



*School of Mathematics*

## **School Assembly**

*14:00-15:30 / Fry G.10 and Zoom  
18 December 2024*



### Agenda

- 1) Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising
- 2) Questions or comments on written reports
- 3) Discussion on School strategies
- 4) EDI considerations
- 5) Any other business



## **School Assembly**

*2pm, Wednesday 23 October 2024  
Fry G.10/Zoom*

### Minutes

Present: Open Assembly of School colleagues

#### **1) Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising**

The school received a copy of the previous minutes for information.

Helen (EDI Co-chair) raised that the presentation given at the last assembly by Andrew, the School's Athena SWAN lead, highlighted the need for a post to monitor student outcomes. This has now been appointed.

No further comments or actions.

#### **2) Questions or comments on written reports**

The School received written reports from the following representatives:

*Olly Johnson, Head of School*

*Arne Kovac, Undergraduate School Education Director*

*Dennis Prangle, Director of Impact*

*Viveka Erlandsson, Director of Research*

*Misha Rudnev, Postgraduate School Education Director*

*Francesco Mezzadri, Associate Chair of the Heilbronn Institute*

*Henna Koivusalo, Director of Public Engagement and Widening Participation*

*Marton Balazs, Director of IT Strategy*

*Helen Mawdsley and Kentaro Fujimoto, EDI Co-chairs*

*Louise Todd, School Manager*

Questions and discussions:

#### Undergraduate School Education Director report:

Discussions were had regarding the School's exam review. The Head of School confirmed as there is nothing outstanding from the last review, there are no further changes to be expected.

The School discussed whether there is a proposed target intake of student numbers for the first year. These numbers have been sent to Faculty by the Head of School and School Manager, as part of this year's IPP process.

The University has introduced new guidance on using Generative AI in Education. Further information will be shared with the wider School.

Director of Research report:

The Head of School wanted to highlight to staff to review the REF compliance information in this report.

Postgraduate School Education Director report:

The Postgraduate School Education Director sent their apologies to the assembly, so the Head of School offered to take any questions on their behalf.

Martingale Foundation are conducting interviews in the School on the 18th and 19th of November 2024.

Associate Chair of the Heilbronn Institute report:

The Associate Chair of Heilbronn sent their apologies to the assembly, so the Head of School offered to take any questions on their behalf.

EDI Co-chair report:

Discussions were had regarding the School's workload table and workload model and the various ways other Schools record teaching, meetings etc. Open and ongoing questions on how we can capture this is something the School should be encouraged to take forward and discuss.

In the workload model, there is additional general allowance for female and non-binary staff. This is being taken into account when tutorials are being assigned.

School Manager report:

Feedback from the recent fire drill – Can colleagues please be mindful of the fire cell process, and to always check the space within your fire cell on your way out of the building. Reminder for staff to report to the chief fire warden if they have checked that their work area is clear.

### **3) EDI considerations**

- Royal Society Career Development Fellowship funding for black/mixed black backgrounds

No comments or questions

### **4) Any other business**

Discussions were had regarding staff and student comments on the structure of the new academic year. Anything relating to this can be raised at the School's TLAC meetings.

With no further comments, the meeting was ended.

## **HOS report School Assembly 18/12/24**

1. Update on new arrivals:
  - a) Zemer Kosloff (Associate Professor in Mathematics, starting on 3 February)
  - b) Yihan Zhang (Lecturer in Statistical Science, starting in January tbc)
2. Thanks to people taking up new roles:
  - a) Andrew Donald (Programme Continuity Officer)
  - b) Nugzar Suramlishvili (Student Outcome Officer)
3. Congratulations to Jens Marklof on being appointed as Henry Overton Wills Professor in Mathematics.
4. School IPP (budget planning) proposals submitted: student targets consistent with last year. Have requested a total of 6 academic positions – 3 lecturers (2 PW1, 1 PW3) for regular programmes, 1 PT lecturer associated with Foundation Year, 2 proleptic positions in case big Royal Society Fellowships successful.
5. Funding environment is still uncertain following Budget – broadly speaking, increase in home tuition fees is more than cancelled out by National Insurance rise. Some other lower-profile things might also have an effect (e.g. lower cap on fees for Foundation Years).
6. People stepping up to deliver Data Science projects means that share of Faculty surplus returned to School – have bid to use it for IT/AV upgrade in 2.04, more UG research bursaries, admin support for marketing, outreach and other things. Thanks to all volunteers!
7. New SAY structure continues to bed in – with particular pressures around December exam marking deadlines, need for earlier resit exams. Thanks to all for hard work and flexibility.
8. We have several PW2 staff volunteers to cover lecturing (particularly in Pure) – academic staff please do explore this opportunity.
9. School Develop training rates are currently low (17% of Mandatory Training completed this year) – please encourage staff to find time to do this. Hypothetical worst-case scenario may be things like staff who haven't completed cybersecurity training being denied network access, people who miss Freedom of Speech training opening up legal difficulties etc.

Professor Oliver Johnson

Head of School

## **Impact Director report**

### **University Enterprise Fellowship**

There is a call open till January 14th for a University Enterprise Fellowship. The provides 3-12 months funding for an academic to work with industry, for instance by buying out time. It could be a good way to work towards improving an impact project. Details are here:

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/research-enterprise-innovation/researchfellowships/uef/>

Please pass on details to any good candidates in your institutes. It's likely only one application can be made for Maths, and it should be made in discussion with the Head of School.

### **Knowledge Exchange Hub for Mathematical Sciences**

The KE Hub plans to launch its Short Projects scheme in January. This scheme funds 3rd/4th year PhD students and their supervisor to work on a short project proposed by business, industry or government. We should receive proposed projects on January 22nd and I'll circulate them at that point. (But note this has been delayed once already, so the date might change.)

There are also ongoing triage workshops with partner organisations. I forward details of these to the school, but you can also look at the schedule of planned events for 2025 here:

<https://www.kehubmaths.co.uk/events-activities/triage-workshops/>

The KE Hub also runs training events which are listed here:

<https://www.kehubmaths.co.uk/events-activities/training/>

### **Impact Case Studies**

Thanks to everyone who's contributed to potential REF impact case studies. Please get in touch if you think any other work you've been doing recently is suitable.

For anyone unfamiliar with these, a quick summary is that REF Impact Case Studies describe of work which has had a positive impact beyond academia in some way e.g. economic, health, government policy (UK or international), quality of life, culture. The impact must take place in the period\* August 2020 - July 2028 . The work must be underpinned by research outputs (usually publications) carried out at Bristol since\* 2007. Universities receive funding based on each case study's rating. It can be over £100k per year for top rating (4 star).

\* Cut-off dates are not confirmed yet, but these are the university's expectations.

## Report of the Postgraduate School Education Director

This year we will have little PhD funding. Our total allocation is 3 EPSRC studentships (of which one is international), 1 UoB Scholarship (possibly international, I assume) and 1 Heilbronn (down from resp. 2 and 4 last year; I do not have a reliable perspective on the future funding from Heilbronn). In addition, we expect to accept one PhD student funded by Martingale (I understand, we will not be able to have more than one). All 3 EPCRC studentships above may go to new grant holders in the Statistics Institute to meet the conditions of the funded projects.

In addition, the Faculty has announced that there will be an interdisciplinary UoB Scholarship but gave no details as to how this will be processed/awarded (I will circulate the info once it has become available).

Of the good news, we seem to have a high number of good applicants to be put forth for the Chinese Scholarship, and the Faculty imposes no limit on the number of nominations.

Apart from this we will start the main application reviewing cycle in January for the few funded places that we will have; by then it will be clear how many exactly, in view of the above circumstances. When it comes to making offers, staff members at earlier career stages keen on having PhD students and when this might help their promotion will be given a reasonable preference.

## Report of the Undergraduate School Education Director

- The University will roll out Blackboard Ultra across all units for 2025/26. In setting up the new Blackboard units it would be great if staff could largely adhere to a common template how to store typical lecture material like lecture notes and problem sheets. We will talk about this in a staff briefing early in the new year.
- The University wants schools to provide timely feedback on exams to students and the deadline falls before marks are released to students. With that in mind we would appreciate if markers could fill in the generic feedback forms around the same time when they finalise marking and moderation for an exam.
- I would also like to highlight to teaching staff the peer-observation scheme that Catherine Hobbs wrote about a few weeks ago. The University regards participation in peer-observation as CPD and want to use figures for the next TEF submission, therefore it would be good to see peer-observation documented on the "develop" platform. Peer observation does not necessarily need to follow the traditional approach where one colleague sits in the lecture of another colleague — it can also happen by watching Re/Play videos or browsing lecture material. In terms of staff development the crucial part is the meeting between both colleagues where they reflect on the teaching.





## Report by the Associate Chair of the Heilbronn Institute

School Assembly, 18 December 2024

### Heilbronn Fellowships

We have shortlisted the candidates for the 2024 recruitment round of Heilbronn Fellowships across all the HIMR areas of interests in pure mathematics, probability, data science, and quantum information. Up to two appointments will be in quantum information and data science. I will be contacting colleagues working in relevant areas soon, to ask for opinions on the quality of the shortlisted candidates.

### FRG Grants

The call for proposal is now open. The deadline for applying will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2025.

### 2025 Distinguished Lecture Series

We are very pleased to announce that Professor Nalini Joshi from the University of Sydney will be visiting us between 2-6 March 2025 as Distinguished Lecturer.

Francesco Mezzadri  
11 December October 2024



## REPORT FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND WIDENING PARTICIPATION

### Call for Maths Magic for the outreach website

The School Outreach website is being updated. We are planning for a collection of Maths Magic videos – if you have any maths magic tricks that can be displayed in a very short video (under 30-60 seconds) without (or with minimal) narrative, let me know! Examples so far include a paper-folding blow-up cube, Sierpinski pyramid postcard, and undoing twists in a belt without untwisting.

### Upcoming and ongoing activities

#### Public talk

We have begun advertising a public talk 'Stories about Hollywood's Hippest mathematics' and a panel discussion at 4-5pm, followed by a pizza reception, on 12 Feb 2025. The talk will be given by Nina Snaithe, and the panel will include in addition Laura Monk, Asma Hassannezhad and Rachel Bennett. The talk is being advertised internally to our undergraduates and staff, as well as externally to schools and parents. Feel free to spread the word! More information and sign-up form (event is free but registration needed): <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/universityofbristol15/1482328>

#### Maths Circles

We Solve Problems will continue running their problem solving class for school Years 7-10 into next term. The classes take place on Saturday afternoons during term time in the Fry building. Some of our own PhD students have been engaged as tutors.

### Activities this term

#### Mastering Mathematics

Tom Murdoch ran a 10-session programme Mastering Mathematics to Year 12-13 students. From last year's cohort, 3 are studying science subjects at Bristol this year. We had 25 regular attendees this year.

#### Access to Bristol

Access to Bristol series ran through Nov/Dec. This is a series of events aimed at students from local schools from WP-backgrounds, and gives a boost to admissions to Bristol. Many thanks to Florian Bouyer, John Mackay and Jonathan Robbins from the School for running sessions!

Henna Koivusalo, Director of Public Engagement and Widening Participation

EDI committee meeting, Dec 2024

*Report from the Director of IT Strategy*

**Isambard AI**, the UK's most powerful supercomputer focused on AI research, is expected to be ready in Spring / Summer 2025. Isambard 3, based on the NVIDIA Grace CPU Superchip, is also being built.

**Maths HPC mailing list:** `grp-math-hpc`. Please subscribe (or let me know) if you are not on it yet but work with high performance computing (e.g., Blue[Pebble/Crystal]). Any School-related HPC issues will be communicated there.

**HPC costs in grants:** please do include this when applying if you are planning to use HPC. Please see <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/acrc/high-performance-computing/hpc-costs/> and make contact with Finance and ACRC for details. Research software engineering is also available, if your research would use that please allocate funds in your grant supporting this too. <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/acrc/research-software-engineering/>

**Acknowledgements are vital** for the future of computing at the University. If you used HPC, please visit [https://www.acrc.bris.ac.uk/protected/hpc-docs/acknowledging\\_hpc/index.html](https://www.acrc.bris.ac.uk/protected/hpc-docs/acknowledging_hpc/index.html) to see how to add this fact to both your papers and to Pure.

**IT drop in sessions:** each day 10:30am-12:30pm in G.08 Fry.

**Interactive sessions** on BluePebble are available within the queuing system. Doc: [https://people.maths.bris.ac.uk/~mb13434/interactive\\_bp.html](https://people.maths.bris.ac.uk/~mb13434/interactive_bp.html).

**Various training is available** to help scientific computing: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/acrc/acrc-training/>.

**New starters**, please contact me ([m.balazs@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:m.balazs@bristol.ac.uk)) if you'd like to know about setting up a personal web-page or using our Linux fileservers for backup. Or with any IT issue really if you prefer this to reporting to IT Services directly at <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/it-support>.

**IMAP, SMTP access:** if you don't know what these are, don't worry about it. Multi factor authentication was rolled out for this too, knowhow is available if needed. I successfully tested three different solutions, please let me know if you are interested.

**Márton Balázs**  
**School Assembly, December 2024**

## Report from Director of Research (Viveka Erlandsson)

- EPSRC Fellowships (open, open plus, and postdoctoral) are now close for new applications, but we have been reassured that they will shortly reopen and then only be open for mathematical science for a while (a year?). We have not been given a date for when the new scheme reopens, only that it should be at the beginning of the new year.

- New round of Future Leaders Fellowships:  
<https://www.ukri.org/opportunity/future-leaders-fellowships-round-10/>

We are looking for candidates to put forward for this scheme. If you have any strong candidates in mind, or interested in applying yourself, please contact my and Head of School for details. Candidates could be external or internal. (Please look at link above for details)

There will be an internal process (both School and Faculty level) with the faculty being able to nominate 6 candidates to the university wide selection.

- The Senate approved the University's *Open Research Policy*

<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/staff/researchers/open-research/open-research-policy/>

*The University of Bristol recognises the moral and practical value of open research. It is committed to the advancement and wide dissemination of knowledge to the benefit of society by adopting practices that support open, reproducible and responsible research, consistent with our civic responsibility as a public university. Underpinning our Open Research Policy are sub-policies and guidance in established areas of open research practice: these policies will be revised and updated as the landscape evolves, to reflect our commitment to open research practices. These sub-policies are designed as practical 'how-to' guides for anyone engaged in research activity, with links to external policies, initiatives and bodies involved in supporting the transition to Open Research.*

(See link above for more details and links to sub-policies etc)

- Recent successful funding applications
  - Isaac Chenchiah has been awarded a Royal Society Internal Exchanges Award.



## REPORT FROM EDI Leadership Team

- Welcome to Nugzar Suramlishvili as Student Outcome Lead. Although his role overlaps other areas, Nugzar's role is to monitor student outcome data and identify issues of concern particularly focusing on EDI.
- Welcome to Naomi Boardman, who will be taking on the role of EDI co-chair in the New Year. Helen Mawdsley will be stepping down after a period of transition.
- UGIM 2024 took place on the 25<sup>th</sup> of October. The event ended with a great success with over 20 participants. The feedback was largely positive. We aim to hold UGIM next year again.
- In collaboration with the Institute for Teaching and Learning in Mathematics, we organized a talk by Professor Layal Hakim (Exeter) on "Innovative approaches for supporting personalised learning in higher education mathematics." 20 people attended and it was well received by the audience.
- Internationals network – we are still looking for volunteers to lead this initiative. The first meeting is planned in January. Please contact us if you're interested in joining.
- We have a new EDI committee for this academic year. Most of the 2023/24 members will remain in the committee. We are currently recruiting new members to represent PW2 and PGR. If you have any suggestions for people to join the committee, please contact the EDI co-chairs at [maths-equity@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:maths-equity@bristol.ac.uk).
- We were advised that those interested in joining neurodiversity and LGBTQ+ networks should join the central networks in the first instance. <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/inclusion/staff-networks/neurodiversity-staff-network/>  
<https://www.bristol.ac.uk/inclusion/staff-networks/lgbt--staff-network/>
- Bystander training – we are waiting on information about when this will be rolled out to PGRs. We would like to encourage staff to engage as well. Based on the success of inclusive recruitment training, we would like to make it an in-person event at the beginning of TB2.
- Free period products – this will be rolled out by the Student Inclusion team – we are waiting for information from Faculty on when this will happen. Central university funds will be used to ensure all students have access to period products and estates services will be responsible for replenishing them.
- Planning underway for a Women and Girls in STEM talk the 12<sup>th</sup> of Feb 2025 – joint WP/EDI activity. Kelly sent an email about the event on 10 December; please share with people who

might be interested. <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/universityofbristol15/1482328>

- Faculty updates are sent via the School newsletter monthly and are uploaded to the School Intranet.
- Athena Swan Action Plan - Annual tasks stipulated by the Action Plan are either completed or underway. Monitoring of their effectiveness from January 2025 (one year after award). It was noted that recruitment processes for academic positions have since changed and the new processes need to be recorded for Athena SWAN monitoring. We are waiting for faculty to publish recruitment advice.
- Student EDI Strategy (Faculty):
  - Work is underway to improve the diversity of faiths within the Multifaith Chaplaincy team, in order to be more representative of the student and staff body.
  - Work is underway to improve the Trans Student Experience (approved action plan).
  - Working in partnership with the EDI team in HR to develop the next stage of the Stand Up Speak Out campaign, namely the introduction of in-person workshops to supplement online learning resources and build staff and student confidence in being an active bystander.
- Student Inclusion Team:
  - The first meeting of the Student of Colour TCB group was held in October.
  - Trans and non-binary mentoring is available to students. More information, including how to apply, can be found here: <https://www.bristol.ac.uk/students/life-in-bristol/opportunities/trans-and-non-binary-mentoring/>
  - Work Experience (WEX): The potential to coordinate WEX efforts has been discussed. Some people suggested making School-specific events, such as Mathematics at Work, visible to people from other Schools through a joint website or a shared newsletter. The School of Maths works closely with Career Services and this information is available to everyone in the University via Careers Services.
- Others
  - The introduction of course notes in the HTML5 format across different schools was discussed. Some people were enthusiastic, while others expressed concerns that it might lead to an increased workload for lecturers with limited benefits.
- A draft of the School's EDI strategy is attached in a separate document.

Helen Mawdsley / Kentaro Fujimoto, EDI Co-chairs

Andrew Hogg, Athena Swan lead

Katarzyna Reluga, Student EDI lead

December 2024

## EDI Strategy for the School of Mathematics

### Key aims:

Our school EDI strategy aims to reflect internally on our practices and culture as well as enhance the visibility of diversity in our community and inclusion in our strategic activities to enhance experiences and share our expertise within the School and nationally.

The School EDI strategy builds on the work of the central EDI Team across three core areas: an inclusive and equitable infrastructure; diversity of representation; and a culture of belonging. It also builds on Faculty strategy to enhance education and student experience, and to develop people and culture.

Our School EDI strategy focuses on three main areas: Culture, Students, and Staff.

Goals	Objectives
1. Culture	
1.1 Embed EDI considerations into all School activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure representation by underrepresented groups in activities (such as seminars) and committees</li></ul>
1.2 Ensure all colleagues have an awareness and understanding of EDI principles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Encourage colleagues to take part in training activities</li><li>• Facilitate in person training where possible for ease of access</li><li>• Ensure colleagues know where to find information</li></ul>
1.3 Maintain and support an inclusive working environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Work with central teams to ensure ease of access to accessibility tools</li><li>• Ensuring meetings and activities take place within core working hours</li><li>• Consider hybrid events and activities that are more readily accessible to a variety of students and colleagues</li></ul>
2. Students	
2.1 Create and support a diverse and inclusive community of students where everyone feels they are respected and belong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improve recruitment of students from underrepresented groups (gender, ethnicity, and disability)</li><li>• Improve academic outcomes for students from underrepresented groups</li><li>• Support students from underrepresented groups to fully achieve their potential and academic goals</li><li>• Listen to student feedback, engage them in developing plans for improvement and the enactment of improvements</li><li>• Provide all students with academic and pastoral support that is appropriate to their backgrounds and promotes success</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and deliver inclusive assessments for all</li> </ul>
2.2 Inspire and encourage diversity in the study of mathematics, both in the School and on a national stage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage students from underrepresented groups to continue to postgraduate study and academic pursuits</li> <li>• Create a community of mathematicians that extends beyond the University by offering activities that highlight the work of academics as well as those working in industry, business, government, and the third sector</li> </ul>
2.3 Increase visibility of underrepresented groups in mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand coursework and teaching resources to celebrate diverse backgrounds and approaches (decolonisation, gender representations and learning styles)</li> <li>• Value and celebrate the educational and societal benefits of our diverse learning community</li> </ul>
<b>3. Staff</b>	
3.1 Create and support a diverse and inclusive community of colleagues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve recruitment and retention of colleagues from underrepresented groups</li> </ul>
3.2 Support an inclusive and equitable working environment for all colleagues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engender fair and transparent understandings of workload across all colleagues</li> <li>• Support flexible working, out of hours guidance and advice for those who have caring or parental responsibilities</li> <li>• Create and maintain informal opportunities for support</li> <li>• Provide opportunities for colleagues to interact with the School and University's network of external partners (alumni, industry, business, government and the third sector)</li> </ul>
3.3 Support career development across all colleagues and pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide additional support for underrepresented groups and early career and new colleagues, including support for promotion and career advancement training in line with the UoB promotions framework, as part of mentoring and/or annual staff review</li> <li>• Provide guidance to staff on developing and demonstrating their impact and engagement activities</li> <li>• Encourage mentoring and development meetings</li> </ul>

References:

[EDI Strategy and Governance | Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Team | University of Bristol](#)



## **REPORT FROM THE SCHOOL MANAGER – NOVEMBER 2024**

### **Professional Services Staffing Updates**

- Deputy School Manager appointment
  - Please join me in welcoming Naomi Boardman to the School, who joined us on 9<sup>th</sup> December as our new Deputy School Manager. Naomi was previously the Executive Administration Manager in the School of Biochemistry. Naomi's portfolio will include responsibility for supporting academic workload allocations, supporting TSRs, leading and managing the School's Postgraduate Admin and CDT teams, and supporting work around research activities across the School.
- Student Admin Team
  - We are pleased to also welcome Amber Williams to the School's Student Admin Team. Amber will join as a Student Administrator on 18<sup>th</sup> December, following the departure of Rachel Tan, who left the School on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. We would like to say a massive thank you to Rachel for all her hard work and support during her time with the School, and wish her all the very best for her next steps.
  - We are also currently recruiting for a new additional Deputy Student Administration Manager to join the team, who we hope to have in post around February/March to provide some extra support and resource to the team.

### **School IPP (Integrated Planning Process)**

- Through our 25/26 workload planning process, an additional 1.6FTE has been requested for the School PS Team for 25/26 (1FTE Student Administrator, 0.6FTE Executive Assistant) and 0.6FTE from 26/26 (0.6FTE Senior Research Administrator REF) – expect initial response in January.

### **Finance Update**

- UKRI terms and conditions - changes to eligibility of alcohol expenditure on research grants.
  - A reminder that as of November 2023, alcohol is not permitted as an eligible cost on any UKRI-funded research grants.
  - Expense claims e.g. for subsistence which include alcohol expenditure can no longer be requested/claimed against any UKRI grants. Any expense claims which include alcohol expenditure will therefore not be approved if submitted.
- Research grant post-award support changes
  - Changes to post award research support continue and two new shared mailboxes have been set up to assist with the management of queries. These mailboxes should be used in place of contacting your current AA if you have a studentship or EC award, with the budget code of the award included in the subject line/body of the email. Queries will still be picked up by your designated post-award

contact but use of a shared mailbox will facilitate more effective support during periods of leave/cover etc

- EC Post Award Shared Mailbox ([fin-eu-postaward@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:fin-eu-postaward@bristol.ac.uk))
- Studentships Shared Mailbox ([fin-postaward-studentship@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:fin-postaward-studentship@bristol.ac.uk))

## **Maths Circle with We Solve Problems**

- Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> Nov saw the beginning of a new Bristol Maths Circle, arranged by Henna Koivusalo working with the charity We Solve Problems and supported by colleagues from across the School including Trev Barton, Bex Gray and our team of Estates Assistants. Maths Circle classes will run for the next six months for children from 11-15 years old aiming to ignite a long-lasting passion for logical reasoning and inspire the next generation of problem solvers. For more information please see <https://wesolveproblems.org.uk/maths-circles-at-university-of-bristol/>.

## **Health & Safety Management**

- Fry Front Door  
We are working to resolve continuing issues with the reliability of the Fry main doors with our Facilities Manager and Campus Division colleagues
- Request for volunteers to join School fire warden group  
Thanks to those academics and PS colleagues who have kindly volunteered to join our growing fire warden team – if anyone else would like to volunteer, please let me know.
- Tailgating  
Please support the ongoing safety of the School community by being vigilant for tailgating or potential strangers on campus. Further information is available [here](#)
- Minutes of the School Safety Committee can be found on the School of Maths intranet pages

## **Travelling overseas – All staff and PGR students**

- A reminder that all overseas travel needs to be logged on the Global Travel Portal <http://www.bristol.ac.uk/safety/staff/travel/> and for staff travel above 30 days, approval by both Head of School and International Mobility team is required.
- For staff looking to combine working days with annual leave during the Christmas 2024 vacation period, the regular guideline is temporarily amended for any travel that takes place between Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November and Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January.
- For further information should this be applicable please see [here](#)

**Louise Todd, School Manager, November 2024**