



## NEWSLETTER • AUTUMN TERM ISSUE 40 • 25<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### Dates For Your Diary

Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Year 7 Meet The Tutor Evening 4.00pm – 7.30pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Inset / Non-pupil Day
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2021	Student flu vaccinations
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> December 2021	Medical Mavericks – Year 9
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> – Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2021	We Will Rock You auditions 3.15pm – 5.15pm

### Tomorrow's Engineers Week

Last week saw Paxman Academy celebrating Tomorrow's Engineers Week - a week in the year dedicated to promoting careers available to students in engineering and how they might get into them. There were different activities throughout the week, including:

- The Big Quiz - a fun, interactive quiz that some students completed in one of their science lessons, learning about what engineers actually do along with some fun facts. For example, did you know that a 'bug' in a computer programme is so named because a moth got stuck in one of the first computers and caused an issue with it?
- Meet The Future You Quiz - this was a chance for students to answer some personality-based questions to determine some potential engineering sectors for them to go into as a career. Some students were identified as 'future lifesavers' with careers such as biomedical engineers and 3D organ printing specialists, and others were identified as 'coding legends' with careers in the areas of games developers and software engineers. These, and many more, can be found on the [Tomorrow's Engineers website](#).
- Research into engineering careers - after finding out some potential career choices, students carried out some research into what the different jobs involve and how they might get into them. We used the National Careers Service (government website) which details qualifications that students should aim to achieve for each career option, and possible routes into the career, including apprenticeship schemes and university based entry. Here is an example for [becoming a chemical engineer](#).

Engagement from students throughout the week was outstanding, and they thoroughly enjoyed investigating and exploring the different career options available to them as an engineer. Many students weren't aware of what engineers do, or thought you had to be a specific type of person to become an engineer, rather than understanding it to be the inclusive and welcoming profession that it is.

The week culminated with the launch of our engineering careers poster competition. ASPIRE points and edible prizes are available for entries to the competition, where students should produce an A3/A4 poster about at least one career in engineering.

Thanks to all involved in the various activities.

Mr Newton  
STEM Coordinator

## West End Workshop



On Friday 19th November, Paxman Academy welcomed West End star Michael Watson for a series of performing arts workshops. Selected students from all year groups were thrilled to be in the presence of the leading performer and voice coach, whose stage performances include Jersey Boys, Sister Act, Shrek, We Will Rock You and many more.

Michael, who began his training at Tiffany Stage Academy in his home town of Clacton-on-Sea, enthused, "I can't believe how much talent there is at Paxman Academy, I was blown away." Assisted by school chaplain Joe Robbins, students worked on favourites from the West End musical We Will Rock You, which is also Paxman Academy's first musical and full-scale production, to be performed next year.

This was an amazing opportunity for the youth of Paxman Academy to get a real insight into how performing arts skills are honed. The workshop began with warm-up exercises, prompting students to think about storytelling through songs, then moved on to characterisations and guidance on helping students to focus on emotions. Our talented cohort then performed and received valuable expert feedback from the star.



One student reported, "Michael not only gave us tips on how to sing and act, he boosted our confidence to help us all become better performers. I can't wait to be part of Paxman's Academy's performance of We Will Rock You."

Mr Damigella  
Music Teacher

## IET Faraday Challenge



Last Friday, a team of six Year 8 students took part in the Faraday Challenge, hosted by Philip Morant. This STEM based challenge day was a chance for Year 8 students to take part in a national competition to solve a real-world problem.

Previous years have included challenges around designing a theme park ride and designing a shuttle for the James Webb Telescope to be transported into space. This year, however, the Faraday Challenge collaborated with Alder Hey Children's Hospital. Students had to design and build a working prototype of something that could be used to make a stay in hospital more comforting and relaxing for patients and their families.

Our incredible team, composed of Jayden, Ruby, Chloe, Roman, Corey and Algis, designed and built a prototype of a technological trolley used to transport toys around the wards in the hospital. They worked well together and produced some fantastic content, and ended up securing second place - only one point behind the winning team!

A brilliant effort and a great day had by all, and a big thank you to Mrs Anderson for supporting them throughout the day. Next year we will win for sure!



Mr Newton  
STEM Coordinator

## Sports News – Rugby Tournaments



### Year 7 Tournament

The Year 7 rugby team recently embarked on their first fixture representing the school. The boys played well against a strong Colchester Royal Grammar side and beat The Gilbert school - a fantastic achievement. Next came a third-place playoff against Trinity School where both sides drew 10-10 so the spoils were shared. It was a pleasure to see the boys put so much effort into their first school fixture and they should be incredibly proud.



### Year 8 Tournament

On 12th November, Paxman Academy's Year 8 boys team participated in a rugby league tournament held at Colchester Rugby Club. It was our first ever school rugby tournament and we really enjoyed the experience. Captained by Kenzie, we all supported each other and established chemistry through the process of moulding a team. After each match, our performance developed as we all got a better understanding of the sport. Overall, it was a great learning experience for those who are new to the sport, as well as our more experienced players.



### Year 9 Tournament

Our Year 9 boys recently participated in their first Rugby Tournament since being in Year 7! Many schools gathered at Colchester Rugby Club for the much-anticipated event. Captained by Harry, and with Ben as Vice-Captain, our first match ended 5-5, however, we went on to lose 15-0 against Westcliff Grammar. After a positive team talk, our boys went into the next game with more tactical knowledge and confidence and beat Thomas Lord Audley 15-5. Our final match against Philip Morant resulted in a 15-5 loss. Well done to the team for showing great spirit and resilience.



It is brilliant to see uptake increasing for the after school rugby club week on week. Thank you from myself, Mr Aspinall and Mr Mussett for the boys' efforts and to Mr Samjawn for driving the minibus!

Mr Allflatt

## Lost Property

If your child has lost something in school and they have already looked for it around the site, they should come to the pastoral department to check our lost property box. Anything unnamed will be kept for one half term plus two weeks before being rehomed, recycled or reused.

Named items are automatically returned to your child during lessons at the earliest opportunity. Therefore, please ensure that your child's belongings (especially ties) are clearly named to make it easier to return lost property to its owner.

Pastoral Team

## Unwanted School Uniform

Has your child outgrown their school uniform? The Pastoral office would very much appreciate your reusable but unwanted Paxman Academy blazers, jumpers or PE kit items to add to our supplies of uniform to loan if students have forgotten or lost something. Donations must be in clean, good condition and students should take any items directly to the pastoral office. Thank you.

## Food Plant Reminders

Please ensure your child's ParentPay account has sufficient credit if they intend to use the Food Plant at break or lunchtime. Weekly menus and pricing are available on our website, and the main office can apply a spend cap to your child's account, on request.

Lost/forgotten cards cause delays for all students at the point of sale, therefore, all students wishing to purchase items must have their card with them. If a replacement card is required, please email [admin@paxmanacademy.school](mailto:admin@paxmanacademy.school) and arrangements will be made for you to purchase a new one via ParentPay for £5.

## Flu Vaccinations – Consent Needed

A final reminder that student flu vaccinations are taking place in school on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2021. As outlined in our previous emails, consent must be given to the NHS by the deadline of 28<sup>th</sup> November via this form: [click here](#). The school code you will need is 147080.

If you have any queries regarding the vaccination programme, or assistance with completing the consent form, please contact the NHS immunisation team directly on 0300 7900597.



Thank you.

## Paxman Academy Zebra Crossing Petition

*Dear Parents / Guardians,*

*In February 2020, we decided to start a petition to get a zebra crossing outside our school. We did this because we saw how dangerous it was, with many children crossing the road unsafely and cars speeding down Paxman Avenue and Walnut Tree Way.*

*The petition managed to get attention from local MPs and the newspaper, however, this was not enough and we remain without a crossing. Ever since Covid-19, our ideas have come to a halt but due to more and more students entering Paxman Academy, the risk of road traffic accidents is increasing. This needs to be changed before our school is at maximum capacity.*

*So now, it is up to you! Join us in helping reduce the chance of our students being in accidents. Go to <https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/zebra-crossings-for-paxman-academy> and sign the petition.*

*Anyone over the age of 12 can sign so please ask your family to sign it too! It only takes a few minutes and it could save a life.*

*Thank you,*

*Lily and Tillie (Year 9)*



## CONTACTING STAFF AT PAXMAN ACADEMY

Address	PAXMAN AVENUE COLCHESTER ESSEX CO2 9DQ
Telephone	01206 671155

### WHO TO CONTACT

At Paxman Academy, we understand that it is your children, our students, who will be the beneficiaries of strong relationships between our staff and parents/carers. We fully abide by our ASPIRE values and would ask that before you make contact with a member of staff, that you are respectful during your meeting, conversation or email and considerate of the person receiving your communication.

The list below will guide you towards the correct person to contact.

Issue/Concern	Who to contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Concerns about a lesson</li> <li>Learning in a subject</li> <li>Pupil progress in a subject</li> <li>Set changes</li> </ul>	Head of Department
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tutor group issues</li> <li>Concerns about relationships</li> <li>Concerns about child safety</li> <li>Attendance concerns</li> <li>Lost property</li> </ul>	Pastoral Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Persistent absence</li> <li>Concerns at home</li> <li>Persistent concerns outside of lessons</li> </ul>	Head of Year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SEN support or inclusion</li> <li>One plans and EHCPs</li> </ul>	SENDCO

### ❖ Staff Contact

Email is the best way to contact a member of staff at Paxman Academy. In contacting the school, please remember that our staff are fully occupied in teaching, planning & preparing lessons and supporting our students. Our staff are committed to responding to emails as quickly as possible. In order to maintain realistic workloads and expectations however, staff have been advised to aim to reply to emails **within 2 school days of receipt** on Monday to Friday during term time. The list below gives guidance of who to contact in the first instance.

If your query is urgent, please refer to the list below before you call us on 01206 671155 in order to direct the call to the most appropriate person. Our lines are open during term time from 8.00am to 4.00pm.

### ❖ **Subject Leaders**

Art	art@paxmanacademy.school
Computer Science	computerscience@paxmanacademy.school
Drama	drama@paxmanacademy.school
English	english@paxmanacademy.school
Geography	geography@paxmanacademy.school
History	history@paxmanacademy.school
Mathematics	maths@paxmanacademy.school
Modern Foreign Languages	mfl@paxmanacademy.school
Music	music@paxmanacademy.school
P.E.	pe@paxmanacademy.school
R.E.	re@paxmanacademy.school
Science	science@paxmanacademy.school
Technology	technology@paxmanacademy.school

### ❖ **Pastoral Support**

Pastoral Team	pastoralteam@paxmanacademy.school
Head of Year 7	headofyear7@paxmanacademy.school
Head of Year 8	headofyear8@paxmanacademy.school
Head of Year 9	headofyear9@paxmanacademy.school

### ❖ **Special Educational Needs**

SEN Team	senteam@paxmanacademy.school
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### ❖ **Report a Concern**

Use [this form](#) to report a concern to the school.

### ❖ **Report a Safeguarding Concern**

The [Safeguarding](#) section of our website contains information on who to contact during school hours and out of school hours.

### ❖ **Report a Student Absence**

Absence Reporting	absence@paxmanacademy.school
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### ❖ **Report a Medical Issue**

Medical Officer	medical@paxmanacademy.school
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### ❖ **Report a General Issue**

School Office	admin@paxmanacademy.school
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### ❖ **Senior Leadership Team**

Headteacher	headteacher@paxmanacademy.school
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### ❖ **Chair of Governors**

Our Chair of Governors is Mr Richard Guest and he can be contacted via the school address or by email at [admin@paxman](mailto:admin@paxman)