



NEWSLETTER • AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 2 • 25TH OCTOBER 2019

Dates For Your Diary

Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November	Half Term
Monday 4 th November	Return to school Fireworks Safety Assembly
Thursday 7 th November	Rugby League 3.30pm - 4.30pm
Friday 8 th November	World Science Day
Monday 11 th November	Remembrance Day – 2-minute silence to be observed
Tuesday 12 th November	Enrichment/STEM Day Cross-Country for selected students
Friday 29 th November	Non Pupil Day

Grand Opening Event

On Wednesday 16th October, we held a Grand Opening event to celebrate the commencement of Paxman Academy. The evening was well attended by local dignitaries and community members including Councillors, representatives from Essex County Council and Barnes Construction, Sigma Trustees, Sigma Board Members, Secondary and Primary Headteachers and Governors. A number of prominent community figures were also in attendance, as well as colleagues from MAN Energy Solutions, the company who took over the production of Paxman engines and who kindly donated the engine at the front of the school. We were also delighted to welcome a number of former staff from Alderman Blaxill School, providing a trip down memory lane.



The evening commenced in the Food Plant where guests enjoyed canapés and were then seated in the Auditorium to receive presentations from Mrs Moffat, Mr Pavitt (Chair of the Sigma Trust) and Councillor Gooding (Cabinet Member for Education). The stars of the show were undoubtedly three Paxman Academy students, Diart, Emily and Shruthi, who wowed the audience with accounts of their experiences during the first few weeks at Paxman Academy. Guests were then offered a tour of the school and were impressed with our amazing facilities.

Mrs Moffat
Headteacher

Thank You

Thank you to the parents who recently attended our PTA and Parent Forum meetings. We will continue to advertise opportunities for parental support and involvement with the school via email communication and newsletter publications.

Road Safety

I am becoming increasingly concerned for the wellbeing of our students making their way to and from school. We have received some messages from members of the public concerning our students and how safe they are keeping themselves on public roads.

We have recently talked at length about road safety with the students, and also welcomed theatre group The Riot Act into school, who delivered a fantastic drama performance, 'Deadly Distractions', about keeping safe near roads. Please talk to your child about safety when using roads and footpaths. Thank you.

Mr Mussett



Charity Launch

All students recently had the opportunity to vote on which charities Paxman Academy will be supporting this year. Students discussed in tutor time which charities they thought were most deserving and how we could support some of these worthwhile causes.

I am delighted to say that we will be supporting Colchester Food Bank and Make a Wish Foundation this year. More information on how we can help these amazing charities will be available soon.

Mr Nash



Lunch Payments

Please ensure your child has sufficient funds on their lunch card if they wish to purchase items from the Food Plant. Thank you.

School Council

I am delighted to announce that we now have a School Council formed by 12 pupils from Paxman Academy. The School Council is the democratic voice of pupils in the school and ensures we deliver the best opportunities for the school. Numerous pupils applied, showing great maturity by filling in a detailed application form, gaining support from staff and reading a speech to their peers to gain their vote. Each form group has two representatives and the pupils who form the School Council are:



Logan
Josefine
Freya
Oliver
Ferdinand
Sophie
Tyler
Ruby
Shruthi
Finlay
Jane
Leah

The first meetings have already been held, giving an opportunity to discuss the success of the Food Plant and suggest further improvements. In addition, the group will shortly be working with Essex County Council to produce a travel plan. Votes have also been held to decide key positions, with Shruthi elected as the first Chairperson, Ruby as Secretary and Josefine as Vice Chair.

Mr Corker

Bikeability

It's great to see so many of our students cycling into school each morning and hearing that students have been cycling during weekends. Being safe is something I will never underestimate and we are fortunate to be offering Level 3 Bikeability courses to all our students in the coming weeks. The Level 3 course is designed to teach young people to ride effectively on more complex roads and in challenging traffic situations; each group of six will be going out with two qualified instructors and cycling around the local area.

Our Bicycle policy is available on the school website and I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you that all students cycling to and from school should be equipped with, and be wearing, a safety helmet for their journey.

Mr Nash

The Red Box Project



We recently had a visit from members of The Red Box Project, a community-based initiative which ensures that no young person misses school because they have their period. There are over 300 projects now running across the UK, as well as several overseas. This is essentially to end period poverty but also to provide necessities for girls during their periods. Whether it's period poverty, not being able to ask at home or simply being caught short, The Red Box Project helps girls to maintain their dignity.

We are grateful to have received a fully stocked 'Red Box' which has been donated to us. It will be kept in the Medical Room, which is easily accessible for all students. Pictured is our Medical Officer, Miss Smith, accepting the kind donation, with a member of The Red Box Project team.

For further information, please visit redboxproject.org or search for [redboxprojectcolchester](https://www.facebook.com/redboxprojectcolchester) via Facebook.



The Red Box Project

Absence Procedure

Illness: If your child has a justifiable reason for not attending school, please telephone the school absence line on 01206 671155 before 8.20am on the first day of absence and on every subsequent day of absence. If your child is going to be away from school for more than three days, you must send a written note to the school office on the third day of absence, explaining what is wrong.

Medical/Dental Appointments: Please arrange medical or dental appointments outside of school hours where possible. If your child is due to attend an appointment which unavoidably falls within the school day, please notify the school office in advance and provide written evidence of the appointment (e.g. an appointment letter or card) prior to the appointment. Students must sign in and out at Reception when arriving to school after 8.35am or leaving before 3.00pm.

Other Absence Requests: Parents are requested not to arrange family holidays during term time. Where this is unavoidable, please request an *Application for Leave of Absence During Term Time* form from the school office, well in advance of the date.

Year 6 Taster Day

We were delighted to welcome some of our local feeder primary schools to Paxman Academy recently. In total we hosted over 200 pupils and staff from Gosbecks Primary School, St Michael's Primary School, Icen Academy and Hamilton Primary School, giving them all the opportunity to visit the school and experience first-hand a variety of creative, practical and academic lessons.

The students enjoyed using our large Sports Hall, trying out bunsen burners and designing their own superhero, amongst many exciting activities! Pupils thoroughly enjoyed the day with many keen to come back again in September. I was overwhelmed that many Year 7 students gave up their free day to help out.

Mr Corker

FIREWORKS CODE CARE, CELEBRATE



- You must be 18 years or over to buy and set off fireworks
- Only buy fireworks marked BS 7114
- Don't drink alcohol if setting off fireworks
- Keep fireworks in a closed non-flammable box
- Follow the instructions on each firework
- Light them at arm's length, using a taper
- Stand well back and keep a bucket of water nearby
- Never go near a firework that has been lit. Even if it hasn't gone off, it could still explode
- Never put fireworks in your pocket or throw them
- Light sparklers one at a time and wear gloves
- Always supervise children around fireworks
- Never give sparklers to a child under five
- Keep pets indoors
- Don't set off noisy fireworks late and never after 11pm

We always recommend attending an organised fireworks display

  www.essex-fire.gov.uk

Dance Club

We are immensely proud of the Performing Arts department here at Paxman Academy, so it was a pleasure to start a dance club on Friday lunchtimes in our brand new studio. So far the turnout has been spectacular! We have been busy working on a piece together with a Mission Impossible style theme. The students have all worked so hard in their groups, using colourful ribbon to create spy type movements through various dancing styles.

We have been very impressed with the dedication and hard work from the students, all of whom have put lots of effort into the club, and we look forward to starting a brand new theme after the half term holiday.

Students can join us on Fridays at 1.30pm. Everybody welcome!

Mrs Baird



Locker Keys

Please note that from Monday 4th November we will no longer hold spare locker keys in the school office. All locker keys will be handed to students and it will be their responsibility to look after them. We do not hold a master key, so if your child loses all three of their locker keys, they will need to purchase a new padlock via ParentPay.

The Food Plant



MEAL DEAL MENU

Week Commencing 4th November 2019

Our £2.30 Meal Deal comprises a main meal (meat or vegetarian) with two sides, plus fresh fruit or yoghurt or cheese, biscuits and grapes

Monday

- ❖ Trio of Sausages (vegetarian or meat)
- ❖ Mashed Potato
- ❖ Peas
- ❖ Carrots
- ❖ Baked Beans

Wednesday

- ❖ Roast Turkey with Yorkshire Pudding and Cranberry Sauce or Vegetable Frittata
- ❖ Garlic and Rosemary Roasted Potatoes
- ❖ Carrots
- ❖ Broccoli

Friday

- ❖ Battered Cod Fillet or Fish Fingers or Chicken Pots or Cheese & Leek Quiche
- ❖ Chips
- ❖ Peas
- ❖ Baked Beans
- ❖ Mushy Peas

Tuesday

- ❖ Chicken or Quorn Korma Curry with Mango Chutney
- ❖ Saffron Basmati Rice
- ❖ Naan Bread
- ❖ Vegetable Samosas

Thursday

- ❖ Beef Bolognese or Meat Free Bolognese with Parmesan Cheese
- ❖ Spaghetti
- ❖ Garlic Bread
- ❖ Peas
- ❖ Sweetcorn

Also Available Daily

- ❖ Hot Grab & Go (Burgers, Pizza, Hot Pastries, Paninis)
- ❖ Pasta Bar (Bolognese, Tomato and Basil or Cheesy Carbonara)
 - ❖ Jacket Potatoes with Various Toppings
 - ❖ Sandwiches, Wraps and Baguettes
 - ❖ Salad Pots

Allergy information is available at the point of sale

The Food Plant



MEAL DEAL MENU

Week Commencing 11th November 2019

Our £2.30 Meal Deal comprises a main meal (meat or vegetarian) with two sides, plus fresh fruit or yoghurt or cheese, biscuits and grapes

Monday

- ❖ Marinated Tandoori Chicken and Flatbread or Asparagus Risotto with Parmesan Cheese
- ❖ Steamed Rice
- ❖ Peas
- ❖ Mixed Salad
- ❖ Coleslaw

Wednesday

- ❖ Giant Yorkshire with Sausages or Vegetarian Sausages and Gravy
- ❖ Garlic and Rosemary Roasted Potatoes
- ❖ Carrots
- ❖ Broccoli

Friday

- ❖ Battered Cod Fillet, Fish Fingers, Chicken Pots or Cheese and Leek Quiche
- ❖ Chips
- ❖ Peas
- ❖ Baked Beans
- ❖ Mushy Peas

Tuesday

- ❖ Cottage Pie or Quorn Cottage Pie with Gravy
- ❖ Broccoli
- ❖ Carrots
- ❖ Peas

Thursday

- ❖ Chicken and Sweetcorn Pie or Quorn and Sweetcorn Pie with Gravy
- ❖ Creamed Potatoes
- ❖ Carrots
- ❖ Peas

Also Available Daily

- ❖ Hot Grab & Go (Burgers, Pizza, Hot Pastries, Paninis)
- ❖ Pasta Bar (Bolognese, Tomato and Basil or Cheesy Carbonara)
 - ❖ Jacket Potatoes with Various Toppings
 - ❖ Sandwiches, Wraps and Baguettes
 - ❖ Salad Pots

Allergy information is available at the point of sale