

Paignton Academy Believe and Achieve

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Website: paigntonacademy.org



Welcome

Welcome to the final newsletter of Term 3! I particularly want to congratulate our outstanding Netball team and the Year 8 Dragons Den team on their great work and success this year. We are so proud of you. In this newsletter we also have information about our Thinking Maps and Metacognition week. Providing our learners with the tools that they need which will allow them to not only remember content for assessments and exams but which will also provide them with the skills that they need in life is at the heart of what we, as a Thinking School, and as part of The Thinking Schools Academy Trust, are all about. It was great to see these strategies and tools in use across our curriculum during the Thinking Week but more so than that, we are embedding these into all of our lessons, across all weeks. We also break up today for half term and return on Monday 24th February. May I take this opportunity to wish all of our community a peaceful, safe and relaxing half term. Best wishes, *Mr Williams*.

Amelia's Fundraiser For The Little Princess Trust

Year 8 student Amelia is raising money for The Little Princess

Trust by cutting her hair for the charity. Amelia will get her hair cut and give the money to the Little Princess Trust when she turns 13 if she raises £200 for the charity before the end of the month.

It is an important moment for the whole family, and she is thrilled to be working to raise awareness of cancer-related hair loss and alopecia in children.

Please help Ameilia raise money for this worthy cause by giving her your support! Below is a link to the charity:

https://www.justgiving.com/page/amelia-freshwater-2?utm medium=FR&utm_source=CL

We are very proud of you Amelia!



Student Success

Florence, a Year 7 student, has been appointed as a "Believe to Achieve Sporting Ambassador" for Torbay on the Move

Due to her involvement with Devon County FA and Exeter City Academy, she has received a financial grant from Torbay Council.

As a Believe to Achieve ambassador, Florence will be responsible for undertaking various supportive roles for Torbay Council and/or Sport Torbay.

Additionally, she has a tournament scheduled at Swindon Town at the beginning of the half term, followed by matches against Bournemouth FC for Devon County FA next Thursday.

This is an amazing achievement, Florence! Congratulations and good luck from all of us here at Paignton Academy!



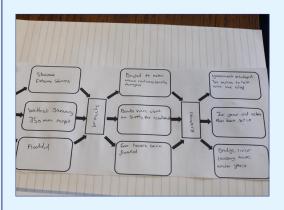
Celebrating Thinking Maps Day!



This week Paignton Academy buzzed with excitement as we celebrated our 'Week of Thinking'! It was an opportunity to promote thinking and the power of the metacognitive approaches we take as part of the Thinking Schools Academy







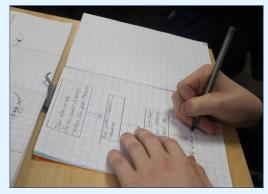
Trust to transform students' life chances.

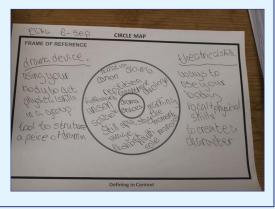
We are excited to share the highlights of our Thinking Maps Day which took place on Wednesday 5th February. We focused on integrating Thinking Maps across all subjects, in every lesson and for all year groups. The results were truly inspiring!

Both students and staff produced fantastic throughout the day, driving forward deeper thinking and showcasing the power of these visual tools. Thinking Maps have proven to be invaluable in helping us organise thoughts, our understand complex concepts and communicate more effectively. It was wonderful to see everyone actively participating, learning new techniques and sharing their experiences. The creativity and critical thinking displayed were remarkable.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to making Thinking Maps Day a success.







Netball



On Tuesday January 28th, our Under 15 team competed in the prestigious Under 15 State Schools' Competition. The girls played with incredible determination, resilience and teamwork, securing wins in 4 out of 7 games.

Their hard work and perseverance paid off and they proudly finished in 4th place — an impressive achievement! A special thank you goes to the Year 8 players who stepped up to support the team and played beyond their age group.

Congratulations to all the players for their outstanding performance and sportsmanship!

Devon County Schools Badminton Finals

Last week, Paignton Academy took part in the Devon County Schools Badminton Finals. The competition brought together the best players from across the County, as part of the National School Badminton Championships. The Academy qualified for all four age categories and was the only school from Torbay to feature.

The standard of the competition was extremely high, with many schools fielding County players. Despite this, there were individual victories for Mia (Year 8) and Archie (Year 10). Malik and David (Year 8) won a doubles match; Julia (Year 10) and Melissa (Year 11) narrowly missed out by a single point in one of their doubles matches.

Most of the Paignton players had never played a competitive match before and did an amazing job representing the Academy.

The majority of them have another year in the same age category and Nate from Year 7, who was the youngest player in the event, will have two more opportunities in the same age category.

Well done to all of our students!

The Academy runs a Badminton Club every Wednesday after school in the Hub from 3pm-4:15pm. All students from both sites are welcome to come along, whether they would like to compete, improve their skills or just play socially with friends.















The Explosive Food Science Show

Learn about food and its often explosive nature.

Find out about the incredible amount of energy contained in the food that goes in your mouth in this show packed with exciting chemistry and physics demonstrations.

The RI is the largest national provider of science shows for schools, with a wealth of experience in making science for kids engaging and fun.

The event is being held at our Borough Road Centre in the Arena on Tuesday 25th February 2025. Doors open from 4.45pm for the show to start at 5pm - ending at 6pm.

Everyone is welcome! Please share!

- Ticket prices:
- Adult Ticket £1.00
- Child Ticket 50p

Tickets need to be purchased via the Paignton Academy shop, the link can be found here:

https://app.parentpay.com/ParentPayShop/Uniform/Default.aspx?shopid=766

We very much look forward to seeing you there on Tuesday 25th February 2025.

Torbay Dragons' Den Competition

Last Friday, some of our awesome Year 8 students took part in the Torbay Dragons' Den Competition, competing against seven other schools with Devon, Plymouth and Torbay Careers Hub!

Health Heros were crowned winners of Paignton Academy having faced months of tough competition from three other

eams.

DRAGONS

They then took to the stage to present their idea in front of five influential local business leaders and tackled some challenging questions with confidence. The girls performed exceptionally well, shining throughout the competition and secured an impressive second place!

As a reward, each team member received a £10 Amazon voucher, along with a special day out including lunch at Bovey Castle. Additionally, the Careers Team was awarded £80 in Amazon vouchers. Well done, Health Heros! We are incredibly proud of you!













New Singing Teacher



Great news! Paignton Academy has a new Singing teacher who is ready to begin lessons immediately. Whether want to feel more confident singing in music lessons, push for a principal role in the next school musical or improve your singing-in-the-shower

lessons will be held 1:1 and are tailored to suit you and your voice.

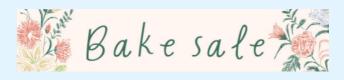
Grab a letter from your Music teacher to start singing from Term 4!

A Huge Thank You

We are thrilled to announce that our cake sale raised an amazing £187.45! A massive thank you to all the students and staff who supported this event. Your enthusiasm and generosity made it a fantastic success.

A special shout-out to the staff who went above and beyond by contributing their time, delicious cakes and generous donations. Your efforts are truly appreciated.

Brilliant work, everyone!



Happy Half-Term

We hope our wonderful students, staff, parents, and guardians have a relaxing and enjoyable February halfterm!

We can't wait to see everyone back to school on

Monday, 24th February

Enjoy your break!

The Faculty of Creative Arts Invites You To See This Year's **Academy Musical** "The Little Mermaid Jr"

We're thrilled to invite you to our fantastic performances from the 26th March to the 28th March 2025, at the Arena on the Borough Road site!

Join Ariel and her underwater friends in this enchanting show based on Disney's Broadway production and animated film. It features award-winning music and explores the sacrifices we make for love and acceptance.







This production includes over 100 students from Years 7 to Year 11. We welcome support from parents, guardians, and the local community. Students and staff have worked hard since September, and we hope you can join us.

Tickets are now available through the ParentPay Shop (link below):

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





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	
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
Wednesday 18th June	Early Closure for Staff Training 2pm
Friday 18th July	Early Closure for Last Day of Term 2pm