



Blaise High School, Station Road, Henbury, Bristol,
BS10 7QH

Tel: 0117 903 0100

email: info@blaisehighschool.co.uk

www.blaisehighschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Katherine Brown

KBO/JBI

22 November 2019

Dear Parents / Carers

Happy Friday everyone! I hope everyone has had a lovely week even as the weather gets colder!

I wanted to start by promoting some future events and opportunities:

- Join our governor team! We are looking for staff and parents to take on roles in our Local Governing Board. The governing body is a key tool in the success of our school. The governing body is responsible for the strategic leadership of the school, for oversight of the school's financial and academic performance, and for holding the Headteacher and school's senior leadership to account. It is incredibly important to me that the governors have representation from both our parents and our staff as they are at the heart of our school. If you would be interested in applying or the role please find out more on our website here:
<http://www.blaisehighschool.co.uk/information/statutory/governance>
- Join us for our annual Blaise High School Christmas Arts Evening on Wednesday 18th December. This is an opportunity to see the exceptional talent of our designers, artists, actors, dancers and musicians in action. The evening will begin at 5pm and will include festive refreshments. We look forward to seeing lots of you there to enjoy the exhibition and show.
- On Tuesday 3rd December our Year 7 Choir are performing in Gloucester Cathedral along with Year 7s from across the Greenshaw Learning Trust in the South West. This is such an exciting opportunity for the students to perform in a professional setting and they have been rehearsing carefully with both Mrs Evans and a top choirmaster. The parent tickets for the event have now sold out but I wanted to remind Year 7 parents to ensure that you have signed and returned the permission slip so all students can take part.

Now to library updates from Mrs Middleton. Year 7 students have received their free BookBuzz books. Congratulations to Lacey Govier, 7SMR, who has finished and quizzed on hers already!

We have our 2nd word millionaire in Year 7. Findley Malcolm has read 1,056,334 words and taken 19 quizzes. Reece Wilson has now read 2,506,274 & taken 32 quizzes. He is our top reader in school so far. Isabelle Allsop in Year 8 is close behind. In library lessons this week we have been learning how to view our reading statistics from home. If you are a parent of Year 7 or Year 8 student you can view your child's reading progress here:

<https://ukhosted1.renlearn.co.uk/1892325/homeconnect>. Once you are logged in, you could ask your child to show you their virtual bookshelf!

Also, in library lessons, students are being challenged to read a wide range of articles on global affairs then test their comprehension; this is fantastic for developing literacy information skills. I'm really pleased to see that our new students to Blaise High are fantastic readers.

Mahad in Year 9 is currently reading a book a night and is one of our top borrowers this term, despite the fact he's only been with us a couple of weeks. Rhyley in Year 9 is the current top borrower, having discovered Manga! The Bristol Teen Book Award is underway. Year 9 & 10 students are currently reading the shortlisted titles and they shall be using the ballot box in the library to vote on their favourites. The trip to the Award Ceremony to meet all six authors will be in February.

Ivy League Lectures are a key part of our high ambition culture at Blaise High School. This week we hosted our third Ivy League Lecture with Superintendent Andy Bennett speaking to our Year 8s. Not only did our own students benefit from this but we hosted our peers from Yate Academy too! Andy Bennett is an alumnus of our school, many years ago. He spent some time reminiscing about his time here before going into some detail about what his job and policing generally, involves. He drove home the message that with hard work and ambition, anyone can be successful - Andy is testament to this as are the many school friends he spoke of, who have also gone on to lead very successful lives and careers. Andy opened up the floor to questions for half an hour or so and our students responded really well. It was a great event which many students enjoyed thoroughly.

The year 7 Bristol Netball Festival was held at Clifton College Sports Ground on Wednesday 20th November. We took our strongest squad that have been playing well all year. Although, we were missing Alexis due to injury, the team wasn't the same without her. We wish her well and hope for a speedy recovery. The first few matches were against strong teams from St Bedes and Bristol Free School but we held our own, however, we just couldn't complete the shot and score. Following a very cold rest break, we were back playing Oasis Brightstowe, although this was evenly matched they were able to finish their shots. Our closest match was against Bristol Brunel Academy where we lost 1-0 as by this time it was getting very cold. The girls swapped around positions well, allowing all players who wanted to shoot to have their chance and supported each other in every match. Our final match was inside the large indoor netball dome; this was exciting for the students to experience such top-class facilities. They kept their heads up and worked the ball well down the court but struggled to get a goal. The player of the tournament for Blaise was Natalia B. I would like to say congratulations to all the Year 7 girls that have played this season. They have worked extremely hard and have had a good season. Well done- Poppy, Alexis, Maisey, Grace, Haddie, Layla, Natalia, Angel, Loren and Eleanor.

Finally, last week I promised that I would let you know how much money we made for charity at our bake sale. I am very pleased to say that we made £125! That is an excellent amount to give to Children in Need. Well done and thank you to all the staff and students that contributed! The cakes were truly delicious and all for a good cause.

Yours sincerely



Ms K Brown
Headteacher