



Sally Banfield

Headteacher

17th October 2025

Dear Parents and Families,

As we move into the final week of the half term, I am delighted to share upcoming news and events with you all. Our children and staff continue to work very hard, and we hope they share with you the experiences they have in school.

It is wonderful to share upcoming events and the successes of the last 2 weeks and to highlight our residential programme that we have started to share in specific year groups.

I will also continue to use my bulletin to share information that might be helpful for you from outside the school.

Remember that all letters that are sent out are also available on the school website in a dedicated place for easy navigation. The link for this page is here: [Combe Pafford School - Letters to Parents](#)

Harvest Celebration – Our Harvest assembly is taking place on Wednesday 22nd October and will begin at 2pm in the hall. Parents and family members of Years 5, 6, and 7 have been sent an invite. We look forward to seeing you on Wednesday to share this with us.

Sporting Successes – We have had some super successes in both girls' rugby and boys' football in the past 2 weeks.

Our girls went to a rugby tournament with Miss Kvesic and had a fantastic day. Here are her words about the day.

“WOW! What a fantastic day we had at the Girl's Rugby Festival. The Year 7 girls were absolutely fantastic. They were polite and respectful to the other schools, compassionate with each other and showed amazing resilience in all the games and activities we tried. The day consisted of passing games, kicking games and mini matches of touch rugby. All the girls tried their hardest and showed excellent talent!

A special well done to Maddie, Georgie and Annie who were identified as being the rugby stars of the day receiving a prize from the rugby club for their efforts”

Mr Wallace has also taken the Year 8/9 and 10/11 boys to their respective football tournaments in Newton Abbott. He was extremely impressed by all the boys both in their levels of play and success but also in their positive attitude and teamwork.

I went to watch some of the Year 10/11 event and was so proud of all the players. They were all very tired at the end of a long tournament, but they played extremely well and represented themselves and our school impeccably.

Residentials – Information has started to be released for our amazing residential offer later in the year. Families of Year 8/9, 10/11, and sixth form students have all received information about the trips to Belgium, Paris, Grand Canaria, and Kenya.

We are extremely proud of our residential offer, and I am committed to this being an ongoing feature at Combe Pafford for many years to come. Further information will be released soon regarding the other residential for all year group. If you have any questions, please contact the school.

Support and Information for Families – please find below support and other opportunities for you and your family.

Keeping your children safe online

This is a new feature of my bulletin to you all. We know how difficult it can be to navigate the minefield of the 'online world'. As part of our commitment to you, we will have produced a help sheet looking at key games and platforms. I am very grateful to our ICT lead, Mrs. Cooper, for putting these together for you. The focus this week is Roblox. I hope you find these very helpful.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games on the market. By 2020, the game's makers were claiming that more than half of children in the USA play it. As a 'sandbox' title, Roblox offers a huge amount of creative freedom; it lets players create their own gaming experiences with the Roblox Studio (to suit a custom level) and gammas, which can then be shared with other players online. Roblox fosters creative thinking and enjoys a robust online community of fans.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
Roblox encourages players to communicate with others (including a group chat facility). This could expose children to risks such as cyberstalking, online predators, harassment, griefers and more. The game has a reporting system, but isn't perfect. Players can still send harmful messages to others – such as scammers or general hostility – which predators can reach out to children directly.

ONLINE DATERS
These are also called 'OGBs' and are quite common in Roblox. An OGB is an individual who joins a game with the intention of finding someone to date online – and eventually meet in person. Such online daters frequently use the Roblox community to stalk their victims, but this usually doesn't deter OGBs. Some player-built Roblox game worlds have even been designed with online dating specifically in mind.

PUBLIC SERVERS
Roblox has private or VIP servers which allow people to play exclusively with their friends, but this costs money. Most Roblox players use public servers that anyone can join. Servers can host games which focus on all kinds of aspects, including direct player interaction, role games and more. However, all put children at risk of contact from strangers than others.

IN-APP PURCHASES
Roblox is actually free to download and play, but there is money to be made. There are some hidden costs. Players are encouraged to make purchases in the game, for example, using real money. People can also buy extra Robux (the in-game currency) to spend on cosmetic items in the game, while it's possible to purchase a private or VIP server.

Advice for Parents & Carers

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS
Roblox comes with several parental control options, which are explained well on the game's official website. It's essential to enter the correct date of birth for your child, so that Roblox can automatically apply the appropriate chat filters. The game also allows parents and carers to set monthly spending restrictions and monitor their child's account.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING
Roblox's private messaging function raises the risk of children being contacted by people they may not want to speak with – potentially leading to bullying, harassment, toxicity and scam attempts. The game allows you to disable messages from anyone who hasn't been added as a friend on your child's account.

PRIVATE SERVERS
If your child has some genuine friends to play Roblox online with, paying for a private or VIP server decreases the risk of contact from strangers. Even then, however, some players could invite other people – who might not necessarily be child-friendly – into the private server. If your child is a Roblox fan, it's important to talk with them regularly about who they are playing the game with.

MONITOR SPENDING
If they don't understand they're using real money, it's easy for children to accidentally spend a sizeable amount in the game. Using parental controls to place limits on their spending will help avoid any nasty financial surprises. Ensuring that you have monthly budget notifications on your payment accounts also makes it easier for your child to spend money responsibly.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS
At some points in their development, your child will need to learn how to deal with strangers online. Show them how to block and report any users who are upsetting them or asking uncomfortable questions. Talking to them about what's OK to discuss – and what they should never tell a stranger online – will help them understand how to communicate with other people online safely.

Meet Our Expert
Claire Goodwin (aka @unwind) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2011, providing outlets with expert coverage on video gaming. She is the owner of Unwind Consulting, a consultancy working on video gaming-related projects, including game development and writing consultation books.

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

www.nationalonlinesafety.com @natonlinesafety /NationalOnlineSafety @nationalonlinesafety

Some of this guide do so at their own discretion. All liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 27.06.2023

Monthly Running Event

Please find attached a flyer in relation to a free monthly running event open to everyone.



ALL IN **Link**

THE RUN EVENT FOR EVERYONE!

1ST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH  **MEET AT 8:45AM**

THE PARK RUN WILL START AT 9AM AND YOU CAN CHOOSE TO WALK, RUN OR WHEEL ANY DISTANCE YOU LIKE UP TO 5K.

PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

LEARNING DISABILITIES

AUTISM SPECTRUM CONDITIONS

SENSORY OR MOBILITY NEEDS

ABLE-BODIED INDIVIDUALS ARE ALSO ENCOURAGED TO SUPPORT, ACCOMPANY, OR TAKE PART



MEETING SPOT WILL BE 8.45AM JUST INSIDE THE TORBAY VELO PARK ENTRANCE, ON THE RIGHT.
YOU WILL SEE AT LEAST ONE OF OUR HOSTS WEARING A WHITE T SHIRT WITH THE WORDS ALL IN WRITTEN IN BLUE.

FOR ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE EMAIL: INFO@LINKTORBAY.CO.UK
HOSTED BY WINNERS 2000 FITNESS LTD & LINK TORBAY CIC

Family Coffee Mornings

Please see a poster below from Torbay Children's Centre who are offering Family Coffee Mornings for parents of SEND children.



Torbay Locality Pilot

FAMILY SUPPORT COFFEE MORNINGS FOR SEND PARENTS & CARERS

 **COME AND JOIN US FOR A CHAT!** 

Are you a parent or carer of a child with SEND aged 0-25?
If so, we would love you to join us at one of our coffee mornings as below – all welcome:

What support is available? *Chat to colleagues from Social Care, Early Years & SENDIASS* *How can I get help?*

Monday 13th October
The Beehive, Paignton – 10am-12pm

Thursday 16th October
The Barn, Brixham – 12.30pm-2.30pm.

Wednesday 22nd October
Family Hub Room, Zig Zags Torquay – 11.00am – 2.00pm

Drop in at any of the times above - Babies and Toddlers are most welcome!

Rugby Club

Please see attached Rugby Sessions Available for October Half Term and also a Girls Rugby Activity Day being held on 27th October 2025. For more information about other rugby sessions available throughout the year, please contact school@paigntonrugby.com

OCTOBER HALF TERM CAMP!

NATIONAL T1 RUGBY SERIES
#T1RugbySeries

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN, ACTIVE, AND PACKED WITH ENERGY THIS OCTOBER HALF TERM?

COME AND JOIN US AT PAIGNTON RUGBY CLUB'S HOLIDAY CAMP - OPEN TO EVERYONE AGED 8 TO 15, WHETHER YOU'RE A TOTAL BEGINNER OR A YOUNG RUGBY PRO!

- ★ NO EXPERIENCE NEEDED - JUST BRING YOUR ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM!
- ★ DAILY PRIZES, FUN COMPETITIONS, AND RUGBY MADNESS GUARANTEED!
- ★ DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE FOR MULTIPLE DAY BOOKINGS - SO COME ALONG!
- ★ PLACES ARE LIMITED - SO DON'T MISS OUT!

PAIGNTON RUGBY CLUB, QUEENS PARK, TQ4 6AT

TUESDAY 28TH OCTOBER
WEDNESDAY 20TH OCTOBER
THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER

TO BOOK
EMAIL: SCHOOLS@PAIGNTONRUGBY.COM
SPECIFY YOUR DATES, YOUR CHILDS NAME AND AGE
£ 22 PER DAY!

ENJOYED THE RWC? JOIN US FOR!

PLAY. CREATE. BELONG.

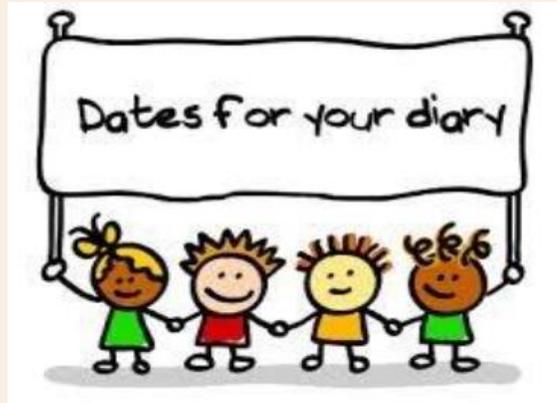
PAIGNTON'S GIRLS ACTIVITY DAY!

27 / 10 / 25 ~ 11 - 2 PM ~ AGES 6 - 12

I hope you all enjoy a lovely weekend with your family and friends.

Best wishes

Sally Banfield
Headteacher



OCTOBER 2025

- 21st KS2 Swimming
- 22nd Harvest Festival
- 24th Year 7 Swimming
- 24th LAST DAY OF TERM

NOVEMBER 2025

- 3rd FIRST DAY OF TERM – CHILDREN WELCOMED BACK
- 4th GCSE Resit (Eng Lang 1)
- 4th KS2 Swimming
- 5th GCSE Resit (Maths Pt 1)
- 5th School Nurse Drop In Service (YFC)
- 5th Year 7 Kents Cavern Trip
- 6th GCSE Resit (Eng Lang 2)
- 7th GCSE Resit (Maths Pt 2)
- 7th Year 7 Swimming
- 10th GCSE Resit (Maths Pt 3)
- 11th KS2 Swimming
- 11th Post 16 SEND Evening
- 14th Year 7 Swimming
- W/C 17th Year 11 Work Experience Week 1
- 18th KS2 Swimming
- 21st Children in Need
- 21st Year 7 Swimming
- W/C 24th Year 11 Mock Week
- 25th KS2 Swimming
- 28th Year 7 Swimming