



7 July 2023

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Induction Days**

It was exciting this week to meet the new pupils who will be joining Backwell School in September. 270 Year 6 students appeared entirely unconcerned about it being the only rainy day of the summer and were full of enthusiasm and positivity all day. It was great to have that impression confirmed last night when talking parents who attended our Year 6 Parents' Information evening. Earlier on Thursday we had welcomed our prospective new sixth formers for their induction day – while the early alarm call might have come as a shock to some of these young people who have been enjoying their post-examination freedom, they had a great day learning about life in the sixth form, confirming their subject choices – and taking away some preparatory work for the summer!

### **Sports Day Tuesday 11 July**

The weather forecast is a little unsettled at the moment. There is a chance of rain next Tuesday (our reserve day is Friday 14 July) but equally it might be another warm day so please encourage pupils to dress appropriately. Pupils can wear house colours on Sports Day but a hat, a water bottle and suncream would be sensible accessories.

### **GCSE Options for Year 9 students**

Letters confirming next year's GCSE courses will be sent home in the early part of next week. Pupils will be given the letters in tutor time to bring home.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Nunes  
Headteacher

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## **MESSAGES**

### **Carbon Busting Challenge 2**

Over the next two weeks we are inviting the whole school community to take part in our second Carbon Busting Challenge. This is following our Meat-free Monday (Challenge 1) aimed at achieving the United Nations Climate Change Bronze Award that the school is working towards this year. Our second challenge is to buy local produce and reduce the air miles of our food.

Did you know that a plane emits approximately 4056 lbs of carbon per ton moved 1000 miles, a boat is much lower at 97lbs of carbon per ton moved 1000 miles, however sourcing locally, or at least from the UK can vastly reduce that carbon dioxide emission. Buying local produce could reduce our overall carbon footprint by 4-5%. If eating local ingredients isn't always possible, you can still check to see where the product has come from and consider whether it's been shipped by sea or air! Plus, by making a conscious effort to eat food that's grown close to you, you'll be doing your bit for the local economy too.

Students are being encouraged to talk about foods that can be sourced locally and the benefit this has for our carbon footprints. We hope you will join us in this challenge and if your child lets their tutor know that they have bought food that is locally sourced, it will contribute towards their Environmental Award.

### **Lost Property**

As we approach the end of the academic year we would like to draw parents' attention to the fact that we have accumulated a lot of unclaimed lost property in Student Services, including, amongst other things, a sleeping bag and pillow after Enrichment Week! We also have a lot of unnamed jumpers. If your child has lost anything, please ask them to come to Student Services to reclaim their property. Anything of value, such as glasses, purses/wallets, jewellery and phones, are held in the PA's office. Any items that remain unclaimed by the end of the summer term will have to be disposed of over the summer holiday in preparation for the new academic year.

### **Sports Awards Evening: Tuesday 18 July**

Invitations for the Sports Awards Evening have been sent out and there are now only a few tickets remaining for this event. Anyone who has not yet purchased a ticket and would like to take up the invitation, can do so via ParentPay. Physical tickets will be distributed to students next week.

### **Careers Bulletin**

Please find below a link to the Careers Bulletin on our school website. This includes a section on careers resources, events and support, including the school's careers platform, Unifrog.

### [Current careers events and opportunities – 7 July 2023](#)

If you have any queries regarding the future plans Mrs Ball can be contacted on her school email [cball@backwellschool.net](mailto:cball@backwellschool.net) at please take a look at the following webpage for details on the careers programme at Backwell School: <https://lspcareers.org.uk/backwell-school-2/>

### **Vacancy at the Lighthouse Schools' Partnership**

The LSP are looking to appoint a full time Finance Apprentice to work in the Lighthouse Schools' Central Team, based at the Trust offices at Gordano School in Portishead. If you, or someone you know, are interested you can find out more by clicking on the link below. The deadline for applications is midday on 17 July:

[Job profile \(webitrent.com\)](#)

### **Upcoming Events**

Tuesday 11 July	Sports Day
10 – 12 July	Duke of Edinburgh <a href="#">Silver</a> and <a href="#">Gold</a> practice expeditions on Dartmoor
Wednesday 12 July	<a href="#">Year 10 Business Studies trip to Cadbury World</a> Year 7 Runwell Celebration Day
Thursday 13 July	<a href="#">Year 10 P&amp;R trip to Shepton Mallet Prison</a> <a href="#">Year 10 Parents' Evening</a>
Friday 14 July	Reserve Sports Day
Tuesday 18 July	Sports Award Evening
Wednesday 19 July	<a href="#">A Level PE trip to 'The Wave'</a>
Friday 21 July	Last day of term and non-school uniform day in aid of the Za Foundation. School finishes at 1.40 pm
Monday 4 and Tuesday 5 September	INSET day ... school is closed to students
Wednesday 6 September	Staggered start ... Students in Years 7 and 12 return to school
Thursday 7 September	Staggered start ... All students in school

For further trips and events, please see the [‘Calendar’ page](#) on the school website.

Quick link to [Parents’ Handbook 2022-23](#)

## LETTERS HOME

[Sixth Form Bulletin for week commencing 10 July](#) – Parents/Carers of Sixth Form students

[Ski Trip 2024 – Folgarida, Italy](#) – Parents/Carers of students in Years 11 and 12 interested in participating in Ski Trip 2024

[Year 7 Runwell Final Event](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 7 students



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