



13 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

Last Friday evening the Backwell School Association (BSA) held their first big fund-raising event of the year. Steve Clarke returned to host one of his famous quiz nights to a packed theatre of parents, students and staff. Everyone was hugely entertained by the Quiz itself (Steve's 'impressions at the piano' round being a particular hit) as well as being well-fed and watered by the BSA-run bar. All of this work, combined with the generosity of local business donating many fabulous prizes, contributed to the tremendous success of the night; raising around £1,200 for the BSA funds.

Yesterday the BSA had their AGM and are planning how to put some of their accumulated monies to good use. They are looking at how we can improve the outdoor spaces used by pupils at break and lunchtime. This kind of project could make a real positive difference to the experience of Backwell pupils and would certainly not be possible from the dwindling funding schools are receiving from central government. So, here's another reason to be grateful for the work of our BSA and for considering offering your services in joining the team! If you are interested, please contact Ruth McNeil c/o [mailbox@backwellschool.net](mailto:mailbox@backwellschool.net). She would love to hear from you!

Yours sincerely

Mr J Nunes  
Headteacher

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## MESSAGES

### Last day of term: Non-school uniform day

A reminder that the last day of term, Friday 20 October, is a non-school uniform day in aid of Breast Cancer Research and students are asked to donate a minimum of £1.00 to take part. We would like to encourage students to wear something pink on this day, even if it is something small such as a ribbon or a pair of socks! As always, we would ask that clothing is appropriate to wear in a school setting and that no hair dye is worn. Thank you.

## **Clubs Booklet**

The full schedule of clubs will start after half term. Clubs booklets are being distributed to students in Years 7 – 9 via their tutor and is also available to view on the website. Most clubs are drop-in sessions. There are a couple of paying clubs that will be available on ParentPay on a first-come, first-served basis and these will go live on ParentPay on Monday 16 October at 4.00 pm. Please note that whilst Coding Club is a free, due to its popularity, students should sign up at Student Services or email [bgibson-patteux@backwellschool.net](mailto:bgibson-patteux@backwellschool.net)

Click on the following link to view the [Clubs Booklet – Autumn 2023](#)

## **Appeal for Board Games!**

Our Board Game club will be starting once again after the holiday on a Wednesday lunchtime in ML6 for students in Years 7, 8 and 9. We would love to see new as well as familiar faces!

If you have any games at home that you no longer use, they would be a great addition to the club. Games that are particularly popular are Guess Who, Dobble, Battleships, Uno, Shut the Box..... but we have a big variety and any games that can be played within 30 minutes would be very welcome. They can be handed in at Student Services. Many thanks in advance!

## **Lost Property**

As we approach the end of Term 1 we would like to draw parents' attention to the fact that we have accumulated a lot of unclaimed lost property in Student Services. 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 this term will be disposed of over the half term break.

## **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 – 13 October 2023](#)

[Careers Support at Backwell School](#) (Letter sent home in September 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/>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday 19 October	<a href="#">Year 7 Music Showcase</a>
Friday 20 October	Last day of Term 1 Non-school uniform day in aid of Breast Cancer Research
Monday 30 October	First day of Term 2 (Week2)
Thursday 2 November	<a href="#">Sixth Form Open Evening</a> 5.00 – 7.00 pm
Tuesday 7 and Wednesday 8 November	Nasal Flu Vaccinations (Years 7 – 11) Link to consent form below. Deadline for completion: Thursday 2 November. <a href="https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2023/consent?v=1.23">https://imms.sirona-cic.org.uk/flu/2023/consent?v=1.23</a>
Wednesday 8 November	<a href="#">Year 10 Performing Arts trip to see 'Peter Pan Goes Wrong'</a>
Thursday 16 November	<a href="#">Ski Trip Parents' Meeting</a> , 6.00 pm in the Sixth Form Theatre
Wednesday 22 November	Inset Day – School closed to students.
Thursday 30 November	Year 10 Parents' Evening

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

Quick link to [Parents' Handbook 2023-24](#).

## LETTERS HOME

[Sixth Form Bulletin for week commencing 16 October](#) - Parents/Carers of Sixth Form students

[2024 Ski Trip – Parent Meeting: 16 December 2023](#) – Parents/Carers of students taking part in the Ski Trip to Folgarida

[Year 10 Work Experience: 24 – 28 June 2024](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 10 students

[Year 11 Philosophy and Religion Revision Guide](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 11 P&R students