

Welcome

As we reach the end of what has been a wonderfully busy and productive first half of the Autumn term, I want to take a moment to thank you all for your continued support, commitment and hard work. It has been a pleasure to see our students engaging so positively in all aspects of school life—from the classroom to extracurricular activities.

*A quick reminder before we all enjoy a well-deserved break: **tomorrow, Friday 17th October, and Monday 3rd November are both non-pupil days**, so students will return to school on **Tuesday 4th November**.*

In this edition of our newsletter you can read about:

The Wave Project — a heartfelt thank you to our inspiring group of students who've shown teamwork and courage on the paddleboards this term.

Our School Production — a fantastic start to rehearsals, with energy and excitement already building for what promises to be a spectacular show.

Year 8 Readers — celebrating curiosity, critical thinking and engagement during the recent BBC media workshop.

The Borough Road Dungeons & Dragons Club — shining a light on creativity, collaboration and confidence in action.

The Alton Towers Scarefest Adventure — recognising our brilliant Year 11s for their excellent attendance and behaviour.

DakhaBrakha Live — a cultural explosion that gave our students a unique and inspiring musical experience.

Student Success Spotlight — congratulating Amy in Year 7 for her incredible achievements in gymnastics—seven gold medals in one weekend!

It's been a term filled with enthusiasm, achievement, and community spirit, and I couldn't be prouder of our students and staff alike. I hope everyone enjoys a safe, restful, and fun October break—you've all earned it!

Mr Williams

The Wave Project – A Heartfelt Thank You

Miss Tucker and Mrs Bruce would like to extend a huge thank you to the ten students who took part in The Wave Project this September. You have represented the Academy with grace and enthusiasm in every session, and we are incredibly proud of the progress each of you has made on the paddleboards.

Your teamwork, kindness, and support for one another have been truly inspiring. Watching your confidence and resilience grow week by week has been an absolute pleasure. You've shown what it means to rise to a challenge—and to lift each other up along the way.

Well done to all of you!



What A fantastic Start To Our School Production!

Our talented students and dedicated staff have been working incredibly hard to bring this show to life. So far, we've blocked six scenes and learned three songs—choreography included!

The energy and enthusiasm in rehearsals have been amazing, and we can't wait to dive back in after the October half term. Stay tuned... this show is going to be something special!



Dungeons & Dragons Club

A huge well done to the 13 dedicated members of the Borough Road Dungeons & Dragons Club this term! From Years 8 to 11, these students have shown fantastic commitment—creating their own characters, building friendships, and stepping out of their comfort zones to embrace a group that can feel a little daunting at first. It's been brilliant to see their creativity and confidence grow!

Celebrating Our Year 8 Readers!

Last week, our Year 8 students took part in an insightful BBC workshop exploring biased media, the differences between real and fake news, and how we can all learn from past media mistakes.

They showed fantastic curiosity, critical thinking, and teamwork skills that make them not only brilliant readers but thoughtful global citizens too!

Well done to all our Year 8s who have excelled in their reading lessons this term. We are so proud of your progress and enthusiasm!



Student Success Spotlight

We're thrilled to celebrate the outstanding accomplishments of Amy in Year 7, who has truly dazzled this weekend in not one, but two gymnastics competitions!

At her club competition, Amy soared to victory with 3 gold medals!

At the prestigious English Riviera competition, she added an incredible 4 more gold medals to her collection. Amy's dedication, talent, and hard work are an inspiration to us all. Please join us in congratulating her on this phenomenal achievement — we're so proud to have her representing our academy!

Well done, Amy! Keep reaching for the stars.



DakhaBrakha Live

On Thursday 9th October, Paignton Academy's Music and EAL teams took a group of lucky students to experience the electrifying sounds of **DakhaBrakha** — Ukraine's internationally acclaimed folk-fusion quartet. Known for their genre-defying performances and powerful cultural storytelling, DakhaBrakha delivered a night of unforgettable music, rhythm, and emotion.

Globally Celebrated & Award-Winning

- Sergey Kuryokhin Art Award (2009)
- Shevchenko National Prize (2020)
- French Order of Arts & Letters (2025)
- Rolling Stone's Best Breakout @ Bonnaroo (2014)
- Over 300 concerts in 40+ countries!

Want to relive the magic?

Watch the video of the experience now on our [Facebook](#) page and feel the energy for yourself.



Alton Towers Scarefest Adventure!

A huge shoutout to our 110 incredible Year 11 students who earned their spot on last Friday's Alton Towers trip with over 90% attendance and zero RR visits!

It was a marathon of a day, kicking off at 4:45am and wrapping up at 3:30am the next morning, thanks to the thrills and chills of Scarefest! From rollercoaster screams to haunted house dreams, you made it unforgettable.

Well done to everyone who went!



Paignton Academy



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Paignton Academy's
news.*



Dates for Your Diary

Friday 17th October	Non Pupil Day
Monday 20th October - Friday 31st October inclusive	Half Term
Monday 3rd November	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 5th November - Friday 14th November	Year 11 PPEs
Thursday 4th December	Year 11 Parents' Evening