



Patchway Newsletter Term 2

Diary Dates		Absence Line
Fri 15 Dec 2023	End of Term 2	If you need to report your child's absence from school, please ring 01454 862020, press 1 and leave a message.
Tue 2 Jan 2024	INSET Day	
Wed 3 Jan 2024	Start of Term 3	
Thur 4 Jan 2024	Y11 Parents Evening	
Fri 5 Jan 2024	Late Start at 09:40	
8 – 19 Jan 2024	Y7, Y8, Y9 Assessment Weeks	
Tue 30 Jan 2024	Y9 Parents Evening	
Wed 31 Jan 2024	Late Start at 09:40	
5 – 9 Feb 2024	Y8 HPV vaccination	
Fri 9 Feb 2024	End of Term 3	

Switch from Scopay to Arbor

From the 2nd January we will be adding the Payments function to the Arbor Parent Portal/Arbor App. This means that you will no longer be able to use SCOPAY **from 1st January 2024**.

Therefore from 2nd January all trip payments, topping up your child's lunch account will be done by logging into the Parent Portal or Arbor App. This will replace the SCOPAY App that we currently use for these functions.

You may start getting alerts from Arbor as we work behind the scenes setting up the system, but from now until the end of term, please continue to use SCOPAY.

All SCOPAY balances for lunches will be automatically transferred onto the Arbor system in time for when students return to school on 3rd January 2024.

More information will follow, but all you need to do now is check that you can log into the Parent Portal/Arbor App. [Olympus Academy Trust - Arbor Payment Parent Portal \(olympustrust.co.uk\)](https://olympustrust.co.uk)

End of Term Awards Presentation Evening

Thank you for all the parents and students who attended our awards presentation evening on 7 December. It's been really amazing seeing all the awarded students with delighted smiles and proud parents/carers with impressed faces. They all deserved the recognition! The main hall was filled with applause and cheering.



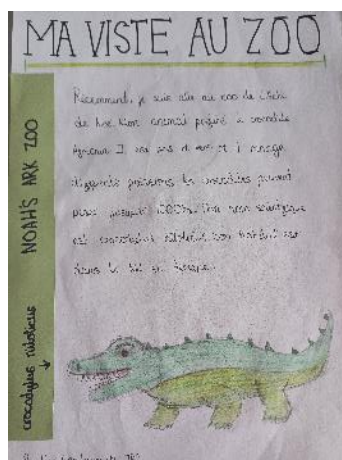
PCS Got Talent

It's our annual Patchway's Got Talent show today! We have got the main hall heated up from all talents, from singers, rapper, dancer, Kung Fu player, pianist to rubik's cube player. Of course, we could not forget a group of teachers who sang "Wonderwall"!



Year 7 Modern Languages writing competition

Our Year 7 French and Spanish classes have been learning about animals and how to describe them. This tied in with the visit to Noah's Ark Farm Zoo in October that many students came on. Once back at school we wrote about the animals that we saw (or our favourite animal if we didn't go on the trip) and made them into posters. All entries were judged by the MFL department, our KS4 language students and SLT. Our overall winners were Amelia Abbas 7P (3rd place), Bethany Rich 7W (2nd Place) and Mia Grigeviciute 7H (1st place). The winning posters, alongside other entries from the competition, are proudly displayed in our MFL corridor. Bravo!



Language Nut Competition

Congratulations to Maithil Bharadwaj (7A / 7A2) who came 29th in the world in the recent Language Nut competition. He was up against learners from all types of schools across many different countries, including UAE, Canada and Korea. Overall he gained 4013500 points and won a £50 Amazon voucher for his efforts! As a school we were ranked 175 out of over 300 schools across the world who took part. Well done, PCS!








Home Learners

Last half term, our top PCS home learners were entered into a draw to win a hot chocolate for them and a friend. These are our winners and their friends enjoying their prize. KS3 - Paige Bradford 8H, KS4 Tyler-Jay Hunt 10C. the competition will continue to run on a half-termly basis throughout the year. To be in with a chance of winning, you need to feature on the school Home Learning Leaderboard for a week and then your name will be added to the draw. Happy learning!



Seneca Home Learning Points

Our GCSE RE and Geography students have been working hard completing their home learning and revision on Seneca, achieving 131,490 points in the past week. Each week this term they have placed top of the leaderboard across the Olympus Academy Trust - keep up the good work!

School name			XP 
1	 Patchway Community School Almondsbury, South Gloucestershire	School synced	131,490
2	 Winterbourne Academy Bristol, South Gloucestershire	School synced	40,238
3	 Abbeywood Community School Bristol, South Gloucestershire	School synced	27,267
4	 Bradley Stoke Community School Bristol, South Gloucestershire	School synced	20,256

Geography Field Trip

Y11 Geographers completed the second half of their compulsory GCSE fieldwork in December. They did a walking tour of the harbourside and assessing successful urban regeneration.



Eco Club

Eco club have been growing winter veg in the greenhouse - waiting to harvest our first crop soon!



Y8 BAE Systems STEM Roadshow

We kicked off this term with Year 8 finding out about engineering careers at a STEM Roadshow delivered in school by BAE Systems, The RAF and The Royal Navy.



Y10 Work Experience

PSHE lessons this term have been guiding students through searching and applying for work experience placements. Please see the attached [Work experience booklet 2023-4](#) for more information and guidance, including opportunities to apply for.

Please note that Work Experience week will be 5-9 February 2024. If students find opportunities outside these dates they may be able to attend and should speak to Mrs Shute. Any student not on a work placement from 5-9 February will be expected to attend school as usual. It is the student's responsibility to find their own placement, we are not able to source these. If you work for a company that might be able to host a work experience student, please do get in touch.

Career Fair for Year 10 and Year 11

The hall was filled with colleges, local employers, apprenticeship providers and Universities on 20th November as we hosted our careers fair for Years 10 and 11. This was a hugely successful event enjoyed by students, staff and presenters alike. We received some wonderful feedback on the conduct of our students and look forward to hosting another careers fair next year.



Year 10 Envision Programme

Working with their coach Sabrina and their business mentors from Womble Bond Dickenson, the Year 10 Envision group have made a great start on their social action project. They are all also developing their skills of teamwork, creativity and communication and did their first bit of public speaking during our visit to the WBD offices last week. Well done team!

Year 11 Personal Guidance Meetings

All students in Year 11 are entitled to an hour of 1:1 guidance as they make their post-16 plans. This is underway but if students are keen for a meeting sooner rather than later they should please tell their tutor or Mrs Shute. The guide to Post-16 open events can be found on the school website under Curriculum>Careers>Useful links

Y7 First aid training on heart starter

Our Y7 students attended a hands-on heart starter training, provided by Great Western Ambulance Service. Students learnt how to carry out CPR as anybody could be an important part of the chain of survival.

Here is the video which captured the highlight of the day – <https://youtu.be/k04Zl3x5Dg0>



Parent Forum

The Patchway Parent & Community Forum meet with the School Leadership Team, and act as advocates for parent voice as well as providing a supportive steering group which offers the school feedback on developments and improvement planning.

To attend, you just need to be a parent or carer of a child currently at Patchway Community School. We discuss curriculum matters, personal welfare and development for students, careers, and of course, uniform, lunches and anything else which affects children's experience in school each day.

The Patchway Parent & Community Forum are interested to hear from parents/carers via the email pcsparentforum@gmail.com who would like us give feedback to the School Leadership Team.

The upcoming Parent Forum meeting will be at 5:30 – 6:30pm on **Wednesday 24 January 2024**. All are welcome to attend.

PCS on social media





Notice of proposed changes to the Olympus Academy Trust Admissions Arrangements for the academic year 2025/2026

The Olympus Academy Trust is consulting on its proposed admission arrangements for the academic year 2025/26.

The consultation will be open from 20th November 2023 to the 12th January 2024.

Full draft arrangements for all schools can be read at

<https://www.olympustrust.co.uk/Consultation-on-2025-26-Admission-Arrangements/>

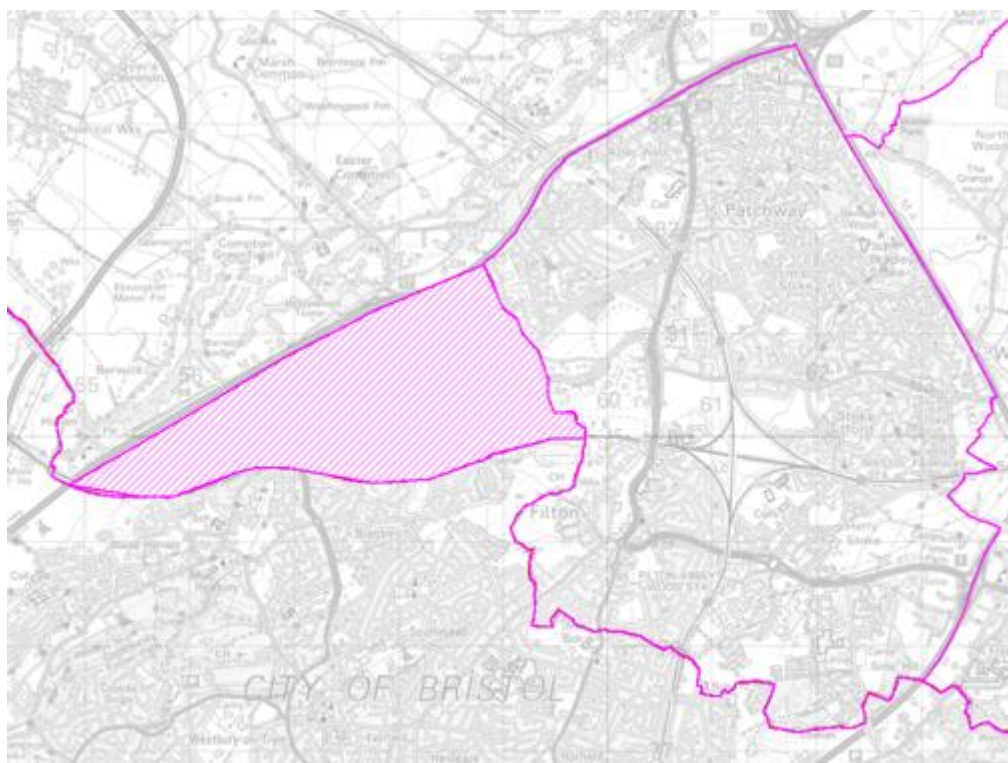
Paper copies are also available on request.

The main changes are as follows:

- 1. Abbeywood Community School is proposing to increase its Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 from 180 to 240, following a firm commitment from the Local Authority to fund extra accommodation on site.**
- 2. Abbeywood Community School is also proposing to remove the Year 10 point of entry, as the extra students in current Years 7 to 9, and the increased PAN from 2025 will mean we cannot continue to take in more students at Key Stage 4.**
- 3. Olympus Post 16 Centres propose to reduce their Year 12 PAN for external candidates from 25 students to 5, based on increased uptake from internal candidates and ensuing Health and Safety considerations.**
- 4. As part of a Local Authority review of Areas of Prime Responsibility (APR) across the county, Olympus has been requested to extend to the East the existing Shared APR for Abbeywood Community School, Bradley Stoke Community School and Patchway Community School. The existing Shared APR, and the proposed extension, are shown on the map below.**

The current Shared APR (outlined in pink) is defined by the M5 motorway to the north, the M4 motorway to the east, then west along B4057 until the B4427 at the Stoke Gifford Civil Parish boundary, then southwards along the Stoke Gifford Civil Parish boundary until Hambrook Lane, then east along Hambrook Lane until the M32 motorway, then southwards along the M32 motorway. At South Gloucestershire Council's administrative boundary it then tracks westwards and northwards along South Gloucestershire Council's administrative boundary until the railway line south of the former Filton Airfield, then northwards along Patchway Civil Parish boundary until the M5 motorway.

The hatched area currently falls within Marlwood School's APR, but it is proposed to move it into the Shared APR for Abbeywood, Bradley Stoke and Patchway Community Schools.



Feedback, comments, queries and requests for copies of the policy should be addressed to:

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