



Parent Bulletin

Updates for the parents/guardians of students at Cheltenham Bournside School



Diary dates

Tuesday 13th September - Wednesday 14th September

School production auditions (*please see page 2 for more details*)

Wednesday 14th September

Whole school photo (*please see page 3 for more details*)

Wednesday 14th September

Y7&10 photographs (*please see page 3 for more details*)

Thursday 15th September

Main school open evening (*early closure: please see page 2 for more details*)

Thursday 22nd September

Awards Evening (*invites sent by email*)

Monday 26th September

Bike to school week

House points

Congratulations to Frank House who are the first to be at the top of the leaderboard this year!

Frank

Owens

Hawking

225

194

168

Parks

Rowling

Attenborough

157

145

141

Welcome back



The joy of welcoming students to school this week has, of course, been tempered with our sadness at the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. She represented values of duty, dignity and personal integrity. Her Majesty was of a different era – one characterised by stoic determination and a sense of tradition, very different from the fickle, ever-changing world of today. It was a world in which service to a greater good was regarded as the highest ideal. With her death, one more link to that era has passed.

It is, however, important not to forget what we learn from the past and so, amongst many improvements to our site made over the summer, we've planted an anniversary garden celebrating 50 years of Bournside School. The quad, a formerly drab concrete square, is now full of beautiful shrubs, trees, grasses and flowers. As I've been saying in assemblies this week – before hearing of the death of Queen Elizabeth - gardens are a great metaphor for life in a school. Some of those new plants are looking a little small, a little thin. They will, however, grow and develop and thrive. In the same way our students will grow. They'll push down deep roots into the fertile soil of the curriculum – of what is taught both in and out of the classroom. And just as a tree grows tall and strong, so our students will develop their understanding, their knowledge and their skills. Of course, at the moment some of those new plants need stakes and posts to support them. At this time of national mourning and beyond, our students too will need support from time to time. When they do, we're here to help.

Of course, during the winter, the garden's colour and beauty will fade; but, imagine what the spring will bring! At times of sadness – be they national or individual – there is always hope. We should learn from bygone eras but we also look optimistically to what lies ahead.

I wish all of our students well in the year to come – a year which may have begun with sadness but which will be a year of growth and of learning and the irrepressible joy of school life.

Student success

Students celebrate GCSE and A-Level success



There were happy scenes at the school over the summer holiday, as this year's 260 GCSE students and 159 A-Level students picked up their results.

Read more about this year's GCSE results [here](#).

Read more about this year's A-Level results [here](#).

Drama studio transformation



Andy 'Dice' Davies, organiser of the Cheltenham Paint Festival, has helped the Drama department at Cheltenham Bournside School to transform the Drama studio over the summer break.

With a team of Year 12 A-level Art students, Andy transformed the studio space with three large-scale monochrome portraits of famous theatre practitioners; Steve Berkoff, Konstantin Stanislavsky and Bertolt Brecht.

Thank you to our Sixth Form students; Emma, Heather, Olive, Oscar, and Thea.



School updates

Early closure: Thursday 15th September

The whole school will close at 1:05pm on Thursday 15th September to accommodate for the main school open evening.

The dining centre will be open if students wish to stay for lunch until 1:40pm. Please be aware that provisions will also be made on this day for students who are entitled to free school meals.

We warmly invite all prospective students, parents and guardians to join us at our open evening between 5:30pm-8:00pm. Further details for this event can be found on the school website [here](#).

Thank you in advance to those students involved in supporting this important event.

Term 1 extra-curricular timetable

An updated version of the current terms extra-curricular timetable can now be found [here](#).

School production auditions



This year's school production is Sister Act! We welcome students from all-year groups to take part!

Auditions for the school production have already started and are going to continue next week.

Year 8 and 9 auditions – Tuesday 13th September

Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 auditions – Wednesday 14th September

Year 7's if you missed your auditions, which took place today and would like to be a part of the production, please come to the first rehearsal on Tuesday 20th September.

The audition pack, which will describe the requirements can be found [here](#) or in the showbie group D4VBC.

If you have any questions please talk to your Music or Drama teacher.

School updates continued ...

Whole school photo

On Wednesday 14th September students in years 7 and 10 will have their individual school photographs taken. Students need to look smart and be ready for their individual photos. Parents will have an opportunity to purchase their child's photograph in the coming weeks.

We are also excited to inform you that to mark our 50th anniversary year we will be taking a whole school photograph for the first time in many years! If the weather allows us, our students will be coming together on the school field as one community to mark our anniversary year. Students need to be in full school uniform and looking smart for this event.

Free bike health checks

The bicycle hub in Cheltenham will be coming into school on Thursday and Friday 15th/16th September to carry out free bicycle health checks for Year 7 & 8 pupils.

If your child would like a free bike health check during the school day, please ask them to sign-up on the sheet outside the DofE office (K11 corridor) choosing which day they would prefer.

As we only have 25 spaces available, we will contact those selected with further details.

Year 7 Forest of Dean trip

Please be reminded that Year 7's will be attending the Forest of Dean throughout next week as part of their transition programme, and an email has been sent to all parents/carers providing more details.

The dates for this are as followed:

- Monday - Attenborough and Owens Houses
- Tuesday - Hawkings and Parks Houses
- Friday - Frank and Rowling Houses

Community notices

Tennis Club

The Cheltenham Civil Service Tennis Club are hosting a tennis club open day on Sunday 25th September from 3-6pm.

To find out more information and to book your free place click the link [here](#).

Useful links

- [Sport fixtures](#)
- [School calendar](#)
- [What's for lunch?](#)
- [Extra-curricular timetable](#)