



**NEWSLETTER • AUTUMN TERM  
ISSUE 4 • 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

**Dates For Your Diary**

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	Non Pupil Day
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	School Disco
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Parents' Forum 11.00am
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Concert 5.30pm – 7.00pm
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Term Non Uniform/Christmas Jumper Day
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring Term Commences

**Message from the Headteacher**

Dear Parents/Carers

As we race towards the Christmas break, I take this moment to reflect on the outstanding start to the school year and the positive development made over the Autumn term. Paxman Academy has now been open for 12 weeks, and the students and staff at the school make me immensely proud on a daily basis.

A lot has been achieved in a very short space of time and there is much to celebrate. The educational experience on offer is exciting and varied, as are the extra-curricular opportunities, which are very well attended. Sporting fixtures have started well and the school had the biggest uptake in the Bikeability Scheme across Essex, which was pleasing. The recent Meet the Tutor Evening was very successful, cementing the foundations for our collaborative work throughout your child's school life.

I look forward to the weeks ahead and the events leading up to Christmas. A number of our students are currently rehearsing for the Christmas Concert which takes place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December, and I hope to see many of you at this event. Further details on this will be provided shortly.

I wish you and your family an enjoyable extended weekend.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Moffat  
Headteacher

**Cashless Catering Cards**

We are aware that some students' ParentPay accounts have experienced balance display issues due to a fault between ParentPay and the software provider for our till system. These may appear on your account statement as 'Balance Adjustments'. Our till software provider is rectifying this issue. We wish to apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused and appreciate that at times it has been difficult to see an accurate reading of your account balance. Please contact the school office if you need any further assistance.

## Football Success!



Eighteen girls represented Paxman Academy at a recent indoor football friendly tournament against St Benedict's and The Stanway School. Paxman fielded three teams in the round robin tournament, which saw some outstanding play. Congratulations to the Paxman Blue team of Ebonni, Darcy, Keisha, Ruby-Mae, Kia and Sienna who came out as winners – well done!

## Uniform Reminder

Please can we remind you to observe the uniform policy, a copy of which is available on our school website. Students are welcome to wear boots to travel to and from school in, but they must be removed when they arrive on site. No jewellery is permitted, other than small, plain ear studs (one per ear) and a watch. Make-up should be discreet.

**Students will be asked to remove false eyelashes or make-up deemed to be unacceptable, as well as false nails and nail varnish.**

## Enrichment/STEM Day

We were delighted to host our very first joint enrichment/STEM day this month. Students learnt valuable skills and information on a range of topics, including E-safety, knife crime and even CPR.

Students also participated in an exciting STEM challenge. The challenge was linked to space as it is 50 years since the moon landing. Pupils learnt about the moon landing, the technology and science involved in this and in particular, how the astronauts were returned from space to Earth. Pupils were placed in groups of four with each team member assigned a role of either a Project Manager, Data Analyst, Performance Engineer or Material Engineer. Pupils worked closely in teams to design and construct

a lunar module that could fall through the air and land safely in water or on land. Eggs were used as the 'passengers'. This was another successful event with many students keen to pursue interests in engineering in the future.



Many thanks to the NHS and Colchester United in the Community who joined us on the day and were able to provide such important input for our students. The next enrichment day is already in the planning.

Mr Mussett and Mr Corker



## Diarrhoea/Vomiting Policy

Following a review of the school's attendance and medical procedure, please be aware that if your child has suffered with a vomiting/diarrhoea bug, they should not return to school until they have been clear of symptoms for 24 hours and feel well – this was formerly a 48 hour ruling. Thank you.

Miss Smith  
Medical Officer

## Read All About It!



### Scholastic Book Fair

We were delighted to host our first ever Book Fair to tie in with a successful Meet The Tutor evening. Many pupils, parents and even staff committed to purchasing books to continue their love of reading. There was a vast array of books at excellent prices, with the added bonus of the school being able to invest in more library books as a result of strong sales. We are pleased to announce that we will be hosting another Book Fair later in the academic year, alongside Parents' Evening.

### Bookbuzz Competition

It has been a great pleasure this year to be involved with the Bookbuzz scheme – a popular national initiative to encourage and enthuse children's love of reading. Paxman Academy has invested in all children, ensuring every child has received a book of their choice, free of charge. The response from pupils has been excellent with pupils reading their books during Tutor Time, lunch times and at home. Many have finished their books and have now been actively swapping their books with their friends so that they do not miss out on the engrossing stories that they have been sharing.

We recently ran a book review competition based on the launch of our Bookbuzz initiative. Students were tasked with writing a review of their recent Bookbuzz book with five students selected as winners. It appears that *Still Water* by Chris Priestley was a big hit with pupils. Below are some highlights from the reviews penned by the winners, each of whom won a £5 voucher to spend at the Book Fair.



#### Jelly by Jo Cotterill

"It's very peaceful and very fun to read. It taught me about Angelica's comedy and funny life story, including her own opinions and how she would feel sometimes." *Tasabih, 7CR*

#### Still Water by Chris Priestley

"I loved how the creator used a glitching effect by having shadows of the girl behind herself." *Ruby, 7HN*

#### Animal Records

"This is so fascinating if you are an animal lover and love to expand your knowledge. I've vastly expanded my vocabulary with words such as marsupial (an animal with a pouch)." *Jane, 7HA*

#### Still Water by Chris Priestley

"Still Water is about an innocent girl involved in the treacherous war that has been evacuated to the countryside and saw something she would never have even thought of." *Sienna, 7CR*

#### Still Water by Chris Priestley

"Chris is constantly hiding a mystery which you are persuaded to find the disclosure of. The plot of this story is so eerie, ominous, uncanny..." *Diart, 7HA*

#### Mr Corker

## Twitter Account



Please remember to follow our Twitter account @AcademyPaxman to keep abreast with all our current news and information.