



PAGET HIGH SCHOOL

RESILIENCE, INTEGRITY, COMMUNITY

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER
2025



Dear Families,

As we reach the close of the Autumn Term, I would like to express my sincere thanks to our entire school community—students, staff, and families—for their hard work and dedication throughout this period. It is always a pleasure to reflect on the numerous successes and achievements that highlight our core values of Resilience, Integrity, and Community.

We are delighted to welcome Mrs Tilley, our newly elected Chair of Governors. Our governors play a crucial role in setting the strategic direction of Paget High School and ensuring the effective operation of the school.

This newsletter showcases the achievements of our students across various subjects. Our Sixth Formers demonstrated their appreciation for the arts and maturity during their visit to Derby Theatre to see F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*, an experience invaluable for their studies. Our younger students have also shown incredible talent, with three Year 10 students included in the Young Writers' anthology, "Grim Tales," and a special congratulations due to Laura for winning first place nationally for her creative writing.

Furthermore, our commitment to Community has been evident, particularly in Science, where Sixth Form volunteers guided Year 7 pupils through the 'poison' apples practical.

This community spirit, alongside outstanding resilience, was also displayed by our Y11 students attending the English and Science Breakfast Clubs, showing commitment to fuelling their minds and making a difference through a 'little but often' approach. You can read about Team Orchard's ongoing apple-picking initiative, distributing fruit to charitable causes throughout the academic year, and the hard work of our choir and drama students in rehearsals.

We have recently had a number of trips - Y7 have been to the National Arboretum and to the theatre in Lichfield, Y8 to Twycross Zoo, Y10 to see *Oliver Twist* in Derby, and the sixth formers have been on a trip to Chester. You'll be able to find out more about these trips in future editions, as well as on our social media accounts.

I wish you and your families a restful and safe break. We look forward to welcoming students back refreshed for the Spring Term, which starts on Tuesday 6th January 2026 following the INSET day on Monday 5th January 2026.

Lewis Fenn Griffin
Headteacher

SAFEGUARDING



Miss Sutton
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Ms Watton
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead



Mrs Bone
Deputy
Designated
Safeguarding
Lead

**If you are worried about yourself
or another student you can**

talk to or e-mail any member of staff
go to the Wellbeing Hub
talk to or email a member of the Safeguarding Team
safeguarding@paget.staffs.sch.uk

**We are here to help.
Please don't suffer in silence.**

SAFEGUARDING

The Safeguarding team will be checking at least weekly during school holidays. If there are any safeguarding concerns please email:

safeguarding@paget.staffs.sch.uk

If you have an IMMEDIATE SAFEGUARDING CONCERN out of hours please call the police on 999 and/or Staffordshire Children's advice and support services:

- 0300 111 8007
- Monday-Thursday – 08:30-17:00
- Friday – 08:30-16:30
- Out of Hours -0345 604 2886

Looking for trusted health apps? Staffordshire Health App Finder offers safe and effective apps for everyone, from managing stress and health conditions to supporting you to achieve your healthy lifestyle goals like achieving a healthy weight or quitting smoking.

Why use the Staffordshire Health App Finder:

- **Safety Assured:** Every app is tested/assessed by experts.
- **User-Friendly:** Easy navigation for all.
- **Trusted Source:** Backed by Staffordshire County Council and the Organisation for the Review of Care and Health Apps (ORCHA)
- **Data Secure:** Your privacy is our priority

How it works

- Visit our free, easy to use app library, search a health topic, pick an app, and start your journey to better health.
- Healthcare professionals can also use app finder to send app recommendations directly to people they care for.

<https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/Health-wellbeing-and-leisure/Keeping-well-and-staying-healthy/Search-for-health-and-wellbeing-apps.aspx>

UPCOMING DATES

Monday 5th January 2026

INSET Day

Tuesday 6th January 2026

Spring Term Starts

Thursday 22nd January 2026

Y8 & Y13 Parents Evening

Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February 2026

Half Term

Tuesday 3rd March 2026

Y9 Parents Evening

Friday 27th March 2026

Spring Term Ends

CURRICULUM

SIXTH FORM

On Wednesday, October 10th, Sixth Form students had the pleasure of attending a remarkable performance of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby* at Derby Theatre.

Set against the vibrant backdrop of 1920s America, this production vividly captured the glamour, drama, and tragedy inherent in Gatsby's narrative.

Our Sixth Formers exemplified the values of our school, showcasing maturity, enthusiasm, and a sincere appreciation for the arts.

This visit provided an invaluable opportunity to experience live theatre, enriching our understanding of the text, particularly for those engaged in literature or drama studies.



ORCHARD

Team Orchard recently embarked on an apple-picking initiative at our community orchard at the beginning of the term.

Throughout the academic year, they will be gathering the fruit from our orchard and distributing it to various charitable causes.

We look forward to sharing further updates with you as the season progresses.



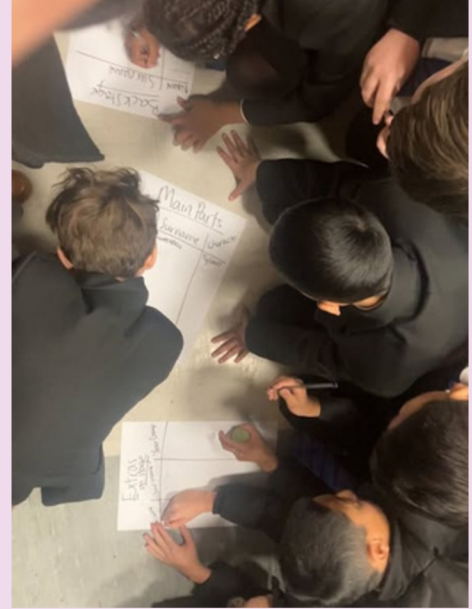
DRAMA

ROMEO AND JULIET

We had an incredible turnout for our mini play auditions! It was fantastic to see so many enthusiastic students stepping forward to showcase their talent, passion, and creativity. Thank you to Mr Garland and a bunch of gorgeous Sixth Formers who helped with the flow of auditions. Mr Till and Mrs Kureczko had a wonderful time and were “soooooo impressed” with our students.

From heartfelt monologues to bold character choices, everyone brought something special to the stage.

A huge thank you to all who auditioned. Your energy and commitment made the process truly inspiring. Rehearsals are now well underway!



YEAR 8 SHAKESPEARE

What fools these mortals be!"

Our Year 8 students have been diving deep into the language and emotion of Shakespeare, mastering monologues from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

Watching them bring these classic characters to life has been magical. Each student is embracing the challenge, exploring the nuances of their roles, and discovering the timeless relevance of Shakespeare's words. The classroom buzzes with excitement as they experiment with different interpretations.



MUSIC

Hitting the High Notes!

Mr Till is delighted to offer a glimpse into our talented choir of thirty as they engage in full rehearsal. The harmonious blending of their voices is genuinely inspiring, reflecting their exceptional dedication and hard work.

Achieving these high notes requires commitment and practice. Keep up the great work, team—your resilience is commendable!



YOUNG WRITERS

We are proud to announce that three of our Y10 students have been included in Young Writers' latest anthology, "Grim Tales" , and Paget's very own Laura was judged to have won first place , writing the best 100-word creepy retelling of a fairy tale in the whole country.

Paget has now had student's work in four of the last five Young Writers anthologies, and we continue to support the creative writing of all of our students.

This achievement is a testament to the hard work and resilience of our students, who persevered to produce such excellent creative writing.



SCIENCE

What a fantastic term for Science at Paget High School!

Our Year 7 pupils were testing "poison" apples inspired by Snow White's story. It was brilliant to see our Sixth Form student volunteers guiding the younger pupils and sharing their scientific knowledge.

This wonderful collaboration perfectly showcases our school value of community—our older students stepping up to support and inspire the next generation.

They've also demonstrated amazing resilience as they tackled the 'Rainbow Density Practical,' carefully layering liquids to create their own

We are so proud of their effort and engagement!



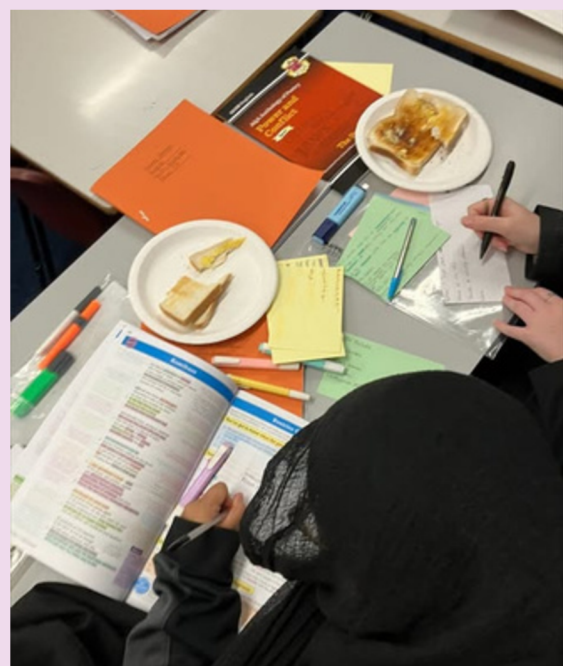
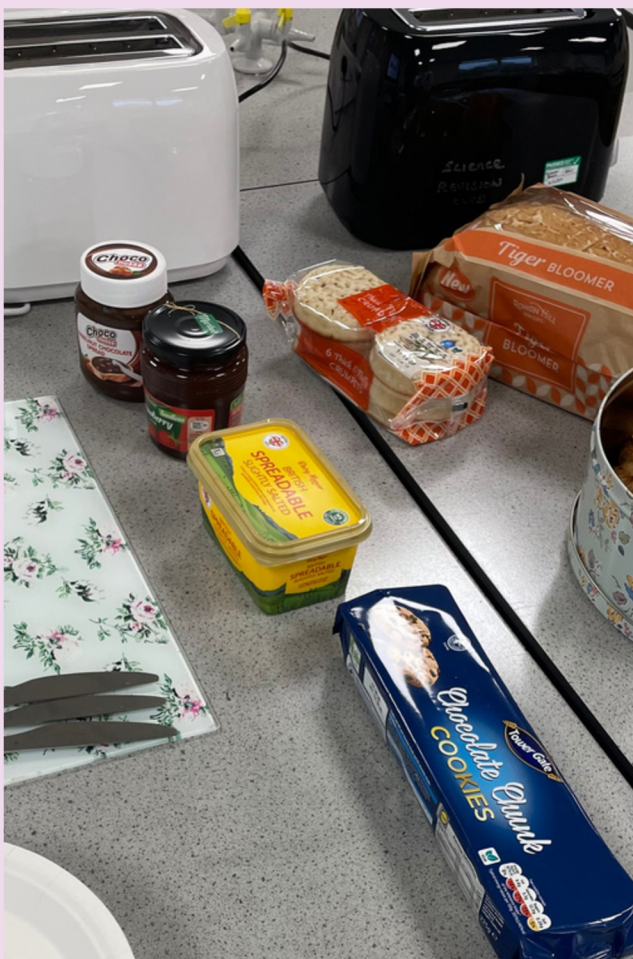
BREAKFAST CLUBS

Mrs Berg and Miss Kureczko have been very impressed with Year 11 attendance at breakfast club this term.

Both the English & Science Clubs were a great success and a true display of their resilience and commitment. It was lovely to see the community spirit as students supported each other and a fantastic opportunity for students to fuel their minds before the school day even begins.

Science Breakfast Club runs every other Friday on a Week A. English Breakfast Club every Tuesday.

Their commitment, early starts, and positive attitude show just how determined they are. Little but often really is making a big difference!



ATTENDANCE

The school is committed to valuing good attendance, promoting it, and reducing absence.

Paget High School aims to ensure every student has access to full-time education, addresses absences early, and builds strong family relationships. It's a joint responsibility of students, families, and staff to ensure students attend as they should.

Reporting Absences

Families should call the school before 8.45am on the first day of absence, and each subsequent day, to report their child's absence and expected return date. The school should also be provided with more than one emergency contact number. The phone number for the school is **01283 248800**, and the email address is attendance@paget.staffs.sch.uk.



Punctuality

Students must arrive at school by 08.30am each day. The first session register is taken at 08.50am and closes at 09.20am; the second session register is taken at 1.15pm and closes at 1.45pm. Arriving late before 09.20am results in a late mark, while arriving after 09.20am is marked as an absence.

Unplanned Absences

Notify the school of the reason for absence on the first day by 8.45am or as soon as possible. For absences longer than 3 days, or if there are doubts about the authenticity of the illness, the school may request medical evidence.

Leave of Absence

The Headteacher only grants leave of absence during term time for 'exceptional circumstances'. Each request is judged individually, and any request should be submitted as soon as it is anticipated, ideally at least two weeks before the absence. The Headteacher may require evidence to support the request. Taking children out of education for holidays during term time is discouraged.

Medical Appointments

Families should make appointments outside of school hours where possible. If appointments during school time are unavoidable, students should attend school for as much of the day as possible, and the form tutor should be notified well in advance with confirmation of the appointment. Medical or dental appointments are counted as authorised absences only if the school is notified in advance.

Authorised Absence

Valid reasons for authorised absence include illness (including mental illness), medical/dental appointments, religious observance, and traveller students traveling for occupational purposes.

When the School Follows Up

If a student fails to arrive without explanation, the school will contact the family. If they cannot reach emergency contacts, a home visit may be conducted.

ATTENDANCE

Penalty Notices (Fines)

The school or Local Authority can fine Families for the unauthorised absence of their child from school, where the child is of compulsory school age. Each parent/carer must pay £80 within 21 days or £160 within 28 days.

Strategies for Support

Paget High School offers pastoral care and may consider a phased return to school when needed. The school may use school nursing services, mental health support teams, and external partners.

What Families Can Do

Families can make sure their child attends every timetabled session on time with the necessary equipment, engage with their child's education, encourage their aspirations, and inform the school of any circumstances affecting their child's attendance. Families can also use the school as a support mechanism and work to form a positive relationship with the school.

On average a student with 8 missed school days per year lowers their GCSE grades by one whole grade.

Promoting Good Attendance

The school promotes high attendance and punctuality through prize draws, certificates, tutor praise, statistics, positive texts, recognition of improved attendance, and communication with home.

School's Responsibilities

The school will regularly inform families about their child's attendance and absence levels via written reports, home calls, home visits, live data via G4S, and meetings.

Contact Information

The Assistant Headteacher responsible for Attendance can be contacted at **01283 248800** or attendance@paget.staffs.sch.uk.

BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Behaviour around the site

Students are expected to move quickly and calmly, maintain personal space, speak politely and respect our environment.

Students not following expectations should be reminded. If the student does not follow the instructions, they will be issued with a 30 minute detention.

Students must follow staff instructions. Refusal or walking away from a staff member will result in a 30-minute detention.

When interacting with adults, students should speak respectfully, wait to be invited to respond, and use respectful body language.

Behaviour in the classroom

Follow One Voice, Partner Voice, Class Voice

Sit Up

Track the speaker

Ask and answer questions

Respect those around you.

Where students do not meet expectations, a stepped approach is followed.

See behaviour policy for more details.

Managing Behaviour Rewards

Paget High School aims to encourage and celebrate student effort and successes in all areas of school through praise and tangible rewards for effort, attendance, positive classroom behaviour, and contributions to the school community. Further details are in the Praise and Rewards Policy.

Consequences for Poor Behaviour

The school uses a stepped approach to behaviour management.

Step 1/Refusal (S1): If a student's behaviour disrupts learning, the teacher will issue a Step 1, resulting in a 30-minute break time detention.

Step 2 (S2): If the behaviour continues, the teacher will issue a Step 2, leading to removal from the lesson and a 60-minute after-school detention. In cases of extreme impolite conduct, a teacher may go directly to Step 2.

All behaviour information is communicated via Arbor.

After School Detentions and 'Removal Room'

After-school detentions are pooled and administered by senior leaders. A student will receive a maximum of one-hour detention per evening; longer accumulated detentions will result in a day in the 'Removal Room'. Detentions and the 'Removal Room' require students to be silent, face the front, wear full uniform, and complete assigned tasks. Disruption in detention leads to the 'Removal Room', and disruption in the 'Removal Room' may lead to an extended stay or suspension. The 'Removal Room' is a serious sanction and an alternative to suspension. Mobile phones must be handed in in the 'Removal Room'.

Suspension and Exclusion

Suspension will be used when student behaviour seriously impacts learning or welfare, threatens school order, or could damage the school's reputation. Only the Headteacher or a delegated senior leader can suspend or permanently exclude a student, following DfE and Staffordshire County Council guidelines. Permanent exclusion is reserved for serious or persistent breaches of the behaviour policy where allowing the student to remain would seriously harm the education or welfare of others.

UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

As we approach the final term of the school year, we would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the school uniform expectations for Years 7 to 11 at Paget High School.

Maintaining a consistent and smart appearance helps to foster a positive learning environment and promotes a sense of community within our school.

General Uniform Requirements (Years 7-11)

- All students are expected to wear a school blazer. This can be worn with or without a plain black jumper or cardigan.
- A plain white shirt must be worn, tucked in with the top button done up.
- The school tie must be worn and attached to the top button of the shirt.
- For bottom wear, students should wear either plain full length, black, tailored trousers or a pleated skirt with the school logo, which must be worn with black tights. Skirts should not be rolled up.
- Ankle socks are required.
- Shoes should be plain black leather or leather style.

Permitted Alternatives

For cultural or religious reasons, the following alternatives are permitted:

- Plain black shalwar
- Black or white kameez
- Black dupatta or hijab – please note that school ties must still be worn with these alternatives.

Items Not Allowed

To ensure our uniform policy is consistently applied and maintains a professional appearance, the following items are not permitted:

- Skin tight trousers, leggings, jeggings, cropped trousers, trousers that resemble sportswear, or jean-style trousers.
- Open-toed shoes.
- Hoodies.
- Hats.
- Clothing with logos (other than the school logo on the skirt and PE top).
- Coloured t-shirts worn visibly underneath school shirts.

Hairstyles, Cosmetics, and Jewellery

We also have expectations regarding hairstyles, cosmetics, and jewellery:

- Hairstyles should be appropriate for school. Shaved patterns and unnatural or multiple hair colours are not acceptable.
- Cosmetics, if worn, must be discrete. Nail extensions or nail ornamentation of any kind are not permitted.
- Jewellery, if worn, should be discrete and must not compromise health and safety guidelines. Students are permitted one pair of stud earrings per ear max and one nose stud maximum.

PE Kit

For Physical Education lessons, the required kit is:

- Black tracksuit bottoms/shorts/skorts with or without the school logo.
- PE top with the school logo.
- School rugby shirt (optional).
- Black football socks.
- Pair of trainers.
- Shin pads.
- Plain black base layer.

Uniform Issues:

It is expected that students will wear the correct uniform and adhere to all guidelines every day. If a student is not wearing the correct uniform, the form tutor will issue a uniform violation detention and a yellow notification slip – one slip per day.

If there is an ongoing uniform issue, it is important that the student brings this to the Head of Year's (HOY) attention, so that the HOY and families can work together to resolve it.

We appreciate your cooperation in ensuring that all students adhere to our uniform policy. If you have any questions or require clarification, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year.