

SCHOOL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER – TERM 3

12/02/2025

Welcome from Mr Kneller, Headteacher

Term 3 has seen further exciting developments in our new build project. Following the public consultation event we have been seeking views about potential rebranding and renaming of the school. Thank you to all those parents who took part in our survey. We will share a summary of feedback after half term. Planning permission for the new build will be submitted very shortly and work with our appointed contractor BAM continues.

Our Year 11 students have started their third and final round of mock examinations in preparation for the final GCSE exams this summer. These exams will provide further feedback to guide their teachers and themselves as to where to focus their attention in the remaining time in school and when revising at home.

Year 9 students have been making their GCSE subject option choices over the last few weeks. These decisions are guided in school via a well-structured careers education and advice programme. These GCSE options will be finalised next term and parents will be informed of final option choices.

Attendance remains a key priority for the school. Data shows that when students attend regularly not only do their results in assessments improve but the mental health and wellbeing also improve. Please ensure your child attends school every day. If there are any barriers to attendance, please do reach out to the attendance team in school for support.

In sports fixtures this term, we have had some fantastic results – I would like to congratulate all students involved and thank our amazing PE team for giving up their time to provide these opportunities for your students. Please see our sports page for further details.

Finally, I hope everyone has a restful half term and I look forward to welcoming staff and students back to Patchway on Monday 24th February.

Best Wishes,
Stephen Kneller



Key Dates:-

- **Thursday 13th February**
- Year 8 HPV Vaccine-
- **Friday 14th February**
- Inset Day
- **Monday 17th February**
- First Day of Term
- **Monday 24th February**
- Year 11 Mocks
- **Monday 3rd March**
- Year 10 Work Experience
- **Tuesday 4th March**
- Year 8 Festival of Engineering Trip
- **Tuesday 4th March**
- Year Envision Trip
- **Thursday 13th March**
- Dropdown Day
- **Tuesday 25th March**
- Year Envision Trip
- **Thursday 27th March**
- Rewards Evening
- **Wednesday 2nd April**
- Year 10 Parents Evening
- **Thursday 3rd April**
- Late start for students- 10.00am
- **Friday 4th April**
- Last Day of Term
- **Tuesday 22nd April**
- First Day of Term



The New Build – Patchway Community School



Patchway Community School New Build Public Consultation took place in school on Tuesday 4th February. It was an exciting event where the design proposals for the development of the new school building and site were exhibited.

Please click [here](#) to view the Rebuild Project Pack if you were unable to attend on Tuesday. On the final page of the pack there is a public consultation feedback form, which can be used to provide feedback and leave comments about the proposals. Responses can be sent directly to ConsultationEvents.southwest@jll.com. The timing of the consultation is to gather feedback now so that BAM can submit their planning application to South Gloucestershire Council's planning department before the end of February.

We will provide further details in due course, but this is very significant for all associated with Patchway as we are on the cusp of a transformational development for education in the area.

Safeguarding

New to the Team

We have welcomed a new member of staff this term to the Safeguarding team.



Assistant Designated Safeguarding Lead

Rebecca Burnett-Sully

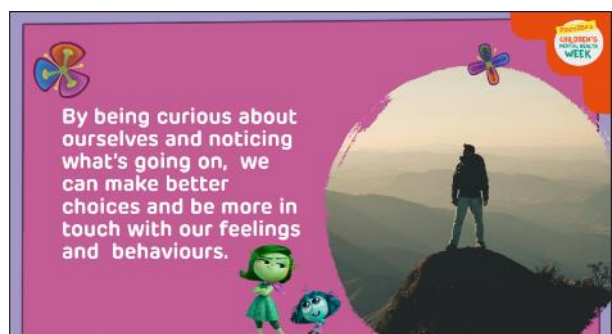
Rebecca.Burnett-Sully@olympustrust.co.uk



Children's Mental Health Week

This term we have celebrated Children's Mental Health Week (3rd - 9th February 2025). The theme this year is "Know Yourself". Students have taken part in assemblies to explore the importance of self-awareness, expressing emotions and how to seek support if they need to by talking to a trusted adult.

We have listed below some useful websites for you:



- [Parents Mental Health Support | Advice for Your Child | YoungMinds](#)
- [How to support a child with depression or anxiety | NSPCC](#)
- [How to support your child's mental health – Place2Be](#)
- [How to talk to young people about mental health | Mind - Mind](#)

As a Safeguarding Team, we often signpost young people to the following websites, which you may also find useful:

- [Home – OTR](#)
- [Home - Kooth](#)

Year 11 Mental Health during Exams

In addition to specifically celebrating Children's Mental Health Week, we have been working closely with other colleagues to identify Year 11 students who may be finding this period of time difficult, due to the added pressure of revision and exams and making them aware of additional support that they can access during this time. It's important that Year 11's can have down time to take part in activities that they enjoy, as well as revising!

- [Exam Stress | How To Deal with Exam Stress | YoungMinds](#)
- [Info on exam stress - for 11-18 year olds | Mind - Mind](#)

Support Available in School

We are fortunate to have a school counsellor who we can make referrals too. We also work closely with our School Health Nurse and our Education Mental Health Practitioner. If you have any concerns about your child's mental health, please do not hesitate to get in touch and we will do all we can to support.

Student Interventions



At Patchway Community School, we are committed to supporting our students' well-being, behaviour, and sense of belonging through a diverse range of targeted interventions.

We have introduced initiatives such as Martial Arts through Gracie Barra in Bradley Stoke, boxing through Empire fighting chance, and the Drawing and Talking programme, alongside many others, to provide students with positive outlets for their emotions, build resilience, and develop essential coping strategies.

By offering such a varied selection of interventions, we aim to meet the individual needs of our students, helping them to feel supported, engaged, and empowered within the school community.



Improved children's social skills

Enhanced self-confidence

Better understanding of goal-setting and working towards them

Learning the GB Self-Defence System

Increased focus, energy and concentration

Significant gains in overall fitness level

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities



The Wellbeing Hub – Creative Youth Network

Several of our students have been doing amazing work with the creative youth network again this term, to help boost well-being and sense of belonging in school. Well done to them.

Signposting for Parents

Please see below several websites that offer helpful advice for parents of students with SEND including some from the local authority.



www.mind.org.uk



www.otrbristol.org.uk



www.youngminds.org.uk



www.kooth.com



www.autismcentral.org.uk



www.autism.org.uk



www.autisticparentsuk.org



www.autismspeaks.org/autism-support-family-help



www.adhdfoundation.org.uk



www.chadd.org/for-parents/overview



www.speechandlanguage.org.uk/help-for-families



www.bdadyslexia.org.uk/advice/children



www.sgpc.org.uk



[SEND Local Offer | South Gloucestershire](#)



www.sirona-cic.org.uk/children-service



It's been an exciting time for our key stage 4 students this term. Our Year 10's have spent time researching some work experience options, whilst our Year 11' students have been given the time to discuss their post 16 pathway and the options available to them. Even our Year 8's got in on the action, by having the opportunity to attend Apprenticeship Assemblies.

Post 16 Study Pathways

As the Year 11 1:1 meetings continue, it has been wonderful to hear about the range of ideas students have for their next steps. For many, making decisions and preparing for change can be very exciting but for some can be a cause of anxiety. If you and your child are unsure about the options available, watch this webinar which explains the possible study pathways after Year 11 and the career landscape in the Southwest of England. It will also direct you to Career Pilot, a very useful resource for all things careers.

<https://careerpilot.us7.list-manage.com/track/click?u=d0d1eed97714cb3a7677821c6&id=81ef15bf68&e=f83c06d4fd>

Year 10 Envision Programme

Our team of 12 students have really thrown themselves into the 12 week Envision programme. With support from business mentors at St James' Place, they have developed a social action project called '**Reform Uniform**', which asks for donations of un-needed used uniform in good condition, which can be stored in school and collected by students who may be unable to afford items.

The final event in January saw our students competing against teams from Winterbourne Academy, Digitech and Brimsham Green School, which our team '**WON**'. Some members of the group led assemblies about their project in front of all year groups in the school, demonstrating how much their confidence and presentation skills had grown throughout the programme.



“We are very proud of them all”

Year 10 Work Experience

A reminder that students need to have logged placements on Unifrog by **Friday 14th February**, if they are going on work experience from 3rd-7th March. If they are going later in the year, they do not need to meet this deadline, however they still need to make sure Mrs Shute is aware of their placements. Students who are not on placement 3rd-7th March or any days within that week (where placements are less than 5 days long) **must be in school as usual**.

Year 8 and Year 9 Apprentice Assemblies

Year 8 had an in-person assembly from Alex at ASK Apprenticeships where he gave them a brief introduction to what this post-16 pathway could be. It was good to see that a few of our Year 8s already had some idea about Apprenticeships or knew people doing them. The slides from this assembly are on the school website **curriculum>careers>useful links**. Year 9 will have a virtual session delivered by ASK in tutor time this week.

National Apprenticeships Week

Monday 10th-17th February is National Apprenticeships Week. Tutor time activities will be happening all week so that staff and students can investigate apprenticeships a bit more.

What's coming up Next Term...

- ❖ Envision – New Envision Cohort starts at the end of February
- ❖ Work Experience Week – Monday 3rd – Friday 7th March
- ❖ Year 8 Festival of Engineering at Babcock – Tuesday 4th March
- ❖ Girls Get Set – Monday 10th March, **Virtual Event** on Wednesday 12th March



Engineering apprenticeships with Bema –

We are holding an open evening for students interested in an engineering apprenticeship on **Wednesday 12th of February 2025** from **4:30pm – 7:00pm** to come along to the BEMA Training Centre in Yate with their parents. Meet the staff, talk to potential Employers, current apprentices who started in September 24 and see the engineering workshops and facilities.



Netball update from the PE Team

Last term every Tuesday, a large group of Year 7, 8, and 10 students attended Netball Club, giving their best effort in preparation for upcoming fixtures.



All 3-year groups faced off against Marlwood School. Each team performed remarkably well. The Year 7s lost by just two points but showed great skill and determination. The Year 8s played brilliantly, winning 12-0. Meanwhile, the Year 10s secured a strong 11-2 victory, demonstrating excellent teamwork and performance.

Later that month, both the Year 7 and Year 8 teams competed against Abbeywood. The Year 7s emerged victorious with a 4-2 win, while the Year 8s, despite their narrow 2-point loss, played exceptionally well.

In another exciting match, PCS played against Castle and played well, officially winning against the school with their fantastic skills.

We are incredibly proud of the netball team's dedication and effort, both in training and during the fixtures. Your hard work has truly paid off. Congratulations to everyone, and we look forward to more exciting matches in the future!

Girls Football Update



Since the start of the school year, our Girls Football Club has been running every Monday, offering a fantastic opportunity for students to develop their skills, build teamwork, and enjoy playing football. The club has quickly become a place of enthusiasm and commitment, with a strong turnout from students consistently each week.

Throughout the term, our teams have competed in tournaments for each year group. While we didn't come away as winners in them all, the experience has been invaluable. Noticeable standout results include the year 7 girls football team who won 2 and drew 2 in a tournament against other South Glos schools recently. All the players have demonstrated incredible resilience, sportsmanship, and determination, showing real growth both individually and as a team. This steady improvement is showing in their current fixtures, and their hard work and efforts will set the foundation for even greater achievements in the future.



A **special mention** goes to **Beth and Evie** from **Year 11**. Both have been **standout players**, showing leadership on and off the field. They have been **excellent role models** to the younger students and **supported them week in week out** in training and throughout the tournament.

Boys Football Update from Mr Forward - CTL PE

Term 3 has seen a flurry of football fixtures for both the boys and girls. We have taken part in over 20 fixtures since Christmas with all students involved working hard and improving throughout.



The boys have been progressing well, with the 7's winning their first game against Marlwood 6-1. Cooper B scoring a hattrick in the process. **Cooper B** and **Morley R** have been the **standout players** in amongst some very good performances in their first season together.



The year 8's have drawn 3-3 against Marlwood, as well as beating Castle 3-1. The **Standout performers** being **Soulay K**, **Aiden W**, and the Pickering brothers **Callen** and **Tyler**.



The year 9's have had a tough season but their spirt and resilience is a testament to what sport is all about, with an improvement in results coming consequently to this. **Standout performers** have been **Fabian D** at the back and **Cody T** up front!



The year 10's have also had a mixed set of results, but again strong work ethic and some good football has seen an improvement in performances throughout. **Standout performers** have been **Jack R** and **Rafael V**.



The year 11's have just stumbled across in a successful formula for formation and personnel, after some good initial performances didn't yield the desired results. A 1-1 draw against Castle in our last game bodes well for a strong end to the mini season. **Chace E** and **Mitch B** being the **standout performers** for the team and leading the way.

Mr Kneller's Comments

Our football fixtures, have witnessed some fantastic results and I would like to give a special mention to these 3 students on their individual performances in the girl's team.

- Beth F** – For being player of the tournament in the year 7 competition.
- Amelia A** - For being a standout performer for the year 8/9 team.
- Beth R** and **Evie** – For being standout players and showing great leadership skills for the year 10/11 team.

The following students have also shown great skill and ability as mentioned above, in supporting the overall team results. Well done to each of you

Cooper B	Morley R	Soulay K	Aiden W	Callen P	Tyler P
Fabian D	Cody T	Jack R	Rafael V	Chace E	Mitch B

Reward and Recognition

Introduction of Reward Badges

It has been a busy and exciting term with the introduction of our **reward badges**, celebrating students' positive behaviour and achievements. These badges are awarded based on reward points, with **Bronze** (100 points), **Silver** (250 points), and **Gold** (500 points).

The response from students has been fantastic! So far, we have awarded almost **500 Bronze badges** and nearly **60 Silver badges**, with many students well on their way to achieving Gold. Each badge comes with a certificate, and the sense of pride and accomplishment among students has been wonderful to see.

With some students already approaching the **Gold milestone**, we may even need to introduce a **Platinum badge** – watch this space!











Well done to all our students for their hard work and positive contributions. Keep up the great effort!

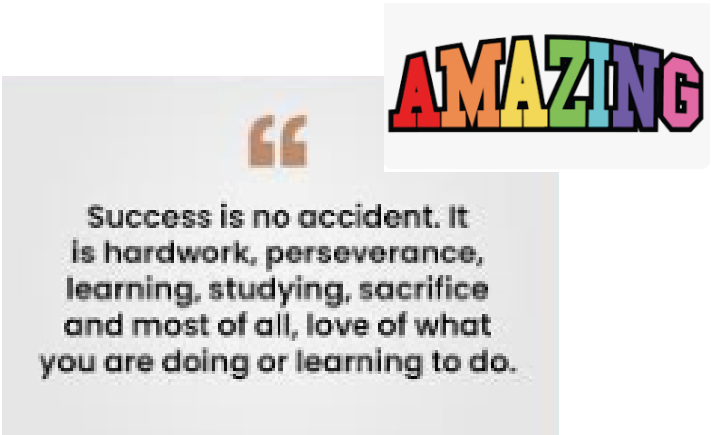


Celebrating Success

This year, our teachers have awarded a staggering **91,000 positive reward points** to recognise students' hard work, dedication, and positive contributions to school life.

A special congratulations to our **top ten students** who have earned the highest number of reward points so far:

	Beth L	(329 points, 10T)
	Daniel B	(326 points, 10T)
	Katie B	(315 points, 10P)
	Daniel R	(288 points, 7W)
	Sienna M	(284 points, 8T)
	Vinnie S	(284 points, 7A)
	Amanda E	(283 points, 8T)
	Alfie J	(283 points, 7W)
	Samuel O	(283 points, 7A)
	Jaydon L M	(281 points, 10T)



Well done to all students for their continued effort and enthusiasm. Keep up the fantastic work!

Rewards Presentation Night



We are excited to announce that our next **Rewards Presentation Evening** will take place on **Thursday 27th March**. This special event celebrates the hard work, dedication, and achievements of our students across all year groups.

There will be **two ceremonies** on the evening:

- ✂ **Years 7 & 8**
- ✂ **Years 9, 10 & 11**

Teachers are currently busy making their nominations, and invitations will be sent out on **Friday 7th March**—so there is still time to impress and secure a nomination!

Awards will be presented for **each subject**, alongside a **Head of Year Award** for each year group. Additionally, we will be honouring one exceptional student with a **special award for displaying Ambition**—a true reflection of our school values.

We look forward to celebrating the success of our students and their fantastic achievements!

Year 9 Paper Fashion Challenge

After completing their pencil case project, our Year 9 students took on an exciting timed challenge—creating a high-end fashion prototype using only paper!

Working in teams, they applied techniques from their fashion drawing lessons to design and construct their pieces within a single double lesson. With creativity, teamwork, and a touch of pressure, they brought their visions to life.



The final designs were judged anonymously by students from other classes, and the winning team members were awarded **Golden Tickets** for their outstanding work.

A fantastic display of innovation and style!

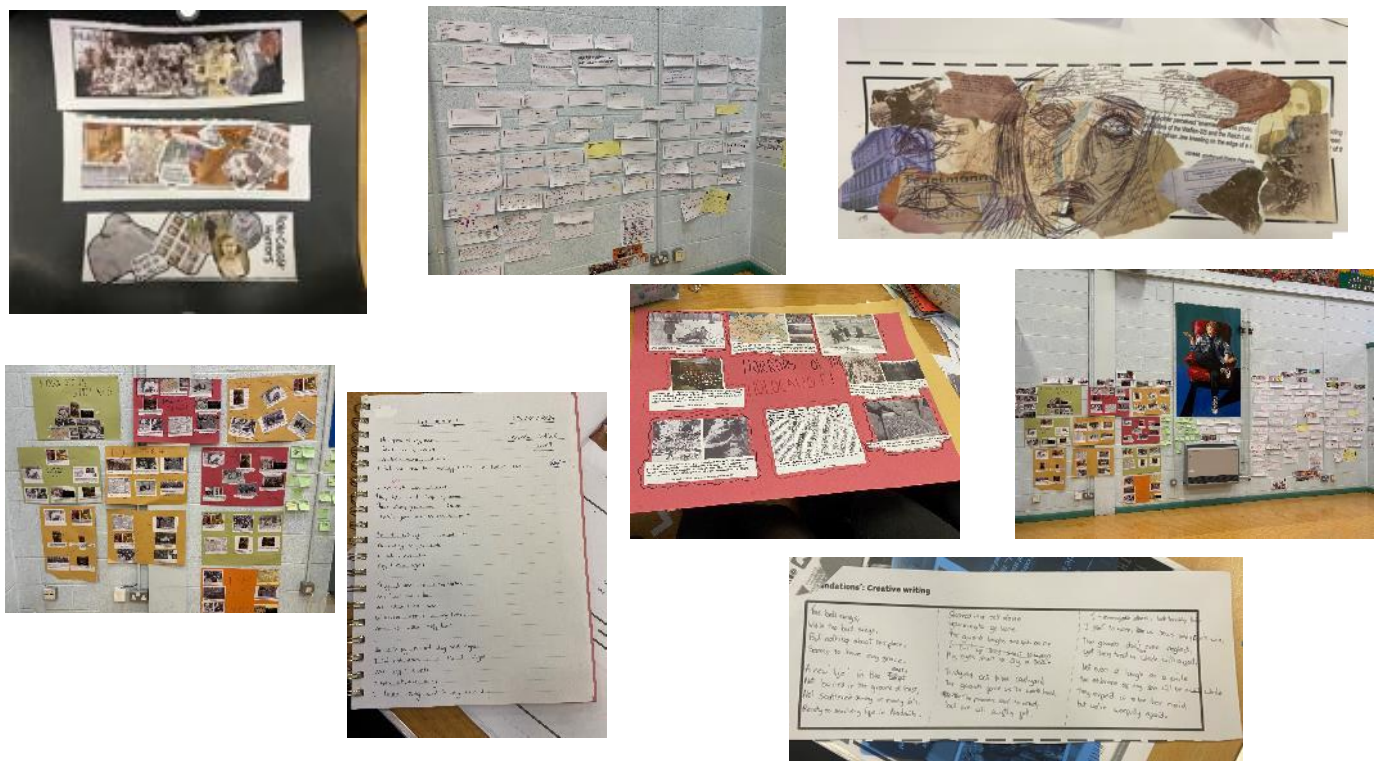
#HtFMeUs Schools Project Humanities Trip

Without exception, the 12 Year 9 students who were invited to participate in the #HtFMeUs schools conference day, at Royal Wootton Bassett Academy, representing Patchway did so magnificently, Miss Haines could not have been prouder of them.

Their behaviour, respect, attitude, resilience and engagement were exemplary. They collaborated with others, worked in small groups, in pairs and alone as we worked through five workshops across the day. We began with a picture stimulus that resulted in the most remarked pieces of poetry and creative writing, then we moved on to images and the narrative of the Holocaust. After lunch there was activities drawing on oracy, debate and discussion, and then historical source analysis as we reflected on case studies and evidence to consider the nature of resistance. And finally, there was an art and creative reflection activity - and whether well within their talents and skills, or out of their comfort zones, everyone of our students thrived and shone at one or more of the sessions. You may see from social media the outcomes of what students produced was incredible - several RWBA staff visited the Assembly Hall to see what they were doing and were so impressed by what Patchway and visiting school groups were each doing.

As they may have told you, we were joined by some of the family members who inspire the project, Robert Rinder MBE and his mother Angela Cohen MBE, Noemie Lopian and Bernie Graham, and they were so inspired and moved by what your young people shared with them. We were also joined in person by 7 external schools and their young people, for the day, from Swindon, Bristol, Wolverhampton, Royal Leamington Spa, and Bradford-upon-Avon, and from 5 schools accessing the day remotely from Windermere, Kent, Manchester, Rochdale and Bristol. And again, our RWBA students shone, in terms of how they welcomed others into our school and learning space.

Here are photos from the day, including work (collages, posters and poems made by our pupils that day) as well as images of them working with our special guests.



Trips Continued...

The woman in blue is called Noemie, she is the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, and the students followed her story during their project. Our pupils wrote letters to her which you can see being given to her directly - she then gave pupils hugs, and she was so moved.



A note from the hosts “Please do pass on my thanks to your young people - I hope they had as memorable a day as I did. It was an absolute pleasure to work alongside them and I thank each and everyone of them for the time, respect and contribution they made to a special day of collaborative learning”

St Micheals Music Trip



At the start of February, a group of Year 9 Musicians attended a concert performed by members of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra who performed a range of styles, from classical music to film music.

Our trip was a great opportunity to experience a live music performance. In between pieces, a presenter explained the key musical elements, like rhythm, melody, and harmony, and how they work together to create a successful performance.

All the students enjoyed this opportunity and represented the school remarkably.



A Time for Celebration

Christmas Reading Competition Winners

Thank you to all who entered the competition; they were so lovely to talk to you about and see how much you enjoyed reading!

The winners were...

Ammenat A – Year 8 (8A)
James C – Year 7 (7H)
Sara F – Year 10 (10T)
Helen F – Year 10 (10T)
Lilly W – Year 8 (8A)



School Values Award

Celebrating Our First School Values Award Winner!

In December we proudly announced that **Sam S (Year 8)** was awarded our very first **School Values Award** for demonstrating outstanding **Respect** within the community.

Sam showed great courage and responsibility when he witnessed a group vandalizing a wall at a local primary school. Not only did he ask them to stop, but he also informed the authorities and the school, helping to protect and uphold community values.

In addition, Sam has been a pioneer for our school's **Litter Picking Patrol**, recruiting a team of dedicated students who work during lunchtime to keep our school clean and welcoming for everyone.

Sam's actions reflect the very best of our school values, and we are incredibly proud of him.

Congratulations, Sam! 🌟



NEW

Kingswood Store

Opening Feb 17th

Come along for our opening day, we would love you to visit our brand new store!

Opening hours

Mon	9:30AM- 4:30PM
Tue	CLOSED
Wed	9:30AM- 4:30PM
Thurs	9:30AM- 4:30PM
Fri	CLOSED
Sat	9:30AM- 4:30PM
Sun	CLOSED

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