion, some competitions and they all came away with an awareness of what is on offer at the Academy and elsewhere. Many were proudly showing off their certificate of attendance.

We have a further visit to the University of the West of England on 9 June for Year 9s and 10s. This is a day when they work with Trainee Careers Advisors on skills, abilities, do a mock interview, sometimes videoed!, and other career-related activities. They also have the opportunity of a tour.

In Enrichment Studies we have been fortunate to have two visits in March by the City of Bristol College Hair & Beauty faculty. Students have had their faces made up, hair styled (not cut!), nails painted and have had the chance to work on the hair blocks. I have some amazing photos and I know the young people really enjoyed these treats and the college lecturers and college students enjoyed sharing their knowledge and expertise. We also had a visit on 18 January from Kim Adlem, Head of Textiles/Fashion and students from St Brendan's 6th Form College. The college courses there were outlined and the students proudly showed off their portfolios and showed us some of the work they had



done – this included a wonderful basque!

I have started on the BAWA days for Year 10 whereby we transport them to Filton for three separate days of Enterprise Career Activities – more of that in the next newsletter.

Good Luck to my two groups of students who are putting finishing touches to their Career Planning and Employability Qualification portfolios – I am hoping for great success. I look forward to the revision day on 12 April.

Have a wonderful Easter.

Mrs Curtis



Attendance

Your Attendance Officers are Michelle Hopkins and Kristy Davies. They can be contacted on 0117 353 4472.

Absences

If your child is unable to attend school please telephone 0117 353 4472 and press number 1 and then leave your message. Please can this be done before 9 am.

Tuancy Callu

This is an automated system that is sent when a student has an absent mark for AM registration. Responding to truancy call is free, you can use it to contact the school to give the reason for the absence.

Monitoring Illness

If you receive a letter to say we are monitoring your child's attendance this is due to a moderate amount of illness. The aim of this letter is for you to check their attendance so that you can monitor the amount of time they are away from school and if this is reasonable for the condition.

No Illness

If you have a letter to say we are no longer authorising your child's illness, this is due to a high level of illness. You can get illness/medical appointments authorised by bringing in appointment cards or medication packaging. If your son/daughter brings it to Reception we will copy it, store it on their file and return the original.

Please do not ask doctors for notes as they are very busy.

Absence Letters

If you receive a letter asking where your child was on a certain date it is important you contact us. You can do this via e-mail, telephone or sending your child in with the slip completed. If we do not receive this information, a penalty notice could be issued as the absences will stay as unauthorised.

Penalty Notices

A £50 penalty notice can be issued by the Local Authority if there are between 8-20 half day absences in any 10 week period. All parents at risk of receiving this are sent an appointment to discuss how we can stop it getting to the point where a fine is sent. It is important you attend this meeting or call to say you can't.

If a penalty notice is issued after 28 days it goes up to £100 and after 48 days it goes to court and up to £1,000 fine can be issued.

Requests for Holiday during Term Time

Bridge Learning Campus will no longer be authorising holiday during term time. This applies to students in both Secondary and Primary.

You will still need to inform the school when you are taking a holiday so the register can be amended. Students can collect holiday forms from their Head of house and at least two weeks notice is required.

Parent/carers need to be aware that penalty notices can be issued for unauthorised holiday.



Calling all BLC Parents

Would you like to be involved in your child's school? Would you like to be involved in the decision making process in the Campus, to support and promote pupil's learning and bring about change? If you have answered yes to these questions then why not become a Parent Councillor. The Parent Councils can provide an excellent forum for parents to come together, share ideas, and put forward their views to the head teacher and governing body of their school

It is run by Tracey Ames (Lead Parent), supported by Sarah Cheshire (Assistant Head). Please come and see either of them for more information if you are keen to be a part of the growing team.

Meeting dates for the rest of the school year are:-

Wednesday, 18th May at 7 pm

Tuesday, 5th July at 3 45 pm

Wednesday, 13th July at 7 pm

Crèche facilities are available.



Become a Governor@Bridge Learning Campus

Thinking of becoming a School Governor? If you are aged 18 or over and can say 'yes I can offer the following' then why not? We currently have a parent governor place in both the Primary and Secondary

- **An interest in education**
- **Time, energy and enthusiasm**
- **Common sense**
- **A desire to be involved**
- **A willingness to accept responsibility**
- **The ability to work in a team**
- **Have a child at Bridge Learning Campus**

You'll notice there's no requirement for educational expertise or formal qualifications. You would be joining over one and a half thousand governors, from all walks of life, already making a difference for the children and young people in our city.

And the benefits of being a governor?

Governance is an excellent form of volunteering and can be a really rewarding and stimulating experience. Imagine having a very real part to play in ensuring your children get the best possible education. Think of the satisfaction in raising standards and achieving value for money for the school. Then there are the new skills you'll have the opportunity of developing: team work, financial and strategic planning, recruitment and interviewing skills. And that's just for starters!

What is involved in being a governor?

The Bridge Learning Campus Governing Body meet six times a year for a full Governing Body meeting during the evening from 6 pm to 8 pm.

You will also join a committee responsible for a particular area of work.

You will have the satisfaction of getting involved in school life and visiting the classrooms to see the Governing Body's decisions and policies put into practice.

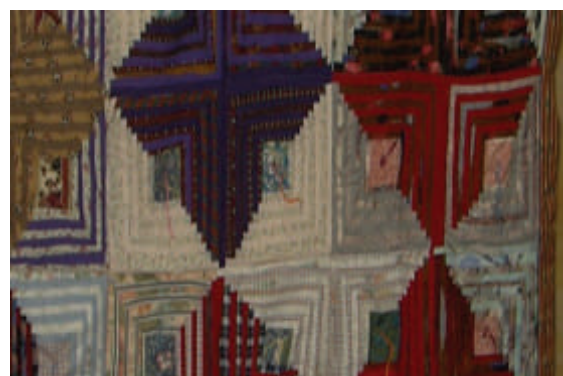
There will also be the opportunity to attend professional training sessions to help you in your role.

Many employers encourage their staff to become governors and allow time off with pay, although this is not a legal requirement.

WHAT NEXT? If you have already made up your mind that you want to apply to be a Parent Governor or you need any further information please contact Jacqui Dibble, Clerk to Governors working in the Primary 8 am – 4 pm or email me on jdibble@bridgelearningcampus.com

Parents—Want to Try Something New?

The South Bristol Skills Academy are offering very low cost taster courses for you to try something different. There are lots of different courses to choose from. Here is a selection – look on our website, give us a call or drop in to the centre to find out more.



Here are some of courses starting soon at the [South Bristol Skills Academy](#)

Course Title	Start Date	End Date	Day	Time	Weeks
Quilting	5/5/2011	28/7/2011	Thursday	2.30-5.00pm	12
Bridge For Beginners	3/5/2011	26/7/2011	Tuesday	1.00-3.30pm	12
Tone Up	9/5/2011	25/7/2011	Monday	1.00-2.00pm	11
Woodcraft Skills	9/5/2011	25/7/2011	Monday	10.00-2.30pm	11
Rough & Ready Guide to Animation	5/5/2011	14/7/2011	Thursday	6.00-9.00pm	10

These courses are for people aged over 19

The address for SBSA is:

South Bristol Skills Academy

The Boulevard

Hengrove Park

Bristol

BS14 ODB

Telephone – 0117 312 5000

Email – enquiries@cityofbristol.ac.uk

www.cityofbristol.ac.uk



CITY of BRISTOL
COLLEGE

Number 4—April 2011



William Jessop Way
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Bristol
BS13 0RL

Phone: 0117 353 4472

Fax: 0117 903 0357

E-mail: enquiries@bridgelearningcampus.com



Trust in Learning
Trust in Success

We're on the web:

www.bridgelearningcampus.com

EVENTS FOR TERM 5

6th May—Maths Junior Challenge

10th May—Year 8 Girls' Injections

16th May—Start of GCSE Exams

18th May—Parent Council Meeting at 7 pm

25th May—Year 6/7 Parents Evening

NOTE FOR YOUR DIARIES:-

Start of Term 5— Tuesday, 26th April

**BANK HOLIDAY—Friday, 29th April & Monday 2nd
May**

End of Term 5—Friday, 27th May

Start of Term 6—Monday, 6th June

