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KBO/JBI

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Dear Parents / Carer

Happy Friday everybody! Hope you've had a great week?

Library News

- Students have been brushing up their organisation & literacy skills by rearranging stock to create more space. Lots more new titles are on their way.
- Y11 students are making the most of the upstairs study space to help reach their full potential for this year's exams. Masterclasses, revision and homework sessions are very well attended. Golden Ticket holders also get to use the space at break and lunch as their exclusive space.
- Miss Middleton is once again looking forward to judging entries from UK children for this year's BBC 500 Words competition. This year at Blaise High the best entries from our KS3 English students will be put forward to national competition and we'll have an in-house contest too.

A huge congratulations to the Y11 Catering group who have this week completed their GCSE Practical Catering exams. They have worked hard on developing their exam coursework over the last few weeks and came up with many scrumptious recipes to make to fit a specific exam brief. We have seen a variety of dishes made; which have shown the many skills they have learnt over their time here at Blaise High school. Pasta making, bread making, boning a chicken, filleting fish, casseroles, deep frying, all methods of making cakes and amazing decoration skills. They have done the school proud and all the staff here have admired the work that they have done. We now move towards ensuring that all students are ready and prepared for the June Catering written exam (worth 40%) of the total grade. Well done year 11 catering students!

I thought I would give everyone an update on our lovely resident Axolotl's in the science lab. Darwin is the smaller black Axolotl – she arrived with us with an extremely small front left leg as it had been eaten by her previous tank mate - but the best bit about Axolotl's is they can regenerate any limbs and have even been known to regenerate the simpler parts of their brains. She is doing very well and has now grown her leg back with EXTRA DIGITS! It looks like she has grown 2 hands back! Joules is the copper coloured Axolotl – she is much bigger as she is a little older than Darwin. Look at her beautiful gills (Darwin's have fallen off but they are growing back slowly, this means Darwin is breathing at the surface and Joules is breathing underwater with her gills). Here are some pictures of the guys.



Our values of Ambition, Inclusion and Collaboration ensure students are equipped with a Growth Mind-Set and can meet our mission of Social Justice.



On Wednesday 29th January, four Y9 students were lucky enough to attend the STEM learning event ran by the BBC. The students spent the day at the BBC buildings on Whiteladies Road along with several other local schools. Over the course of the day they found out what it was like to commission a new TV program, listened to radio stations from all over the world using the BBC's Radio Garden website, got involved with the TV Production of a shark-watching program and thought about computer programming in a completely different way by explaining to an "alien" how to make a jam sandwich step by step.

For Fun Friday last week, we celebrated Chinese New Year with a 'Chopstick Challenge' event. Who could transfer 10 skittles from one bowl to another the quickest using only chopsticks. Students fared very well under the pressure of time, but no one was able to beat our Chopstick Master Jack Blake (Y9) who managed the feat in 8.4 seconds! Impressive stuff.

On Monday, our Y9 Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award students all officially signed up to the programme. They will be undertaking 3 to 6 months of volunteering, completing physical challenges and learning new skills as well as undertaking an expedition in June. We wish them all luck in completing their awards this year. Also, in DofE news, Mr Wallis was proudly able to present Dylan Goodman (Y10) with his Bronze award certificate and badge in assembly this week for having completed his award last year. Congratulations Dylan, you deserve it.

Match report – Y9 Football vs St. Bede's

After a mixed start last week; the Y9 boys football team returned this week with a much more promising performance. Wyatt Murphy regained his place in goal, Bleran Thaqi upfront and DJ Coles in midfield. These inclusions, along with the remaining players, made a huge difference this week. Blaise started well with DJ going close. We made the breakthrough mid-way through the first half with Bleran taking a good touch from Owen Warbutton's cross and finishing clinically. We started the second half in the same manner but were undone by a breakaway goal after 5 minutes. Blaise regained their composure and went again. Chances came and went and we nearly nicked the win in the last minute; only for Tom Harries to be denied in a one-on-one. Overall, it was a very good performance from all. Man of the match goes to Thomas Wilson – once again, a rock at the back. On to next week against Bristol Free!



Yours faithfully

Ms K Brown
Headteacher