



19 April 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

This week a colleague sent me news of the latest achievement of one of our ex-students, Kody Mortimer. He is performing in 'Sunset Boulevard' in the West End, a production that has been getting a lot of attention this week, setting a record for winning in seven different categories at the 'Olivier Awards'. This is the latest in a number of great roles Kody has won, including parts in 'Hairspray,' 'Gypsy' and 'On the Town.' It is fantastic to be able to celebrate the achievements of a young man whose singing career began in the Junior choir at Backwell School.

Kody is a good example of the Backwell Alumni who can be a fabulous inspiration for our current pupils. So, it is great to see the library team starting a project to celebrate our alumni and show today's pupils what might be possible for them. In the Library there are posters of golfer Chris Wood; MP Richard Foord; Magician and entertainer, Chris Cox; architect Callum Swift; rugby player Alex Giltrow; and writer Lynn Buckle. These ex-Backwell students have contributed quotes to help inspire the next generation – for example Richard Foord, MP for Tiverton and Honiton, says "I have always felt a quiet sense of pride ... that Backwell School accepted and added value to pupils from all backgrounds – and that has spurred me on when competing with people who have received a privately paid-for education."

We will continue to share the success stories of ex-Backwell students with our pupils and, periodically, with you in these bulletins.

Best wishes

Jon Nunes
Headteacher

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MESSAGES

Library deadlines for Year 11 and Year 13

Students in Years 11 and 13 are reminded to return their library books before leaving for study leave. All books and resources must be returned by Friday 3 May for Year 11 and Friday 10 May for Year 13. If a book has been lost or is not returned, the cost of the book will be charged to your child's ParentPay account. If you have any queries please contact the librarian, Mr Brooks.

Year 8 Parents' Evening

A reminder that Year 8 Parents' Evening will take place next Thursday 25 April. Bookings opened earlier this week, so if you haven't yet had a chance to make any appointments, please visit [SchoolCloud - Backwell School](#). More information on how to book and attend parents' evening can be found in the [letter sent home](#).

Backwell School Association

On Saturday 11 May the Backwell School Association (BSA) will be supporting the Backwell Athletic Junior Football Club who are holding their 50th anniversary celebration awards event in the main theatre here at school. The BSA will be running the bar that evening, raising funds for the school. The bar will be run in the main canteen and volunteers will be needed to help from 6.30 – 9.30 pm. If you are able to help out on this occasion, please let us know by email to mailbox@backwellschool.net

Thank you in anticipation!

The BSA Committee

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 – 19 April 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

Coding Club

The school is pleased to support the *Coding with Python Club* which takes place at Hangstones Pavilion in Yatton. The club will resume next Wednesday 24 April, from 5.00 – 6.00 pm. There will be five sessions this term where the students will get an opportunity to learn the fundamentals of the Python programming language and improve their coding skills. Students in Year 7 - 11 are welcomed. For more information, please visit: <https://codingbug.co.uk/coding-with-python-club/> or see the poster attached.

UPCOMING EVENTS

19 – 20 April	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award practice expedition
19 – 27 April	German Exchange students in Backwell
22 – 26 April	Year 12 Trial Exams
Tuesday 23 April	Year 12 Product Design workshop at Artichoke School of Furniture
Thursday 25 April	Year 8 Parents' Evening Bookings opened on Thursday 18 April.
Friday 26 April	Year 13 Ball – Deadline for selecting menu choice today
Saturday 27 April	Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award route planning day at school
Monday 29 April	The Great Big Dance Off competition Year 10 Geography field trip to the Quantocks (Mr Stubbs and Mr Sills' groups)
Tuesday 30 April	Year 10 Geography field trip to the Quantocks (Mrs Whitehouse and Mr Hooker's groups) Year 12 Product Design workshop at Artichoke School of Furniture
Wednesday 1 May	Year 10 GCSE PE/Sports Studies trip to Mendip Activity Centre
Friday 3 May	Year 10 Geography field trip to the Quantocks (Mr Sales and Mrs Turner's groups)
Tuesday 7 May	Year 12 Product Design workshop at Artichoke School of Furniture
Wednesday 8 May	Student Council Meeting
Tuesday 14 May	Year 12 Product Design workshop at Artichoke School of Furniture
Thursday 16 May	French Exchange parents' meeting, 5.30 pm
Tuesday 21 May	Year 10 GCSE PE trip to Bath University Year 12 Product Design workshop at Artichoke School of Furniture Final day for Year 13
Wednesday 22 May	First day of study leave for Year 13 students Year 12 Business Studies visits to Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Conference at UWE
Thursday 23 May	Final Day for Year 11
Friday 24 May	End of Term 5 Non-school uniform day (fundraising for the BSA)

	First day of study leave for Year 11 students
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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 22 April](#) – Parents/Carers of Sixth Form students

Travelling by train to school/college along the Weston-Super-Mare Line?

Are you getting the best deal?

Ticket prices

Aged 5-15 years

(You haven't reached your 16th birthday)

Season tickets
Season tickets must be purchased with a child photocard*. You must show a valid ticket and photocard when asked by rail staff.

From	To	Anytime Day Single	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£3.65	£5.30	£23.95	£92.00	£958.00
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£2.95	£3.00	£15.20	£58.40	£608.00
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£1.80	£1.85	£7.00	£26.90	£280.00

*To get a free photocard

- take a passport-sized photo of yourself to your local ticket office, along with evidence of your age
- you will be given a photocard that you can use to buy child season tickets.



Aged 16-17 years (You haven't reached your 18th birthday).

You can purchase a 16-17 Saver. You'll get 50% discount off the cost of adult tickets and adult season tickets.

From	To	Purchased daily		Season tickets		
		Anytime Day Single	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£3.65	£5.30	£23.95	£92.00	£958
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£2.95	£3.00	£15.20	£58.40	£608
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£1.80	£1.85	£7.00	£26.90	£280

**To get a 16-17 Saver visit: www.16-17saver.co.uk

You will need:

- evidence of your age
- a good quality digital passport-style photo of you
- debit or credit card for the £30.00 annual payment.



The 16-17 Saver is valid for one year or until your 18th birthday. Season tickets can be used for a further 4 months beyond the expiry date of the 16-17 Saver. Both expiry dates are shown on the 16-17 Saver.

Adult tickets

(Aged 16 and over)

Season tickets
Season tickets must be purchased with an adult photocard***. You must show a valid ticket and photocard when asked by rail staff.

From	To	Anytime Day Single	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£7.30	£10.60	£47.90	£184.00	£1,916
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£5.90	£6.00	£30.40	£116.80	£1,216
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£3.60	£3.70	£14.00	£53.80	£560

***To get a free photocard

- take a passport-sized photo of yourself to your local ticket office
- you will be given a photocard that you can use to buy season tickets.



Travelling by train to school/college along the Weston-Super-Mare Line?

Are you getting the best deal?

Example fares

Season tickets can make the cost of travel much cheaper. Take a look at these examples.

If you make 20 return journeys to school in any one month this is what you will pay for each daily **return** journey. This assumes you arrive at school before 09.00am and leave in the afternoon.

Aged 5-15 years		Purchased daily		The approximate cost of the same return journey with a season ticket+		
From	To	2 x Anytime Day Singles per day	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£7.30	£5.30	£4.79	£4.60	£3.99
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£5.90	£3.00	£3.04	£2.92	£2.53
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£3.60	£1.85	£1.40	£1.35	£1.17

Aged 16-17 years		Purchased daily with a valid 16-17 Saver		The approximate cost of the same return journey with a season ticket purchased with a 16-17 Saver+		
From	To	2 x Anytime Day Singles per day	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£7.30	£5.30	£4.79	£4.60	£3.99
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£5.90	£3.00	£3.04	£2.92	£2.53
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£3.60	£1.85	£1.40	£1.35	£1.17
Bedminster	Bristol Temple Meads	£7.30	£5.30	£4.79	£4.60	£3.99

Adult tickets		Purchased daily		The approximate cost of the same return journey with a season ticket+		
From	To	2 x Anytime Day Singles	Anytime Day Return	Weekly	Monthly	Annual
Yatton	Bristol Temple Meads	£14.60	£10.60	£9.58	£9.20	£7.98
Nailsea and Backwell	Bristol Temple Meads	£11.80	£6.00	£6.08	£5.84	£5.07
Parson Street	Bristol Temple Meads	£7.20	£3.70	£2.80	£2.69	£2.33

+The figures for season tickets, based on 20 daily return trips, are approximate. With a season ticket the more you travel, the less you will pay per journey.

To find out more visit: www.gwr.com

FREE!

SOS+
SERVICE

WEBINAR SESSION

COUNTY LINES

for Parents/Carers in North Somerset
as part of Knife Angel

Wednesday 8th May
5:30pm-7:00pm

Our gang and county lines parents' session consists of speakers with lived experience within the criminal justice system to unpack and explore the realities and consequences of county lines, gang involvement, and serious youth violence.

Perspectives from previous perpetrators and runners/transporters, combined with relevant case studies, aid audiences in gaining an authentic and credible understanding of this complex and cross cutting issue.

The session will help parents and carers to identify the signs and triggers that a child or young person might be involved in county lines and gain an understanding of how to appropriately respond to such indicators.

Register below:

Scan the QR code
or [click here!](#)

Meeting will be held on Zoom.



For more information:

binky.kennard@stgilestrust.org.uk

St Giles

Turning a past into a future

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CODING CLUB

Inspiring the next generation of coders and makers



Coding with Python

Learn to code or improve your coding skills with Python.

You will learn the fundamentals of the Python programming language using professional tools.

Suitable for students in Years 7-11, including those studying for GCSE.

Term 5 - IN PERSON

WEDNESDAYS after school from 5 - 6 pm

Hangstones Pavilion, Yatton BS49 4HS

For more information and to register visit:

<https://codingbug.co.uk/coding-with-python-club/>

Term 5 - ONLINE

MONDAYS after school from 5 - 6 pm

For more information and to register visit:

<https://codingbug.co.uk/code-in-python/>

codingbug.co.uk

Email: info@codingbug.co.uk or call 07909 226520



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