

## Welcome

Please see below for a selection of good news items from this week at Paignton Academy.

Our school Christmas Dinner days are fast approaching - Waterleat Road on Wednesday 4th December and Borough Road on Tuesday 10th December. Please ensure that you have booked your child's Christmas dinner. We will be bringing back our Christmas photo booth again this year, which was a real hit with students - photos to follow in our upcoming newsletters! The deadline for completion of the Christmas Lunch form 2024 is:

**Waterleat Road - Monday 25th November**

**Borough Road - Friday 29th November**

Wishing you all a restful weekend, *Mr Williams*

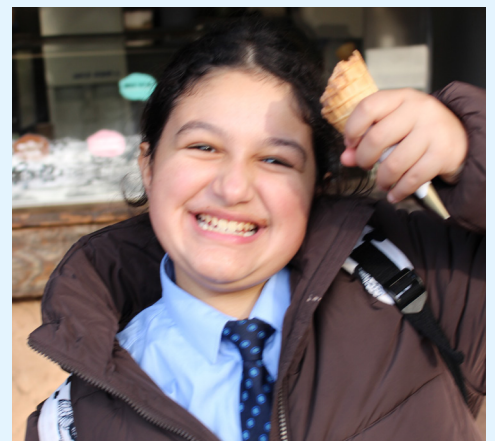
## Year 7 Zoo Trip

A group of Year 7 students embarked on a special challenge at Paignton Zoo this week. Working in teams, the students followed a series of questions and clues to navigate themselves around the Zoo. They recorded their answers on the question sheet provided and also compiled a list of 10 facts that they had learned throughout the day.

Another challenge was to make a note of all of the critically endangered species that they came across as they made their way along the route, of which there were many.

All students received a certificate and badge for their efforts and were rewarded with a free ice cream or hot chocolate.

Huge thanks to Torbay's School Sport Organiser - Annabel White, Mr Stacey, Mr Julyan, Mrs Holmes, Mrs Vere, Mrs Sanderson, Paignton Zoo and the team from Active Devon for making the day possible.



# Odd Socks Day

On Tuesday 12th November, we celebrated Odd Socks Day as part of #AntiBullyingWeek!

This special day emphasises the importance of embracing our uniqueness.

It was uplifting to see students participating by wearing their odd socks, demonstrating that it's perfectly acceptable to be different and that we stand together against bullying and discrimination.

Thank you for your ongoing support!



# Sports Leaders

## Primary School Tag Rugby Festival

Paignton Academy hosted three tag rugby festivals for primary schools during the first term of the year.

Over 400 children from Key Stage 2 participated in engaging activities where they learned the skills, rules, and tactics of the game. After the introductory games and activities, the children were able to apply their new-found knowledge during matches against other schools.

The festivals were skilfully managed by Year 8, 9, and 10 Sports Leaders, all of whom completed preparation training for the events with Mr Julyan, who organised all three festivals.

Paignton Rugby Club supported the events through their Schools Rugby Manager, Ella Fielding, along with additional help from Rugby Tots and Coach Dave.

The children had a fantastic experience, and we encourage them to continue their rugby journeys with Rugbytots Torbay and Mid Devon and Paignton Rugby Club.



# Poppy Appeal 2024

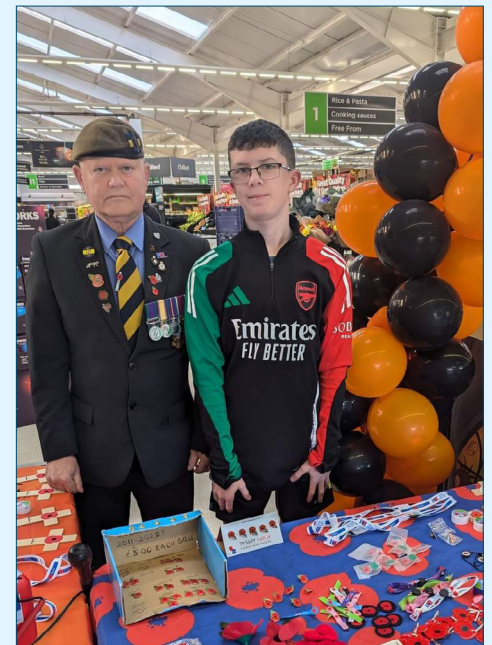
We recently shared a story about Jack in Year 8 and his fundraising efforts.

He has once again achieved great success with the Poppy Appeal by helping to sell poppy merchandise for the @The Royal British Legion - Paignton Branch at Asda Paignton.

Over the course of 9 days, he raised an impressive total of £3,355.03!

This brings his overall fundraising total to £2,8634.78 since he began in 2016, which also includes a 100-mile walk around Torbay that he participated in to raise money.

Well done, Jack! You should be incredibly proud of your accomplishments!





## Year 8 Rugby

Paignton Academy's Year 8 rugby team delivered an outstanding performance to claim victory in the South Devon 10-a-side tournament, outclassing 15 other schools in a thrilling day of rugby action. This is the first time in the school's history that we have won at Year 8.

The team showcased all the Believe & Achieve core values as well as skill, determination and teamwork throughout the competition, winning all five group games and capping their campaign with a dominant performance in the final.

### Group Stages

Paignton began their journey with a narrow 15-10 victory over Kingsbridge. Tries from Ashton, Toby, and Charlie secured the win in a hard-fought opener.

Their second match saw them find their rhythm with a commanding 20-0 win over Cuthbert Mayne, as Ashton crossed the line twice, alongside scores from Toby and Tristan.

Continuing their momentum, Paignton overcame Newton Abbot College 20-10 in another entertaining clash. Toby again shone with a brace of tries, with Ashton and Orchun also contributing to the scoreboard.

The penultimate group game against Coombeshead was a highlight, with Ashton running riot, scoring an incredible four tries, supported by a try from Charlie to finish with a decisive 25-10 victory. All tries were team tries and the players moved the ball very quickly on a wide pitch.

Paignton rounded off the group stage with a clinical 15-0 win over KEVICS. Orchun's double and Tyler's try ensured the team entered the final with confidence.

### The Final

Facing Churston Grammar in the final, Paignton saved their best for last. From the outset, they physically dominated and controlled territory through a pressing defence, with Toby leading the charge with two brilliant tries. Charlie and Ashton also crossed the whitewash, sealing an emphatic 20-0 victory and securing the tournament title in style.

Mr Virgo praised the team's collective effort, saying:

"The boys were outstanding today. They worked hard for each other, showed real discipline, and executed our game plan brilliantly. This is a proud moment for Paignton Academy."

Paignton Academy Year 8's victory in the South Devon tournament highlights their potential as a formidable force in school rugby. Congratulations to the team on a well-deserved triumph!

# Year 8 Netball

Last week, Paignton fielded two teams, with 21 girls representing the school!

The Paignton Diamonds went undefeated, securing two wins and achieving draws in two closely contested matches. The Paignton Emeralds also played exceptionally well, showcasing significant development in their netball skills and teamwork.

It is wonderful to see so many girls participating in netball each week. We are thrilled to have such high interest in the sport and the desire to represent the school.

Well done to all of you!



# Anti-Bullying Week

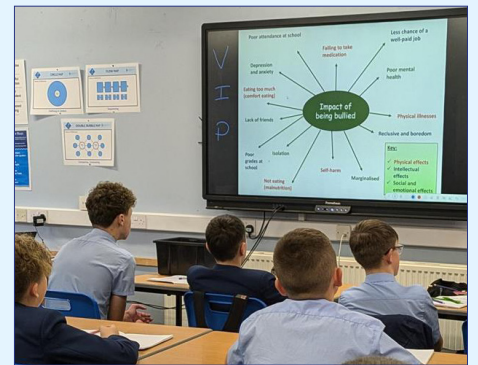
Last week at Paignton Academy, we took a stand against bullying with a series of important activities!

We relaunched our Anti-Bullying Policy, clarified our support systems for students, and celebrated individuality with our engaging Odd Socks Day.

Students participated in Anti-Bullying PSHE lessons that focused on the different types of bullying. They also explored the 2024 theme, "Choose Respect," during tutor time and attended assemblies that discussed the difference between banter and bullying.

We are now working in partnership with the Diana Award, which will be reflected in our policy.

Our next goal is to work towards earning our Inclusion Badge to reinforce a culture of respect and kindness.

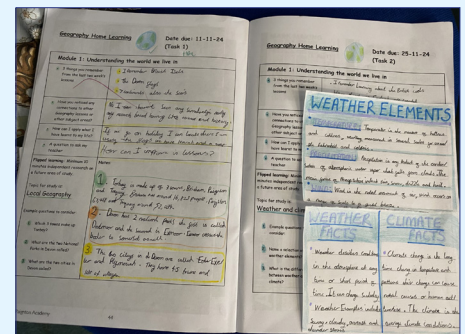


# Geography Home Learning

Freddie, a Year 7 Student in Mr Lovering's class, has done some amazing Geography home learning this week on weather elements.

He has taken immense pride and shown a real love of learning!

Great work Freddie- keep it up!








**Paignton Academy**

*Please like and follow our Facebook and Instagram pages to keep up to date with Paignton Academy's news.*

Dates for Your Diary	
Thursday 12th December	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Concert
Friday 20th December	Last day of the Autumn term