



PAIGNTON ACADEMY

Believe and Achieve

Since the New Year it has been delightful for Mrs Florence and I to watch your young people transform from primary to secondary students. They have now completed their first set of secondary school exams, which they did with great maturity. Academy staff were really impressed with their effort and determination to succeed. We look forward to some impressive results that will be sent home to all parents on the week beginning Monday 29th April, with the opportunity for you to discuss these results at our Parents' Evening on Thursday 2nd May. This will be a vital evening for you to gain an insight into how your child is progressing and ask any questions you might have.

If there is anything you would like to discuss before Parents' Evening or at any other time during the academic year, please feel free to contact Mrs Florence or myself using our year team email, 2023@paigntonacademy.org or 01803 403005.

Kieron Scott, Head of Year

IMPORTANT DATES

2019	
2 May	Parents' Evening
6 May	Bank Holiday
27-31 May	Half Term
14 June	Sports Day
8-10 July	Summer Musical
17 July	Celebration Eve
19 July	Last day of Summer Term
3 September	First Day of Autumn Term

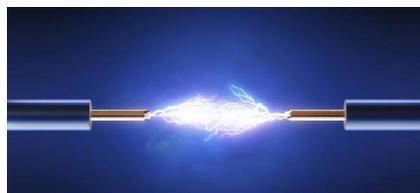
CONTACT INFORMATION

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**YEAR
7**

ENGLISH

Students will begin the term with the study of multi-cultural poetry. This is an important area of study which they will continue to revisit throughout their study of English as it makes up an important part of their GCSE exam. They will then move on to a study of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream'. In addition to their work in class, students will be set homework in order to encourage independent study skills. These will include research-based tasks, spellings, and extended written pieces. Students are also expected to continue their AR reading of at least 20 minutes, three times per week.



SCIENCE

Students are being taught the new and more rigorous curriculum introduced by the Government this year. The new "AQA Activate 1" course is now well established in Year 7; the new scheme of work also allows the curriculum to flow better into the GCSE course which now provides a 5-year plan. It has been very well received by both students and staff. This term students will cover units on electricity; sound; light; Earth structure; variation; and reproduction. In line with last term, a great deal of emphasis will be placed on practical work and learning practical techniques. Students will be given opportunities to make electrical circuits, investigate how light travels and how the ear works. These investigations will form the basis of an on-going and continual assessment. You can help by encouraging your son/daughter to keep up with any scientific developments or issues that may arise through the media. Details of Activate Science can be found on: <https://global.oup.com/education/content/secondary/series/activate/?region=international>

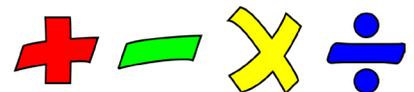
MATHS

In the summer term students will study a variety of topics. These include lines, angles, sequences, graphs and transformations. At the end of the last term students had their first experience of formalised exams. These have helped identify topics which need further revision.

Following the completion of each topic, students will continue to be assessed informally in the classroom. They will then be given an opportunity to fill in gaps in their knowledge following these topic tests. Dedicated topic improvement time is given in lessons and students will be instructed on where they can find extra assistance outside the classroom.

We will be continuing to run maths clubs throughout this term. We have several clubs and support available for students. Students can receive help with their homework in the IT rooms on Tuesdays. We have after school maths support on Tuesdays and we have our Maths All Stars club on Wednesdays after school.

Homework will be set primarily through Pearson Active online. Students are encouraged to attend our maths clubs for extra support with their homework and support following their lessons. Pearson ActiveLearn also comes with worked examples and videos which help support learning outside of the classroom.



MATHS CLUB

There is a maths club available to all Year 7 and 8 students on Wednesdays, 3pm – 4pm.

There are 3-4 members of staff there each week to support students and we have implemented a peer mentor system where students from Years 7 and 8 help support others with their learning.

Students can further develop their mathematics knowledge and have recently carried out an investigation whereby they were able to use geometry to prove Pythagoras' Theorem.

ETHICS

Year 7 have Ethics every two weeks and during this time they have examined two main topics, Rites of Passage and Creation Stories, including scientific ideas of how the world began. Part of the students' studies has included learning exam language and technique. By the end of Year 7 all students will be well versed in the type of questions and answer requirements for GCSE studies. The final module this year will be examining Islam.



MUSIC

Students on a music rotation this term will study a unit called 'African Music'. Students will develop skills such as reading a rhythm grid and techniques on a drum such as bass, tone and slap. Students will compose and perform their own arrangements of an African song.

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

Extra-Curricular:

Tuesday lunchtime – Rock School

Wednesday lunchtime – Choir

Wednesday after school (3.15 – 4.30) - Band

Thursday lunchtime – Karaoke Club

Practice rooms are available to book on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday lunchtimes.



DRAMA

This term the focus will be working with scripts and further developing and extending the students' knowledge of drama devices, theatrical skills and how to apply these to create meaning for an audience. The play this term is 'The Terrible Fate of Humpty Dumpty' which focuses on the themes of bullying, gangs and power. Students will be further building knowledge of conventions for working with scripts, how to take a piece of drama from page to stage and creating believable characters. Written work is a key component of the drama course and students will be developing their skills in analysis and evaluation of their own work and the work of others. Homework is set on alternate weeks.

Rehearsals for the Summer Musical 'Annie' will take place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 3pm to 4.30pm at Waterleat Road for those taking part. Show dates are 8th, 9th and 10th July at 7pm with matinees for primary schools during the day. The tech and dress rehearsals will be Wednesday 3rd July and Friday 5th July from 8.30am to 3pm. All information for the cast will be posted on Google Classroom.



PE

The start of the summer term should see an improvement in the weather and students will hopefully be working in hot and sunny conditions. It may, therefore, be necessary to ensure they have applied sun cream and are well hydrated, bringing in a suitable water bottle for PE. If students do have PE lessons in the morning, we strongly advise that they also have a good breakfast!

Please encourage your son/daughter to attend our sports clubs – look out for the new clubs list after Easter and remember it's never too late to start!

The table below shows the sports the students will be covering in the summer term.

GIRLS	BOYS
Athletics	Athletics
Rounders	Cricket
Tennis	Volleyball
Table Tennis	Table Tennis



ART

Year 7 students will be exploring the theme 'Machina Madness'. Students will be researching artists, developing observational drawings, experimenting with materials and techniques and then making an outcome that relates to the theme. The project will focus on the formal elements of tone and shade and they will explore painting and printing materials, processes and techniques. During the project students will develop ideas, drawings, research and experiments which will be self-evaluated, peer assessed and marked by the class teacher. Targets are regularly set and reviewed to help students to progress. Homework consists of research, collating information and drawings. KS3 Art Club runs on Friday lunchtimes where students have the opportunity to take part in competitions and complete any unfinished work. It would be beneficial for students to have basic art equipment at home to help complete homework and encourage independent learning.

CAREERS

To start career planning we suggest you use the Careers Hub (located on the school website) to explore the exciting opportunities that are available, enhance employment skills and build confidence by learning about interview techniques.

<http://careers.paigntonacademy.org/>

During this term students will benefit from studying careers during their PSHE lessons.

