



Welcome

As we come to the end of a very long Autumn term, I want to thank all members of our community for all of their hard work and support. Community is the first element of our CARE values and ethos and it has been heartwarming over the last few weeks, as we get closer to the Christmas holidays, to see this core value reflected across the two sites of our school. As you can see from the article below, this focus on community (but also relationships as well) can be seen in the actions of our students from 7BG2 and the care that they have shown towards members of our community who may be spending Christmas alone this year. It has also been reflected in the generosity our community has shown during the recent fundraising for our 3 key charities this year with £1,180 raised during the recent non-uniform day and, whilst not featured in this newsletter it has also been seen in the huge amount of food donations that students and staff have made towards the Paignton Community Larder which will help key members of our local community this Christmas. This to me shows the power and impact that a school can have in not only delivering sound academic outcomes but in also contributing to the wider community.

Our community also came together this week to watch the annual Winter Wonderland Performers. I know that the sell-out crowd in The Arena on Tuesday evening saw a truly brilliant performance from so many of our exceptionally talented students. It really was a memorable experience.

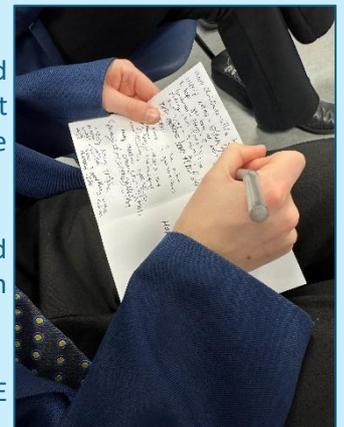
May I end by taking this opportunity to wish all members of our community, students, parents, carers, guardians and friends and family alike a peaceful and relaxing festive holiday and a healthy and prosperous new year. We look forward to welcoming back your students at the usual time on Monday 5th January 2026.

Spreading Christmas Cheer with 7BG2

During their Day session, 7BG2 read an article titled “One Million People to Spend Christmas Alone.” This really struck a chord with the students and opened up heartfelt conversations about loved ones who have passed away and those spending the festive season in care homes.

Inspired by this, the class decided to take action! They gathered Christmas cards and wrote thoughtful messages to send to local care homes, ensuring these will be posted in time for Christmas.

What a wonderful and compassionate idea from our students—truly reflecting our CARE values in the most meaningful way.



Student Success Spotlight

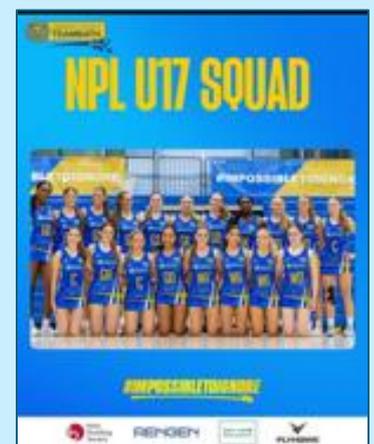


We are absolutely thrilled to share that Sophie, who is currently in Year 10, has trialled and been offered a place in the Bath U17's NPL pathway this season!

Her dedication, hard work, and passion for the sport have truly paid off, and this achievement marks an exciting step forward in her journey.

Here is Sophie at her media shoot—capturing this special milestone in style!

We couldn't be prouder—well done, Sophie!



NETBALL ROUND-UP!

That's a wrap on matches until after Christmas — and what a fantastic season we've had so far!

Year 9 smashed it this term, placing 3rd in the county and finishing their final competition of the year undefeated. Incredible teamwork and determination on show!

Year 7 stepped up brilliantly, fielding two teams for the first time ever. For many of these girls it was their first time representing the school, and they showed amazing spirit and progress.

A huge well done to all our players — so much success already, and we can't wait to see what the New Year brings!



Huge Good Luck to Frankie in Year 9 and Kyla in Year 11!

They'll be spending their Christmas break at the Palace Theatre in Paignton performing in Robinson Crusoe & The Pirates!

Frankie will be in the chorus, Kyla is a senior dancer, and they'll be joined by Miss Duffin, who is playing Cross Bones.

They've been rehearsing most nights since October — such incredible dedication! We can't wait to see their talent shine on stage.

If you'd like to support them, head to the Palace Theatre website and grab your tickets!



Swimming Success for Mia and Lewis!



Huge congratulations to Mia (Year 9) and Lewis (Year 7) for their incredible achievements in the swimming pool over the past two weekends!

Mia smashed 5 Personal Best times and secured an impressive 3rd place in the 50m Backstroke.

Lewis also achieved 5 Personal Best times and brought home 4 medals, including Gold in the 50m Breaststroke, along with a regional consideration time.

Well done to both Mia and Lewis for their outstanding dedication and success — we're so proud of you!



What an EPIC adventure!

This month, 40 of our amazing Year 10 students took London by storm!

From marvelling at the wonders of the Natural History Museum, to shopping the vibrant streets of Covent Garden, dining at Frankie & Benny's, and being blown away by the spectacular Matilda at the Cambridge Theatre – it was a trip to remember!

And just when you thought it couldn't get better... the next day was pure MAGIC at Harry Potter Studios!

A huge shoutout to everyone who made this unforgettable experience happen – memories like these last a lifetime!



Winter Wonderland Performers Shine!



This week, we were delighted to welcome our parents, guardians and families to our Winter Wonderland Concert. The show was a resounding success, and our students truly shone on stage. Their talent, confidence and hard work were evident throughout, leaving parents, guardians and guests thoroughly impressed. Well done to everyone involved for such a fantastic performance.

Below are some snapshots of some of our wonderful students working hard during rehearsals.

We hope you enjoyed the concert and thank you all for joining us to celebrate the incredible talent of our students!



Press Release

Seventy-seven Year 7 students have proudly achieved the prestigious Activity Volunteer Programme Award after completing an intensive four-week training course designed to nurture leadership and personal growth.

The programme focused on developing essential life skills including:

- ✔ Self-belief
- ✔ Confidence
- ✔ Communication
- ✔ Teamwork
- ✔ Problem-solving
- ✔ Commitment to excellence

Under the guidance of Mr. Julyan, and with the support of Annabel White (Torbay's School Games Organiser) and Active Devon, students created their own volunteer profiles and engaged in regular reflection to track their progress and achievements.

Already, many of the newly qualified Year 7 sports leaders have put their skills into practice by helping to run school events. The remaining students will have the opportunity to showcase their leadership abilities in the new year, ensuring that every participant contributes to the wider school community.

Mr. Julyan commented:

"This programme has been an inspiring journey for our students. Watching them grow in confidence and take on leadership roles has been a privilege. We are excited to see how they continue to make a positive impact both in school and beyond."

Thank You for Your Generosity!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to our chosen charities this term. Together, we raised an incredible **£1,180** during our non-uniform day! This amount will be split between **Cancer Research**, **Winston's Wish**, and **Mind Devon**, helping to support the amazing work these organisations do.

Your kindness truly makes a difference—thank you for being part of it!



🎄 Our Christmas Careers Newsletter Is Here! 🎄

Discover what our students have been up to this term! Amazing trips, inspiring workshops, and exciting career opportunities!

[Careers Christmas 2025 Newsletter](#)



Paignton Academy



Please like and follow our Facebook and Instagram pages to keep up to date with Paignton Academy's news.

Dates for Your Diary

Monday 5th January	First day of Spring term
Wednesday 14 th January	Year 9 Options Event BRC
Thursday 15 th January	Year 9 Options Event WRC
Week <u>commencing</u> Monday 19 th January	Year 9 PPEs
Tuesday 20 th January	LEAP Project Event