



PAIGNTON COMMUNITY & SPORTS ACADEMY

Believe and Achieve

It is with great pleasure that I move to the Borough Road site with these students, supporting them as their Head of Year. They have come from a strong year within their option choices at Year 9 ready to embark on the most important two years of their education so far. We know from experience of the Year 11s that left us in 2018 that the GCSE exams are very challenging, some of the most difficult papers we have seen in many years have presented our students with a hard task. As a result of this I would ask that you ensure that your child's attendance to school is better than ever. All the information shared in this newsletter will help you support your child through their first year studying their GCSE curriculum. I cannot stress the importance of your child revising before any exams this year and taking their studies seriously. Mr Stacey and I will be focusing this term on looking forward and establishing the careers your children want to pursue to give them motivation and focus. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Helen Wilkinson,
Assistant Head of School

IMPORTANT DATES

- 2018**
 27th Sept Year 10 GCSE success evening
 15-26th Oct Half Term
 29th Oct Return from Half Term
 21st Dec Last day of Autumn Term

- 2019**
 7th January First Day of Spring Term

CONTACT INFORMATION

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CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER - AUTUMN TERM 2018

YEAR 10

MATHS

Students continue with the second year of their GCSE Mathematics course. Students will utilise a variety of resources which include GCSE textbooks and online resources utilising Google Classroom, Edexcel and Mymaths. There will be a combination of half-termly, termly and end of unit topic assessments which incorporate current and past Edexcel questions to familiarise students with exam style questions. Teachers will use question level analysis to accurately identify areas for development.

Topics to be taught this term will include fractions, indices, equations, inequalities and sequences, surface area and volume, graphs, probability, ratio and proportion, solving quadratic equations and standard form. There will be an emphasis on problem solving maths and building cross-topic and cross-curricular links to best prepare for the new 9-1 GCSE specification.

HISTORY

All students will complete a GCSE exam question to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Plains Indian culture. Students develop their knowledge and extended writing skills by tackling practice GCSE questions in every lesson. This term the students will focus on the stories of the early pioneers, including the Donner Party and the Mormon journey west. All students will complete an independent research project to deepen their knowledge and understanding of Plains Indian culture. Extensive help can be found at www.paigntononline.com



ENGLISH

As you are all aware the format of GCSEs has been reformed. English Language and English Literature will now be assessed through formal examinations at the end of the two year course. Two Year Planner:

Term	Year	English Language	English Literature
Autumn	10	Reading 20th & 21st Century non-fiction	Post 1914 text - 'An Inspector Calls' by J B Priestley
Spring	10	Reading 19th Century fiction extracts	19th Century novel - 'A Christmas Carol' by Charles Dickens
Summer	10	Writing Skills - Writing for a purpose	'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare
Autumn	11	Writing Skills - Creative/imaginative Speaking and Listening	Poetry Anthology - 'Conflict' collection
Spring	11	Reading & Writing Examination Skills	Revision of texts
Summer	11	Revision	Revision

The examinations are 'closed book' and require students to know the texts in detail. Therefore, it is useful for students to have their own copy of the set texts (we will provide a copy of the poetry anthology).

Texts Studied:

- A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens
- An Inspector Calls* by J.B. Priestley
- Macbeth* by William Shakespeare

Homework is set regularly using a variety of tasks to include written, learning and using the Doodle website tasks. Revision classes will run leading up to public examinations. Regular PPEs will take place throughout the course to ensure that students are fully prepared for their final examinations.

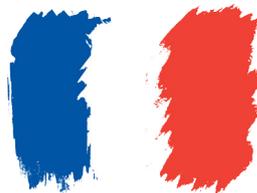
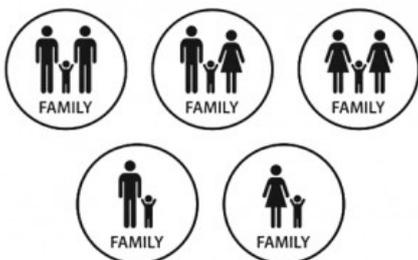
A GCSE information evening will be held at the beginning of the Autumn term and we invite you to attend. If you have any queries or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the English department.

SCIENCE

Having started GCSE Science in Year 9, students will continue their pathway through the course learning about and exploring some extremely interesting, yet challenging, content. Most of the students will be studying the AQA Combined Science Trilogy course, whilst a smaller number of students will continue to study the AQA Separate Science course. Within the first half term students will complete the taught material relating to Biology paper 1 and will complete a number of required practicals relating to these. It is important that students are in school for these practicals as questions on them will form part of their examinations. Students are expected to catch up on any missed work in their own time. The content will get progressively more challenging throughout KS4 and students must be prepared for this. It is highly recommended that students purchase one of our revision guides (available through ParentPay) to support their studies. Our dedicated team will be putting on scheduled revision throughout the academic year and we advise students to attend these to reflect, consolidate learning and to enhance confidence. More information on this new course can be found on the AQA website; <http://www.aqa.org.uk/subjects/science/gcse/combined-science-trilogy-8464>.

ETHICS

Students opting for the Ethics GCSE in Year 10 will be following the AQA GCSE which they will complete at the end of Year 11. During this term there will be a focus on exam style and technique. This will include regular assessment and feedback to help maximise their GCSE potential. Students will be engaging with topics such as relationships and families. This includes types of families, homosexuality, attitudes to marriage and planning a family. The course aims to develop students' opinions and ability to empathise with others from religious and non-religious backgrounds.



FRENCH

This term students will begin their study of the new GCSE syllabus and we will focus on themes of social issues, including voluntary and charity work. Some homework will be set on Linguascope which help students to learn in a more creative way.

ENGINEERING

The Year 10 engineers have begun to develop the knowledge and skills needed to pass their examination in March 2019. They are enrolled on the redeveloped course which combines both the level 1 and 2 qualifications in this subject area. Our young engineers are developing increased knowledge of the importance of both science and mathematics in engineering. This is being done through finding solutions to practical problems set in the engineering workshop. Parents and students are able to see the Year 10 tasks by visiting www.pcsaengineers.uk

GEOGRAPHY

Students will follow AQA GCSE Geography, which will be formally assessed at the end of the two year course. In the Autumn term, the Year 10 geographers will be studying the topic of ecosystems, looking in detail at tropical rainforests and cold environment. We then move on to look at rivers, followed by urban geography. Embedded within the course are opportunities for students to practise using geographical techniques e.g. map reading, mathematical skills and graphical interpretation, for which they will be assessed within their exams. We continue to develop students' knowledge and understanding of coasts in the Spring term and, as our local case study, students will be looking at Dawlish Warren and assessing the sustainability of the coastal defences. This will lead to a field study later on in Year 10. A revision guide which would be useful to purchase online or at any local bookstore is: CGP AQA GCSE Geography. ISBN: 978 1 78294 610 6

MUSIC

Students will begin their BTEC First in Music by completing Unit 4: Introducing Music Composition. This unit will see them use and further develop the composition skills built at Key Stage 3. Students will begin Unit 1: The Music Industry's exam, which is planned to take place at the end of Year 10. Alongside this students will be developing their performance skills in preparation for Unit 5.

Instrumental lessons are offered by our excellent team of visiting teachers and students can sign up by collecting a letter from the Music department.

Our Christmas concert will take place on the 20th December at Paignton Parish Church and auditions for Year 10 performances will take place in W44.

Don't forget to encourage your child to attend one of the music clubs offered at lunchtime and after school.

Extra-Curricular:

Monday break time – Flute and Clarinet Club

Tuesday before school – Revision
Friday lunchtime – Choir and Live Lounge

Friday after school – Revision and Band.

Practice rooms are available to book on Monday at break, and Friday lunchtimes.

CONSTRUCTION

The Year 10 Construction trainees will be focusing on the Carpentry and Joinery unit in which they will learn different types of joints to include mitre, corner halving, tee halving, dovetail and mortise and tenon.

They will practice and refine these joinery skills in order to produce various projects for assessment.

The students will also receive their results from the Construction Technology exam taken in May.



FOOD

We will be starting a module on dietary guidelines; students will need to understand the essentials of healthy eating in relation to the 'Eatwell' guide and the eight guidelines for healthy eating. They will learn the link between diet and health. Students will then use the information they have learnt to complete their first task. Task: 'Fruit and vegetables are an essential part of the daily diet. Explore and produce four dishes to encourage greater use of fruit and vegetables'. Students will have to investigate, plan, produce and evaluate 4 dishes.



DANCE

Year 10 Dance students will begin their BTEC Tech Award in Performing Arts (Dance) by studying *Component 1: Exploring the Performing Arts* alongside *Component 2: Developing Skills and Techniques in the Performing Arts*. They will look at the roles and responsibilities of different practitioners in the performing arts and study a variety of professional dance works. They will apply this learning practically by exploring themes and styles in their dance lessons whilst developing their dance technique. They will be assessed during the first term on their skill, development and performance. The students will perform in the last part of term as part of the Winter Dance Show to show off their newly acquired skills.

MEDIA STUDIES

The new Year 10 start the exciting new Media Studies specification this year. In their first year they will study some of the close study products, or media texts set by the exam board, in relation to the four areas of the theoretical framework that are referred to throughout the whole course: *Media Language, Media Representations, Media Industries and Media Audiences*. The texts students will be studying in close detail in the first term include music videos, CD covers and TV adverts. Students will also undertake a mock practical project in this half term where they will produce their own advertising campaign. This is in preparation for the non-exam assessment that they undertake in Year 11 that will form 30% of their final GCSE grade.

DRAMA

Students study AQA GCSE Drama. This term they will study the set play for the written exam 'Blood Brothers'. This will also include a performance of two key extracts for a mock of Component 3: 'Text in Performance'. Students will also study the roles and responsibilities of theatre makers, theatre spaces and technical theatre elements. It is a requirement of the course that students experience live professional theatre and can write an analysis and evaluation of a performance they have seen. This is worth 32 marks of the written exam. In the Autumn term students have the opportunity to watch 'War Horse' by the National Theatre, at the Theatre Royal in Plymouth on 10th September 2018.

Written work is an integral part of the drama course and students are expected to keep their notes updated. Homework is set weekly and this term is in preparation for the Component 1 written exam which is worth 40% of the final GCSE

Support materials can be found at Paignton Online, Google Classroom, GCSE Bite-size for Unit 1, AQA GCSE Drama.

A Drama Club for all year groups will be taking place once a week in the drama studio at Waterleat Road.

Drama kit for year 10 is a plain black short sleeved t-shirt with black trousers or leggings. All students are expected to bring this to lessons each week.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT

The group will start the course by studying R018: Health and well-being for child development. Students will study reproduction, parental responsibility, preparation for birth, birth, conditions for development, childhood illnesses and safety. This is an examined unit to be taken in June 2019.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

The group will start the course by studying unit R021: Essential values of care for use with individuals in care settings. Students will focus on rights of individuals, values of care, legislation and understanding personal hygiene. This is an examined unit to be taken in June 2019.

PSYCHOLOGY

Students will start Year 10 by studying the topic about memory. Students will take part in experiments and will replicate research by important psychologists. The students will also learn about designing research and will evaluate methods used during conducting research. After half term students will learn about perception and sensation. All topics will have assessments throughout.

ART

Students are researching the theme 'Seaside'. They will produce work in response to a variety of artists, designers and crafts people. Observational drawings will focus on the theme. Students will be using a range of different 2D and 3D materials, techniques and processes. Using initial observational drawings, research and visual imagery, students will develop design ideas, experiment with 2D and 3D materials and recording formal elements. Students will be working to a vocational brief and will need to develop outcomes that meet the specification of the brief.

During this project students use their sketchbooks to develop their ideas, drawings, research and experiments which will be annotated, self-evaluated, group critiqued and marked by the class teacher. Discussions between student and teacher about progress is done on a regular basis and documented in sketchbooks along with targets. Students will be concentrating on all the formal elements and developing work in response to a client brief. Homework for Year 10 is set on a weekly basis, both a continuation of class work and specific coursework tasks. KS4 Art Club runs on Wednesdays after school, where students have the opportunity to complete any unfinished coursework. It would be beneficial for students to have art equipment at home to help complete coursework and encourage independent learning.



Core PE

Year 10 will get to select their own pathway for Key Stage 4 core PE. Students will select the *Team Performance* or *Individual Performance* routes. Sports such as rugby, netball and basketball populate the *Team Performance* pathway whilst badminton, table tennis and the fitness suite, to name a few, are included in the *Individual Performance* route.

Our varied lunch and after school clubs will, as ever, be available and we look forward to as many students turning up and participating as possible.

We are also excited and looking forward to another successful year for our Academy teams. Fixtures in rugby, netball and basketball will populate the first term back.

We are excited to announce we will be working with Exeter Chiefs Rugby Club next year. A qualified coach will be working with our students within curriculum time and supporting with extra curricular rugby clubs.

PE - BTEC SPORT

The Year 10 cohort will start their BTEC Sport course studying unit 5, *Sport Leadership*. The students will work in small groups to plan a sports activity that they will deliver to our new Year 7 cohort. They will learn about the importance of leadership skills such as communication, organisation and co-operation when planning their session. They will research successful sports leaders and discuss what makes them appropriate role models, which will assist them when it comes to completing assignment 1. It is important the students start on the right foot by giving 100% effort during the practical and theory lessons.



OUTDOOR EDUCATION

Students are currently working towards their *Fitness for Sport and Exercise* unit, an examined unit which contributes 25% towards the final grade. It is essential that students revise at home for this exam. There is a very useful revision guide available for this unit and we would recommend that all students use it. During the later half of the Autumn term students will complete the *Practical Sports Performance* unit of work giving them the opportunity to participate in orienteering, mountain biking and climbing. Students will achieve their National Indoor Climbing Award (NICAS) Level 1 during this unit, which adds value to the students' BTEC Sport Outdoor Education course. Once students have completed their *Practical Sports Performance* unit, they will get the chance to explore the attributes of a good outdoor instructor in preparation for planning and delivering their own mountain bike session to a group of younger students.

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Students will begin their GCSE qualification looking at the computer system aspect of the syllabus. This section will be a written exam at the end of the course and students will gain a deep understanding into the following areas:

- Systems architecture
- Memory
- Storage
- Wired and wireless networks
- Network topologies, protocols and layers

Alongside this students will use the programming skills developed in Year 9 – such as IF Statements and Loops, combining these to solve more complex programming problems. This is in preparation for the Controlled Assessment in Year 11.

Students will have the chance to link with industry experts within units such as 'networking' and really bring these topics to life and see what jobs in these areas will look like and the skills they will require.

ICT

Year 10 students will be beginning the new IT Interactive Media course – looking at digital products like Apps, Websites, Logos and Media channels.

Students will be looking at the topic of Music Festivals, investigating current interactive media products, and experimenting with design software to begin to create their own products.

Students will be able to use audio, video, graphic and website authoring software to experiment and begin to identify the type of product they want to create to meet the needs of the case study.

CAREERS

When exploring opportunities it is important to keep an open mind at first. You can decide whether your ideas are realistic opportunities at a later stage in the career planning process. Keeping an open mind may uncover a job you've never considered or even heard of before. There are two main ways to research future careers:

Desk Research

- Use the careers hub to discover more about the various options available to you. <http://careers.paigntonacademy.org/>

Active Research

- Speak to friends & family about their work
- Ask for 'information interviews' with people doing jobs that you are interested in.
- Attend careers events
- Book a careers appointment

During this term students will have the opportunity to attend:

- a past student workshop & assembly
- the raising attainment evening
- a variety of off-site university/ employer led activities



PSHE

September 2018 will be the first time that all PCSA students from Year 7 to 11 will take part in one Personal Social Health Education lesson a week. For Year 10s this will cover areas such as citizenship, relationship and sex education, healthy lifestyles, life skills, ethical issues, careers and financial studies. Each class will spend half a term with a dedicated teacher. The class will follow a carousel and change teacher and subject after each half term holiday.

Students will take part in lessons covering a diverse range of topic areas from contraception and risky sexual practices, to Malcolm X and apartheid, to exploitation, body image and the dangers of drugs, how to get your self driving and the areas to be aware of with your money, borrowing and saving.