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KBO/JBI

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Dear Parents/ Carers

A brilliant week is drawing to a close here at Blaise High School. It's been very busy with our Year 7 Camp, Year 8 Rugby Festival and Year 10 & 11 Careers Evening.

Starting with Year 7 Camp which has seen 144 of our new Year 7s enjoy a residential camp at Viney Hill in the Forest of Dean. The students took part in amazing character building activities including canoeing, climbing, orienteering, bush craft, caving and mountain biking. As well as the exciting activities throughout the day, there were tasty treats in the evening toasting marshmallows round the open fire. The camp also gave an opportunity for students to develop life skills including making their own beds and collaborating with the peers and instructors. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Ms Chinn who completed all the organisation for the camp, it was a huge piece of work to ensure that all students could partake and that everyone enjoyed it. As well as Ms Chinn I would like to thank all the staff that gave up their time over night to be part of the Year 7 camp adventure, we couldn't have done it without you!

Mr Pryde took a team of Year 8 boys out to a Bristol wide rugby tournament. The team did really well and were placed 4th! The winners of each age group will go on to meet the Central and South Schools in the final. Good luck to the Year 7s who will have the chance to compete on Wednesday, 5th November.

Finally, our very first Blaise High School Post 16 Choices event took place on Wednesday. The hall was colourfully arrayed with the banners and stands of representatives of all our local sixth forms, colleges, employers and apprenticeship providers. We had deer antlers and moss on display from Our Bright Future- part of Avon Wildlife Trust, and exquisite plaster mouldings made for Windsor castle and Buckingham Place by Bristol firm Hayles and Howe. Submarine engineers chatting to residential care home managers. Sixth forms whose students have gone onto Oxbridge or taken up advanced apprenticeships to gain their degrees through company sponsorship, and hard work of course. The attendance from both Year 10 and 11 students, most accompanied by parent/carers was outstanding. For Year 10, having their first taste of the opportunities on our doorstep for post 16 choices, encouraged then to be ambitious in their learning and their future plans. Our Year 11 gathered information to help them with applications, discover the huge range of courses and opportunities on offer in our area for students of all abilities. Conversations with exhibitors help them map out their ambitious futures. Our independent CEIAG (Careers, Education, Information, Advice, Guidance) adviser Steve Newman, who sees all Year 11 1-1, had many inquisitive parents and carers getting advice directly, to help them support their young people in this exciting transition. A list of open events will be on the school website and we encourage Year 11 to attend as many as possible.

Yours faithfully

Ms K Brown
Headteacher