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## Start of Term

### Year 12 Enrolment

Tuesday, 24 August between 10am to 4pm at relevant Learning Community

### Year 12 Induction

Thursday, 2 September and Friday, 3 September between 9am to 1pm at relevant Learning Community

### Year 13 Induction

Friday, 3 September from 1pm

### Start of the New Academic Year

Monday, 6 September

## Director's Letter

Dear Parents/Carers and Students,

We are fast approaching the end of another year at the centre, and preparations are in place for the start of the new academic year. In the final few weeks of term the Centre has been busy offering taster sessions for our incoming Year 12 students. We have also offered an experience day to our Year 10 partner secondary school students, who will no doubt be starting to think about their Post 16 options as they move into Year 11.

Our current Year 12 students have just completed their enrichment week programme, covering topics to do with the University application process, student finance, Gap Year choices and alternatives to higher education. During this week we invited a number of Universities and local employers to talk to students at both Learning Communities. These ranged from Exeter and Bristol University to Rolls Royce. All of our students enjoyed this week and were able to discover the opportunities that are available after Post-16 study.

We would like to thank our Year 12 students who have volunteered for the Year 7 camp at Exmouth and wish good luck to the students completing their Duke of Edinburgh's Gold award expeditions at the end of term. Cotham has a group of Year 11 and 12 students who are going on the World Challenge to Nicaragua this summer and they have been

busy fundraising for their community project. Redland Green students have just completed a trip to Nepal, which included a variety of projects in local communities and are now busy fundraising for their next trip to Vietnam and Cambodia. We would also like to say thank you to our student ambassadors who played a key role in supporting both Learning Communities during our taster and experience days.

Staff at both learning communities have worked hard again this year to ensure that students have been fully prepared for the external examinations. There have been a plethora of additional activities that have been organised from Saturday morning revision, holiday revision sessions and revision sessions during study leave. We know that our students have worked hard to achieve their potential and we now wait for their results. Results day will be on Thursday, 19 August where we will be giving out results to A2 students from 9.00 am and AS students from 1.30 pm. Centre staff will be around after the examination results to give further advice and support if needed, but more importantly to celebrate our students' success. We would also like to say thank you to those members of staff that will be leaving either one of our Learning Communities this year for new opportunities or promotion, we wish them well for their future.

Cotham Learning Community has benefited from the hand over of a new



Marian Curran

building. This has nine purpose built Science laboratories upstairs and new Art, Photography, Textiles and Design Technology rooms downstairs. Lessons have already been held in these rooms and staff and students from both Learning Communities are enjoying the new spaces. The Cotham main block, which now has scaffolding around it, is being refurbished and redecorated throughout. Students who study at the centre now have outstanding facilities at both learning communities.

This has been another big year for the North Bristol Post 16 Centre, which has included some good AS and A2 results, new buildings at the Cotham Learning Community, as well as the ongoing commitment to providing the best possible education for our students. Next year we will continue with this aim and will achieve by continuous self evaluation, high expectations and investment in our students. The Centre wishes you a restful summer break, and looks forward to welcoming our new students as well as our Year 13 students back in September 2010. Enjoy the summer.

Marian Curran

## Students Create Artworks for Station



The students involved in the Clifton Down Railway project

Some of our Year 13 Applied Art students have recently been involved in an interesting public arts project. As part of their Applied Art and Design Course they have created a number of exciting and vibrant murals for the walls of the Clifton Down Railway Station.

The art works were created to promote sustainability through public transport and provide a strong visual link for commuters between the station and Bristol Zoo.

Arranged through Severnside Community Rail Partnership and First Great Western, the project was funded by Community Rail Development Fund and Bristol City Council.

Students on the Applied Art and Design course learn how professional artists, craftspeople and designers work in relation to a real life brief.

Students are encouraged to experiment with different media such as photography, textiles and graphic design to

investigate the working methods of professionals.

This course is excellent preparation for a career in the art and design sector.



## Online Chemistry Olympiad

The Royal Society of Chemistry has designed an online test for Chemistry students at the end of their first year of sixth form studies.

It consists of multiple choice questions presented in a random order.

At the end of the test you will receive

individual feedback on your performance. This is intended to help you improve your understanding and learning and will be an excellent revision task for the start of Year 13.

Results are automatically recorded and prizes are awarded to the best performing students each year.

The competition runs from 28 June to 1 October 2010.

You can access the quiz via the following link:

[www.goalonline.co.uk/rsc](http://www.goalonline.co.uk/rsc)

Password: rsc

Test Number: 2010

### Newsflash

Alex F. participated in Round 1 of the International Chemistry Olympiad and achieved Bronze level! He did very well to receive this award.

## Sporting Achievements

### NBP16C Win Bristol Schools U18 Cup Final!

The football team have had a wonderful season with victories against Castle School and Patchway School. This led to a semi-final against three time winners Ashton Park. On a sunny afternoon at Coombe Dingle, a determined P16 side came out on top following a late winner from Dan. This set up a tie against holders of the trophy for the last ten years, St Brendan's College. The game started well, however a lapse of

concentration allowed for St Brendan's to snatch an early lead. The boys kept at it and were rewarded just before half-time with a goal from Steve. However, sadly just like the first half, St Brendan's capitalised on loss of possession and scored. With time running out, attack was our only option and with 15 minutes remaining Tam was fouled twice in the penalty area, allowing Dan to level the scores and then score the winning goal. The final 5 minutes were tense, but we held on to claim a marvellous victory against a side who have won the

trophy over 30 times in the past 50 years.

### Two of our Year 12 Students have had a Successful Year in their Respective Sports

Georgia is the British National Under 18 Fencing Champion. She fought for and retained her title earlier this year.

Gabriel, who rows with the City of Bristol Rowing Club, competed in the National Under 17's Competition in Scotland. He rowed in the single sculls.



The winning team!

## Engineers without Borders Outreach Event

A number of Post 16 Students were recently given the opportunity to embark on a tour, including several in-depth demonstrations and a practical project, at the University of Bristol. The tour took place in the Queen's Building, which is the Engineering department of the University.

Our tour guide, Research Assistant Paul Harper, led our small group of students. The first lab we visited had quite an impact on the group; this was where they tested the effect that large forces have on certain objects, in this instance the

room concealed a helicopter.

We also visited a welding lab where we witnessed a team of engineers constructing a wind powered, one man race car, to compete in an international racing event between universities across the world.

Once a few more labs and demonstrations had been visited, we listened to a lecture on energy use and renewable energy sources.

In all, the tour was really interesting and we had a great time looking around the University building. We

met some great people and found out about some amazing projects.

The event was organised as part of a programme of Outreach Events organised by the Bristol branch of Engineers Without Borders, a national charity that provides opportunities for young people to learn about technology's role in tackling poverty. For further information, please visit [www.ewb-uk.org](http://www.ewb-uk.org)

Oliver, Year 12



## The Story of Nepal 2010

In a year of life-defining exams and the end of 14 years of schooling, the decision to travel around the world to the small, landlocked country of Nepal seemed anything but a formality for the majority of our group. The series of fundraising activities ranging from bake sales to quiz evenings seemed like a distant memory when the 15 of us jetted off from Heathrow, and what ensued made home feel like a lifetime away.

The shock of Kathmandu, we quickly learned, was nothing compared to the vast diversity of a country consumed by the giants of the Himalayas. East Asian architecture, alongside Indian influences, marked a sense that Nepal was as lost as we were. Our journey, from the wondrous temples, funeral pyres and marauding monkeys of the capital, to the tranquil lakeside town of Pokhara, through the foothills of the Annapurna range, and on to Shree Shanti Priya Primary School and Chitwan National Park, saw a three week bombardment of Nepal.

The expedition provided an array of adventures with truly great memories, among which came the surrealism of the Hindu burnings along the Bagmati River, where the dead's ashes were swept into the Ganges tributary. A later encounter with the holy monkeys of Swayambhunath Buddhist temple, coined by the group as the 'migration', saw a troop of monkeys suddenly converge on victims Georgette and Angus, much to our amusement and their unsuspecting horror. The small town of Pokhara had a particularly relaxed feel, with the natural beauty of the lake providing a spectacular backdrop to the small shops selling tea and pashminas, whilst preparing us for the job at hand.

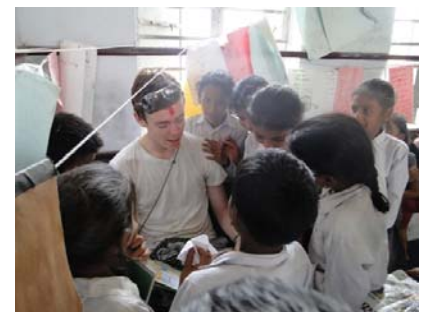
That job, being a climb to roughly 3,000 metres, in a circuit encompassing the true beauty of rural Nepal and its mountains. This stage of our trip not only saw the group pushed to its limits in terms of physical exhaustion, injury and psychological barriers, but also brought the team

together to collectively overcome the challenge. The recurrent phrase 'Maddie Paddy', named after its champion Maddie, is just one example of the forces against our trek, as traveller sickness spread through the group and Georgette's injured knee forced her to ride astride a pony; when asked of the experience she said, 'No comment'.

Despite the trivial tragedies bestowed on the team, spirits remained high and, with our ability to grasp the English language deteriorating due to exhaustion, altitude and our surreal environment, phrases such as 'degraded?' became a common comical occurrence, from both teachers and students.

On a high from the completed trek and our newfound camaraderie, we moved to the southern region of the country to help in the small, poverty stricken Shree Shanti Priya Primary School.

Continued overleaf...



The students in Nepal and at the school they worked with

## The Story of Nepal 2010 continued...



### Summer Newsletter

Cotham Learning Community:  
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Bristol BS6 6BU  
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Email: [info@nbp16c.org.uk](mailto:info@nbp16c.org.uk)

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Redland Court Road, Bristol  
BS6 7EH  
Tel: 0117 3533433  
Email:  
[post16@redlandgreen.bristol.sch.uk](mailto:post16@redlandgreen.bristol.sch.uk)



The array of teaching, nursery rhymes, building, painting and gardening had us working in the 40 degree heat for four days of intensely rewarding tribulations. Among the more rewarding parts of our trip was getting to meet the Nepalese people, particularly the children who, despite being part of the lowest class level, expressed the utmost happiness and hospitality towards us; a scramble for photos, a go on the newly painted hop scotch and a sing of 'wheels on the bus' becoming a daily routine.

Leaving became an emotional departure as a goodbye ceremony set us on our way to Chitwan National Park, though during the start of our journey we were joined by one particularly flamboyant teacher who incited a dance on the moving vehicle to our embarrassment and near

fatality.

Getting off the bus at Chitwan was a whole new experience, as the air conditioned lodges and buffets removed us to the tourist world, well away from the harsh reality of everyday life for most of the Nepalese. Yet we had no complaints; we experienced an early morning canoe ride, elephant washing and an elephant safari, on which we saw rhinos, peacocks and deer, amongst other local wildlife. Angus, clearly enthralled by the experience of being astride an elephant in the river, phrased it as 'the best five minutes of my life!' In fact the whole trip had come down to some of the best, most eye opening and intense 17 days of our

lives... Oh wait, make that 24 thanks to the Icelandic Eyjafjallajokull volcano!

The latter part of our trip, consisting of an unexpected week of relaxation in Kathmandu, left some missing the comforts of home, and others revelling in an extended stay, yet it gave all of us time to reflect on the immensity of our trip. From the breathtaking mountains in the north to the small towns of the south, it had shocked us all, from natural beauty, to the amazing way in which the Nepalese people carry themselves, we were, and still remain, in awe of the wonders of Nepal.

Adam, Year 13

Don't forget to check out our website for more news on the Post 16 Centre and our students, plus other important information...

[www.nbp16c.org.uk](http://www.nbp16c.org.uk)

## YAAC's End of Year Exhibition



Young Arnolfini Artists Collective (YAAC) is a group of ten young artists aged 17 and above, based at North Bristol Post 16 Centre. They recently held an end of year exhibition at the Arnolfini, where uniquely

their work was projected onto the Arnolfini building.

This event celebrates their growing partnership with Arnolfini, in making contemporary art more accessible for young people.

For more information about YAAC visit their website at [www.theyaac.co.uk](http://www.theyaac.co.uk).

