Sixth Form Bulletin

Highlights this week include:-

- Good luck to the students sitting exams this week!
- Car park permits – if you have not submitted your application please do so by Wednesday.
- Year 12 -EPQ Lecture, Compulsory to attend.
- Year 13 UCAS Deadline for Applications – Friday 06 November

Thanks to all the students who helped with the Sixth Form Open Evening. We had many positive comments about all of your help! Green buttons to follow.

… NEXT WEEK (WEEK 2):

Monday 02 November	• Start of Term – Welcome back! • **Charity Committee** at Break
Tuesday 03 November	
Wednesday 04 November	• GCSE Maths Exam Resit • **Car Park Permits Term 2 application deadline**
Thursday 05 November	• KS5 Assembly DTH • **Diversity Committee Meeting** SF4 • **EPQ Lecture P5** in SFT – Compulsory for all Y12 EPQ Students
Friday 06 November	• GCSE Maths Exam Resit • **Sixth Form deadline for all UCAS applications** (to guarantee submission by Christmas) • Deadline for entries to 500 word short story competition

Term 2 2026/27:

Monday 09 November	GCSE Maths Resit Exam
30 November – 03 December	Y13 Trial Exams
Thursday 10 December	First Year 12 Parents Evening
Friday 18 December	End of Term

Term 3 2026/27:

Monday 04 January	Start of Term 3
Wednesday to Friday 13-15 January	Fame Performances

NOTICES AND REMINDERS:

Sixth Form Committees

Environment Committee – relaunch – if you are interested in being part of it contact Miss Haywood.

Leaders needed to help support the Sixth Form **Sports Committee**. If you are interested contact Luke H-K or tell anyone in the Head Student Team



It's not too late to join the cast and crew

Volunteers needed for backstage and tech crew. See Kassidy Paul for more information.

Also bring out your dancing and singing shoes – more ensemble members needed! See Des Forrow and Sky Riddiford or come along to rehearsal in DTH (Main Theatre) on Tuesday 20th at 3.15

Band – currently looking for players please see Sophie Tarrant for more information.

Any questions email Sky on 20skyrid@backwellschool.net

Literacy Support Volunteers

Volunteers are needed (bar Tuesdays) during Tutor Time. Helping lower school students with their literacy interventions. Volunteers should contact etaylor@backwellschool.net

Reminders:

Year 13 – School Study

School Study is for **all** year 13 students, 1 hour per week, always P3 in the library. This is different to supervised study. Students must sign in in the Library at the librarian desks. Please see your timetable for more information.

Registers – When Teacher is not available

When your teacher is unavailable and no one comes to take a register, please ensure that you take a paper register and that someone takes it to the Sixth Form Office for Mrs Belcher. Work will always be set on FROG/email.

Wear your Lanyard!

The wearing of lanyards is **essential** for us to keep all students safe and for showing staff (who may not know you) that you have the right to be on the School site.

If you forget or lose your lanyard please go and see Mrs Belcher in Sixth Form Office to get a temporary badge or order (£5 via ParentPay) a new lanyard.

16-19 Bursary Fund – Still time to apply!

The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to post-16 students who are in receipt of Free School Meals or whose parents/carers receive Universal Credit. Application forms are available from the Sixth Form office. For further information, please contact finance@backwellschool.net

IT, PARKING FROG & WIFI

Parking Permits:

New applications will be considered when allocating places for Term 2 (after October Half Term Holiday). Any questions please see Mrs Belcher. Any outstanding application for Term 2 please ensure that you send your form in before **Wednesday 04 November**.

- Students can apply for a Parking Permit on passing their driving test. Please collect a form from the Sixth Form office. All applications are reviewed on an individual basis, with priority given to those living furthest away.

- Students may only bring a car or motorcycle onto the school site with a valid permit.
- If you drive to school and don't have a permit, you must park off site. Please do so sensibly and give consideration to Backwell residents. Do not park in narrow roads, such as Russett Close and Mulberry Close, as this blocks access for emergency vehicles

FUTURE PLANS

Careers Bulletin

Please see the 'Future Plans and Application Support' page on Frog for the latest Careers Bulletin, resources, events, support and the school's careers platform, Unifrog. If you have any queries regarding future plans, please contact Ms Farr at **jfarr@backwellschool.net**.

Future Learn: FREE online short courses. Ideal for students wishing to broaden study around a subject or research an area of interest. They only take up to a couple of hours a week; you can sign up at any time. Useful when applying to university to enhance your personal statement. Visit **https://www.futurelearn.com**

University Open Days:

- Where possible, please attend open days on Saturdays/at weekends, rather than on a school day.
- You are allowed a maximum of five days' absence to attend open days throughout Years 12 and 13.
- You must submit a planned absence form in advance of any open day you wish to attend (not the day before or after the event!) to allow time for approval/permission by teachers and the Sixth Form Team.

For more information on open days please see https://www.opendays.com/calendar/

UPCOMING CAREERS EVENTS

Legal cheek careers – online event 26 November

The legal cheek careers team are offering a 'Solicitor apprenticeship application masterclass, insight session and careers fair' virtual event series for Year 12/13 students, which kicks off on Thursday 26 November 2026 (4:30pm to 6pm).

It features early talent teams from 24 leading law firms**.**

The session is free and open to all Year 12 & 13 students/sixth formers. The sign-up link is here: **https://www.legalcheek.com/fair/solicitor-apprenticeship-application-masterclass-insight-session-and-virtual-fair/**

GEOGRAPHY DEPT



Many **Year 12 and 13** Geographers made the journey into Bristol on Tuesday evening to attend a lecture at the University of Bristol. Dr Chris Spencer from the University of the West of England (UWE) delivered a fantastic lecture to students from across the region on the Somerset coastline and risks of flooding along it. A similar version of his talk can be found here as a storymap. Coastal projects are some of the most popular among students when completing their Independent Geographical Investigations (NEA coursework).

HEALTH AND WELLBEING:

Please see the Wellbeing Link on the Sixth Form Page for more information and self-referral for support.

- **Soluna App** Soluna is an app for supporting wellbeing and offering digital support with mental health experts all free and anonymous. Supported by the NHS. Follow the link to find out more.
- At home – talk to friends or family, use wellbeing online resources (Kooth, YoungMinds, etc).
- At school – see/email Mrs Hobbs who can arrange a time to talk or signpost students to various support networks. You can also talk to/email your Tutor, Head of Year or Teachers.
- Anonymous and confidential support – there are many support agencies who make time to talk:
  https://youngminds.org.uk/find-help/get-urgent-help/youngminds-crisis-messenger/#youngminds-crisis-messenger
  https://www.themix.org.uk/get-support
  https://giveusashout.org/get-help/
  www.kooth.com
  https://www.bdp.org.uk
  https://www.childline.org.uk
  https://www.otrbristol.org.uk

For more tips on talking to others and looking after your own mental health, go to the Wellbeing page on Frog, which is regularly updated by Mrs Hobbs.

- ***"Practise self-care"*** **What Is Self-Care? | Self-Care And Mental Health | YoungMinds**
- **Student Health Guide** for lots of helpful advice
- **Sexual Health Advice:** Talk to a trusted adult, the School Nurse or your GP or visit:
  https://www.brook.org.uk
  https://yunosexualhealth.co.uk