

Welcome

Please see below a selection of great achievements from our talented students over the past week at Paignton Academy. We really are impressed by all that you do, both in school and in your free time. Please note that school will be closed on Friday 27th June. This provides the opportunity for a long weekend for pupils during a particularly long Summer term, the second half of which is much longer than the first. To check the full calendar for this academic year, please follow the link below to our website:

Wishing you all a restful weekend, Mr Williams

Term Dates 24-25

Double Delight At The Devon Cross Country Qualifiers



Huge congratulations to Scarlett, Jordan, Archie, Oscar and Roman who all ran for their chances to represent Devon at the next regional cross-country round in Newquay.

All ran superbly in the tricky conditions, but unfortunately Oscar succumbed to injury whilst in a qualifying position. Scarlett and Archie stormed through their races, and both earned qualifying spots and now represent Devon. Scarlett, a veteran in the event has done well enough to go straight through to the National event!

Jordan and Roman, both attempting the event for the first time did fantastically in 24th and 43rd respectively! Well, done all and huge, good luck to Scarlett and Archie in the next round.



Student Success



Carson, our Year 10 student, has showcased his talent through successful trials with Exeter Chiefs, earning a spot as one of just 50 boys from across Devon to join the prestigious U15 development program. Here he stands proudly with Head Development Coach Lee Western.

Congratulations, Carson! Your hard work and dedication inspire us all!

Congratulations to our Year 10 student, Ryan, who won first place on Saturday and Sunday at the Purebred Sled Dog Association race.

This was only the second race of the season for him. Here are some pictures of Ryan, including ones with his two dogs, Bibi and Pandora, whom he has trained. Congratulations, Ryan!



Bikeability



Paignton Academy is the sole 'Training Provider' for secondary school Bikeability training in Torbay.

Recently, the scheme received a two-day external quality assurance visit by the Bikeability Trust, which oversees all Bikeability training in England. The visit included a detailed look at the booking systems, record keeping, policies, procedures and overall management of the scheme, plus observations of instructors delivering the training to groups of young people.

The team that visited were very impressed with all aspects of the scheme management and the quality of the Level 3 training that was observed across the two days. The report identified a number of areas of particular strength.

Management:

A well organised and efficient management system.

Excellent practice providing opportunities for secondary school children to undertake Level 3 training.

A productive working relationship between all stakeholders that supports the cycling network.

An experienced team headed by a passionate scheme manager who has a 'can do' attitude.

Level 3 Training:

Training was dynamic and there was a great amount of riding practice.

Each session covered approximately six miles and included numerous Level 3 outcomes.

The training was rider led. Riders were involved in planning the journey, they were consulted about the challenges they wanted, encouraged to peer teach, participated in discussions, encouraged to make independent decisions, and they were able to make useful reflections on their experiences.

The environments used were realistic and provided complex and progressive activities.

Mr Julyan, who is the scheme manager, was delighted with the report;

"The whole process was very positive. The visiting team were very detailed in their challenge of the scheme, but also in their supportive role to help us to keep improving. They were rightly impressed with all aspects of our scheme and we were reassured by their praise. It was also very helpful to discuss ways in which we could make little changes to keep improving further. We look forward to all future visits."

Year 7 Football Gets Off To A Flying Start

Last week saw our Year 7 Teams, Paignton United and Paignton Town, take on multiple opponents at their first Central Venue of the year. In total Paignton hosted 9 different schools with 13 teams between them! The girls got to play three different teams throughout the tournament and showed some great skills and excellent teamwork throughout the tournament.

A special mention has to go to Maisie for scoring all of Paignton United's goals in the tournament - two of which were outstanding!! This was an excellent start to the season for our Year 7's and we can't wait to see them improve and progress across the next few tournaments.

Well, done Girls!

This week sees the start of the Year 8 Central Venue Tournaments where we hope to continue the success Year 7 had!



Year 9 Music

Last term, Year 9 composed film music pieces using BandLab, an online music software platform. This allowed students to enhance their music technology skills while expanding their understanding of film music.

Alfie and Dawson composed a piece designed to be played alongside a clip from the superhero film Avengers Assemble: Endgame. In their composition, you can hear a range of instruments that create excitement and tension, including an effective vocal track that says, "what are we fighting for?", matching the mood of the clip perfectly. The instruments were synchronised with the action on screen to create an immersive track. Their piece fits the clip and the brief smoothly to create a sense of action - well done Dawson and Alfie!

Lilly composed a piece designed to be played alongside a clip from the fantasy film Maleficent. In her composition, you can hear a range of ethereal instruments played alongside sound effects that were synchronised with the action on screen to create an immersive track. Her piece fit the clip and the brief perfectly - well done Lilly!

Harley composed a piece designed to be played alongside a clip from the 2013 horror film Poltergeist. In his composition, you can hear a range of haunting instruments played alongside upbeat rhythms to create a completely new approach to a horror soundtrack. His piece was a creepy, modern and innovative approach to horror film music - well done Harley!

Please visit our Facebook page to listen to the samples of their work.

Year 10 GCSE Music

Last week, the remaining half of Miss Peter's Year 10 GCSE Music class had their first solo performance and recording of these pieces for their GCSE Music qualification.

Each student performed to the class whilst being recorded for the first time on the course. The students have all been rehearsing for their solo performances since September and the second batch of performances went equally well as the first!

Whilst listening to each other, the class also peer-marked one another's performances against the GCSE Music solo performance criteria to develop their understanding of how they will be marked by the end of their course.

The class, as a whole, has had a great start towards their GCSE Music course!

If your child is interested in choosing GCSE Music as an option in the future, please contact your child's music teacher regarding any questions you have.



Paignton Academy Careers Newsletter - Out Now!

Discover the latest updates, exciting opportunities, and expert guidance in our newest edition of the Careers Newsletter, designed to inspire your future aspirations.

Read it here: <https://careers.paigntonacademy.org/newsletter/>

Don't miss out on valuable insights to help you plan your next steps!



The Wonderstruck Science Show



We would like to welcome students, parents/guardians, the local primaries and the local community to come and join us to celebrate the power of Science. We have an exciting opportunity as Paignton Academy presents the Wonderstruck Show, an explosive behind the scenes look at how rockets are made. There will be exciting demonstrations, bangs and explosions!

The event is being held at our Borough Road Centre in the Arena on Wednesday 29th January 2025 and is open to all including the local community. Doors open from 5.30pm for the show to start at 6pm.

Ticket prices:

Adult Ticket - £1.50

Child Ticket - 50p

Tickets need to be purchased via the Paignton Academy shop, the link can be found here or scan the QR code on the poster.

<https://app.parentpay.com/ParentP.../Uniform/Default.aspx...>

We very much look forward to seeing you there on Wednesday 29th January.

Dates for Your Diary

Wednesday 29th January	Year 9 Careers Day WRC
Wednesday 5th February	Year 9 Careers Day BRC
Thursday 13th February	Year 9 Parents' Evening
Friday 14th February	Last Day of Half Term
Monday 24th February	Back to School
3rd - 12th March	Year 11 PPEs
26th - 28th March	School Production - "The Little Mermaid"
Friday 4th April	Last Day of the Spring Term
Tuesday 22nd April	First Day of the Summer Term



Paignton Academy



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