

Dates For Your Diary

Friday 20 th December	Last Day of Term Non Uniform Day
Monday 6 th January	Spring Term Commences Students return to school

Christmas Concert



On Wednesday evening, 30 students took part in Paxman Academy's first ever Christmas Concert. Guests arrived early for mince pies and mulled wine before the service commenced. The show consisted of a dance group, a sign language performance, a reading, and our choir singing traditional carols. Students put on an incredible performance and the audience were all extremely complimentary. It was a brilliant evening and a very good time was had by all.



We look forward to welcoming you all to future Paxman Academy performances.

Mr Nash

Sports News

Football Success

The boys football team recently travelled to The Stanway School for their first league game of the season. After a heavy defeat in a friendly at the beginning of term, Paxman Academy rallied as a team and beat the strong Stanway side 2-0. Kaiden opened the scoring, with Jack scoring late on to seal the win. Every player involved was superb and worked hard to secure the result but our goalkeeper, Harry, deserves special praise for his outstanding performance in the amazing saves he made to prevent Stanway scoring.

Meanwhile, 20 Paxman Academy students made up three teams at a friendly indoor girls football tournament as we hosted teams from The Stanway School and St Benedict's. There was a fantastic level of play and enthusiasm on show from all who took part. Well done to Paxman Green team who finished as overall winners.

Netball

A large number of girls took part in a development match versus Colchester County High School. It was a great opportunity to try out different tactics and positions and to continue the enthusiasm for the sport, which the girls are learning quickly. Well done to all who took part.

Mr Mussett and Mr Nash

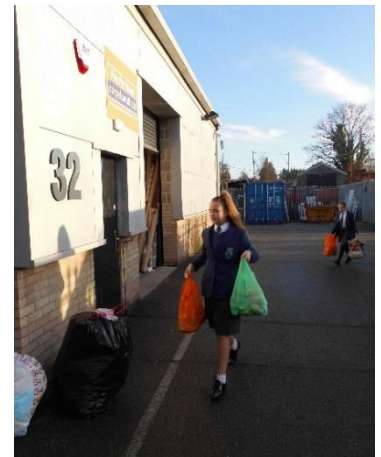
Colchester Foodbank Donation

We have been supporting Colchester Foodbank in several different ways this term and I am immensely proud of all of our students' efforts. All students have made brochures during Computer Science lessons, designed to raise awareness for the charity, while our Celebration Disco raised £253. Tuesday's Christmas Jumper Day led to an incredible 127kg of food being donated by students and staff.

Several students visited Colchester Foodbank on Wednesday morning, along with Miss Smith and myself, to learn about the work they do and how many families they are supporting in our local area. We also delivered the monies raised from the Christmas Jumper Day, which was very gratefully received.



Mr Nash



Spelling Star



We recently took part in the Sigma Trust Annual Spelling Bee competition. This is an excellent competition to help students recall words and learn new vocabulary and spelling patterns. We are extremely proud of Diart who represented the school and was an excellent ambassador in both performance and attitude towards this event. Well done Diart and keep up the good work!

Mr Ruddock

School Disco

We enjoyed a fantastic evening last week at our Celebration Disco! One hundred and fifty excited students arrived from 4.30pm, and many of them stayed on the dancefloor until the final song was played at 6.30pm! Students enjoyed card and board games in the Food Plant too.

A great time was had by all and we look forward to hosting more events for our students in the future.

Mr Nash

ParentPay

You might find it useful to know that you can set up a text or email alert on ParentPay to notify you when your child's meal balance is running low, or that you have been assigned a new item to pay for.

From within your ParentPay account, navigate to **Communication**, then **Alert Settings**. Here you can select which alerts you would like to receive and whether you wish to receive them by email or text message (text messages are currently charged at 6p each; there is no charge for email alerts). You can also set a balance threshold so that you can receive an alert should your child's meal balance fall below a certain amount, for example, £2.00.

We hope you will use these resources to ensure that your child's meal balance is always sufficient for them to make their purchase. This will help us to deliver an efficient service to all students in our Food Plant, by minimising delays at the till point.

Christmas Lunch



This week the entire school community came together to enjoy a celebratory extended Christmas lunch. Students were seated together in form groups, with the festivities spilling out into the neighbouring Auditorium and Art Room to accommodate everybody. Over 150 students purchased a delicious traditional dinner, served to them by the Senior Leadership Team.



Our superb catering team did a wonderful job preparing an outstanding Christmas meal on such a large scale, and we hope the students enjoyed the occasion as much as the staff did.

