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KBO/JBI

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Dear Parents / Carers

Happy Friday everyone! I hope you've had a wonderful week. We have had a number of events, trips and achievements here at Blaise High School that I would like to share with you.

Starting with sport! The students from our Pupil Inclusion Pod have had a brilliant time with Bristol Bears Rugby Club. The students from Key Stage 4 & Key Stage 5 joined the Bristol Bears Rugby Disability Rugby Hub to learn key skills of the game including passing and tackling. Inclusion is a key value at Blaise High School and it is of the upmost importance to us that all of our children, no matter their starting point, background or need can access every character development opportunity. A big thank you to Kris Tavender who is the Programme Manager at Bristol Bears for offering our young people this opportunity and to our staff for offering their time to run this trip.

Not only have our PIP students enjoyed the rugby they have also been to the cinema! On Friday, Ms Hopkins took the students to the National Film Festival to watch Wonderpark. The cinema was full and attended by students from schools all across the area. The film was very moving and uplifting and the students enjoyed it very much and took away some interesting discussion points about the importance of family, being ambitious and having a growth mind-set. Thanks to Mrs Hopkins for organising this.

On Monday, Mrs Murray and Mr Wallis took 12 Year 8 and 9 students to the Communicate+ conference in the Pavilion building at Bristol Zoo. The event aimed to promote discussion over the issues of climate change, plastic pollution and preserving green spaces across the world and students heard talks from researchers and activists within these fields. All the students engaged in meaningful, discussions regarding the topics, but a special mention must go to Andrew, Courtney and Rhianna who presented in front of students from other schools as well as the professionals and shared some fantastic ideas on how to tackle these hot topics. Those students have already been taking what they learnt of the trip to the next level by petitioning me to improve the recycling opportunities in school, which is a challenge I intend to tackle.

Today is Children in Need nationally and at Blaise we are taking our philanthropic responsibility seriously by running a fantastic Fun Friday bake sale. A team of students from year 10 have been working very hard after school to bake a tremendous range of cakes and biscuits to help raise money. I am looking forward to seeing all our pupils engage by digging deep in their pockets to buy themselves a treat and to support the cause. Next week I will be able to tell you just how much money they raised.

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It is a very special time for Year 11 as we gear up for the start of the Autumn Mock Exams, which will run during Week beginning 18th, and 25th November. We kicked off the build-up last week with a fantastic parent information evening, which was attended by over 150 people. This gave us the opportunity to share the best organisation, revision and preparation strategies. If you were unable to attend or are just interested in looking at our advice, please check out our website where you can download all the resources: <http://www.blaisehighschool.co.uk/news-events/n-e-menu/year-11-parent-information-evening>. A big thank you to Miss Shelton for organising the evening and for all she has done to ensure our Year 11s have the best possible chance of success. We have really noticed a shift in the focus of our Year 11 and this was epitomised this week in some great headlines for the year group:

- A quarter of pupils are now attending Senior Champions Hour until 5pm each day to complete their additional studies
- No students have missed a Study Support session which means every missed homework has been caught up this week
- We have now had the lowest number of incomplete homework we have ever had with the number reducing to just 6!

My final thanks to all the staff and students at Blaise High School for the respect they showed during our Remembrance Service on Monday. Miss Greenwood delivered an excellent speech which was informative, heartfelt and thought provoking. Students paid their respects with a 2-minute silence which was opened and closed by the Last Post performed by Mrs Evans. Remembrance is such a key national event and I am so pleased to have been able to have ensured this was properly marked at Blaise High School.

Yours sincerely



Ms K Brown
Headteacher