

## Patchway Newsletter Term 4

Diary Dates		Absence Line
Wed 27 Mar 2024	End of Term 4	If you need to report your child's absence from school, please ring 01454 862020, press 1 and leave a message.
Thur 28 Mar 2024	INSET Day	
Mon 15 Apr 2024	Start of Term 5	
Tue 23 Apr 2024	Y7 Parents Evening	
Wed 24 Apr 2024	Late Start at 09:40	
Wed 24 Apr 2024	Y9 MenACWY/Dtp vaccination	
Mon 6 May 2024	Bank Holiday	
Wed 15 May 2024	Y10 Parents Evening	
Thur 16 May 2024	Late Start at 09:40	
Fri 24 May 2024	End of Term 5	

We have enjoyed another incredibly busy term at Patchway and this newsletter is full of fantastic events, trips and celebrations. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the staff who have put on these opportunities for our students.

Have an enjoyable break with your family. Students return at 8:25 am on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April and it will not be long before we enter the exam season for Year 11. In particular, I hope Year 11 students can balance their time enjoying the holiday while also preparing for the exams ahead.

### Mobile Phones in Schools

You may have seen government guidelines regarding the use of mobile phones by young people in schools which was released in February. It can be found here: [Mobile phones in schools - February 2024 \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://www.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/844444/mobile-phones-in-schools-february-2024.pdf).

As the document says: "Mobile phones risk unnecessary distraction, disruption and diversion" and "by prohibiting mobile phones, schools can create safe and calm environments free from distraction so all pupils can receive the education they deserve." The guidance outlines the following possible approaches: a complete ban on bringing on site; all students handing in phones at the start of the day or locking away; or phones being in bags and turned off so they are "never used, seen or heard".

As you know, the approach at Patchway is the last of these. In light of this, it is very important that parents are not tempted to phone or text students during the day or to encourage students to use the phone to contact home. This does sometimes happen and can cause obvious conflict. If there is an urgent message that students need to receive, reception can be contacted; similarly, if your child feels unwell in any way, they should contact a member of staff or First Aid; we are in the building and so this is the best way of getting quick assistance on site if needed.

Thank you for your support.

### Term 3 & 4 Awards Presentation Evening

Thank you so much to the parents who attended the awards presentation evening on 21 March 2024. Seeing so many happy faces filled with satisfaction, pride, and joy was lovely.

We look forward to the next one to be held by the end of term 6.



### Gymnastics Gold Medals

Congratulations to two of our Year 11 students, Olivia Gillett and Robyn England, who represented Great Britain in competing in an international gymnastics competition in Dubai. Both of them came home with gold medals, and Olivia got a second gold medal for having the highest score.

This international competition included gymnastics athletes from The Netherlands, Belarus, Russia, UAE, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Great Britain.

Olivia and Robyn trained for 2 days in Dubai after landing, and then competed for another 2 days. We are so proud of them! Well done!





### L'Oreal Trip to London

Patchway students were involved in celebrating International Women's Day as part of our STEM journey.

Thanks to Rail Delivery Group, our girls took part in a trip to the L'Oreal Young Scientist Centre. The day was about empowering young minds, breaking barriers, and shaping a future filled with possibilities!



## World Book Day

World Book Day's mission is to change lives through a love of books and shared reading. We promote and encourage Reading for Pleasure, and we know that Reading for Pleasure is the single most important indicator of a child's future success. World Book Day aims to encourage children, families, and schools to adopt reading habits that will improve life chances and build new generations of readers. See how our teachers dressed up!





### Library Books

The library has been given some money by a charity to buy books. Our student librarians have had great fun choosing some library books to buy. The books have been delivered and catalogued, and now the girls are getting enormous pleasure from discussing who will read which book first. It has been an absolute pleasure to watch their enthusiasm.



### Red Nose Day

On Red Nose Day, some of our students brought in their cakes and raised £182.96 for charity. See what scrumptious they look!



### Year 7 the Future of Law and Finance

Year 7 walked over to St James' Place in Aztec West to discover more about careers in Law and Finance. They met a business volunteer who explained their job role, and students used this information to record a short film and design a Top Trumps-style playing card about them. Students enjoyed seeing the office and meeting the staff and were extremely busy and focused throughout their 1-hour session.



### Book Swap

We need your help setting up our community book swap. If you have any book donations that you can bring in, we would be very grateful. Thank you.

**PCS  
COMMUNITY  
BOOK SWAP**

We are setting up a book swap in the foyer of our school for anyone in our local community.

We are currently looking for donations to help us get started.

If you have any books you'd like to donate, please bring them into school and pop them on the bookcase - you don't even need to come into the building.

Have a browse whilst you're there and feel free to take book away that tickles your fancy.

All genres welcome. Thank you

### Year 10 Scientists Space Academy Session

We welcomed a representative from the Space Academy who delivered an engaging and interactive session to our triple science students. He explained about careers in the space sector and how scientists and astronauts find out more about asteroids. Using their knowledge of chemistry and physics, students also performed experiments to launch oxygen-hydrogen rockets in the lab!



### Governing Committee

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals from the local community to join our Governing Committee in our Olympus Trust schools. For more information please see – [Olympus Academy Trust - We Need You! \(olympustrust.co.uk\)](https://olympustrust.co.uk)

### 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](mailto: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 **Tuesday 30 April 2024**. All are welcome to attend.

### PCS on social media





2024-59697

# WE ARE HIRING!

**Catering Assistant**  
**Bristol, BS32 4AJ**  
**Permanent | Full Time**  
**Monday - Friday | 8:00am - 2:00pm**  
**Term Time Only!**  
**£11.44 Per Hour+ Company Benefits**



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2023-59029

# WE ARE HIRING!

**Cook/Chef**  
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**Permanent | Full Time**  
**Monday - Friday | 8:15am - 2:15pm**  
**Term Time Only!**  
**£12.00 Per Hour+ Company Benefits**



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