



1 March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Next week is National Careers Week and our Careers team will be leading a series of assemblies, while, in lessons, teachers will be taking the opportunity to showcase the future opportunities linked to their subject area.

I would particularly like to draw your attention to the Career's Fair we are holding on Tuesday 5 March. We are welcoming a fabulous range of companies, higher education and training providers. We have national employers such as the Army, the NHS and Microsoft. There are local businesses and trainers like Thatchers and the Robins foundation. We are welcoming Universities including Birmingham, Reading, Bristol and Plymouth as well as Further Education providers such as SGS, City of Bristol College and Boomsatsuma.

All Year 9 students will have an opportunity to visit the Fair during the school day: parents and carers of students of other years are strongly encouraged to bring their children and attend after school. Please don't arrive by car until after 3.30pm to allow time for the school coaches to leave the school site. Whatever age they are, all Backwell students would benefit from the conversations they will have and the knowledge they will gain at the Careers fair.

Thank you.

Jon Nunes
Headteacher

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MESSAGES

Careers Fair – Tuesday 5 March

Don't forget, Backwell School Careers Fair will be taking place next week on **Tuesday 5 March**, coinciding with National Careers Week. This is open to **all year groups** and will take place from 3.10 pm until 5.30 pm in the main school theatre. Over 40 representatives from universities, colleges, apprenticeship training providers, professions and employers will be present as well as our own careers adviser who will be available to give impartial advice and guidance.

Additionally, there will be two talks in the sixth form theatre: the first at 4.30 pm on ***Why Go To University*** and the second at 5.00 pm on ***Why Do An Apprenticeship***.

We would encourage all students and their parents/carers to attend, even if they have been before. It is a great chance to find out about the many and varied opportunities out there and students may even find their future career! Please note that if you are planning on parking on site we would ask you to arrive after 3.30 pm to avoid congestion.

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies – A final reminder

Orders for a Year 11 Leavers Hoodies will close next week on **Friday 15 March 2024**. Late orders cannot be accepted. If haven't yet placed an order and wish to do so, please go to www.parentpay.com to make payment, where you will also need to indicate the size in the comments box you require.

Inset Days 2024-25

Please note that the Inset Days for the next academic year have now been finalised and added to the *Term Dates* page on our school website. [Please click here to view](#). (You will need to scroll past 2023-24 to the bottom of the page to see them!)

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 – 1 March 2024](#)

Please visit our dedicated Careers website to read all about our Careers programme, including information on work experience, careers guidance, mock interviews and post-16 and post-18 study options. Careers website: <https://lspcareers.org.uk/backwell-school-2/>

If you have any queries regarding the future plans Mrs Ball can be contacted on her school email cball@backwellschool.net

Year 9 Vaccinations - MenACWY and Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio

A reminder that Sirona Healthcare, North Somerset's School Nursing team, will be in school on Tuesday 26 March 2024 to carry out booster vaccinations for Year 9 students for Meningitis C and Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus.

A link to the online consent form can be found in the letter from Sirona below. They would like all parents to complete the consent form even if they do not want their child to receive the vaccinations; parents can consent for none, either or both of the vaccinations.

[Please click here to read the letter and access the consent form](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Sirona directly: sirona.sch-imms@nhs.net or call 01275 373104.

Please note that the **deadline** for completion of the consent form is midnight **Thursday 21 March 2024**.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| Tuesday 5 March | Careers Fair: 3.10 pm – 5.30 pm in school |
| Wednesday 6 March | North Somerset Dance Festival at Weston Playhouse Year 9 Dance Club Year 7 Dance Club |
| Thursday 14 March | Year 7 Parents' Evening <i>Bookings open on Thursday 7 March at 6.00 pm</i> |
| Friday 15 March | Red Nose Day and Non-School Uniform day Deadline for ordering Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies |
| 11 – 15 March | Year 10 Trial Exams |
| Monday 18 March | AS Trial Exams Year 11 Additional trial exam - Maths |
| Tuesday 19 March | Student Council Meeting |
| 18 – 25 March | French Exchange – French students in Backwell |
| Tuesday 19 March | Student Council Meeting |
| Monday 25 March | Year 11 GCSE Drama Showcase |
| Tuesday 26 March | Year 9 MenACWY/DtP vaccinations <i>Deadline for consent Thursday 21 March</i> Spring Concert at 7.00 pm in the main theatre |
| Wednesday 27 March | Last day for students - non-school uniform day in aid of Bridges for Communities |
| Thursday 28 March | Last day of Term 4 Inset Day – School closed to students |

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| 29 March – 5 April | Ski trip to Folgarida |
| Monday 15 April | First day of Term 5 |

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 26 February](#) – Parents/Carers of Sixth Form students

[Year 7 Parents’ Evening: Thursday 14 March](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 7 students

[Year 10 Trial Exams](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 10 students

[JCQ Poster regarding use of Artificial Intelligence](#) – Parents/Carers of students in Years 11 and 13

[Year 11 GCSE Component 3 – Drama Showcase: Monday 25 March](#) – Parents/Carers of Year 11 Drama students

[North Somerset Dance Festival: Wednesday 6 March – Year 9 Dance Club](#) – Parents/Carers of students in Year 9 Dance Club

[North Somerset Dance Festival: Wednesday 6 March – Year 7 Dance Club](#) - Parents/Carers of students in Year 9 Dance Club