



Dear Parents and Carers,

It's always a pleasure to see so many of our students taking advantage of the wide range of opportunities available beyond the classroom. With 51 extra-curricular clubs running each week, it has been wonderful to see students discovering new interests, developing their talents and building new friendships through the many clubs and activities on offer. The positive impact that participation has on students' confidence, wellbeing and sense of belonging is clear to see, and we are grateful to the staff who give their time to make these opportunities possible.

On Thursday evening, we were delighted to welcome Year 10 students and their families to our Raising Achievement Evening. It was fantastic to see so many parents and students in attendance, engaging with the information and guidance designed to support a successful journey through Key Stage 4. The evening provided an opportunity to share key strategies for revision, study habits and preparation for GCSE courses, and we thank everyone who took the time to attend. The [presentation is linked here](#) and an electronic version of the [Raising Achievement Booklet is here](#)

Looking ahead, a reminder that our Year 11 Parents' Evening takes place next week. These meetings provide an important opportunity to discuss progress, identify areas for development and ensure students are fully supported as they approach their final year of GCSE study. If you have not yet done so, please make your appointments through [SchoolCloud](#) to speak with your child's teachers.

A reminder that homework can be viewed with all assignments and due dates through [ClassCharts](#). We also encourage families of students in Years 7 to 9 to support the development of literacy skills at home by accessing the Bedrock Learning website: <https://app.bedrocklearning.org/>. This is an excellent resource for building vocabulary, reading comprehension and literacy confidence.

As we approach the final weeks of the half term, I would like to thank our students, staff and families for their continued commitment and support. There has been much to celebrate already, and I look forward to sharing more successes with you in the weeks ahead.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body and would encourage any parent or carer who is interested in supporting the strategic development of the school to consider applying; if you would like to stand for election, please contact the school via the main office or email HeadsPA@pakefield.org.uk for further information and an application form.



Fixtures

Year 8 Boys Football

Pakefields Year 8 boys progressed to the next round of the County Cup following a thrilling 3–2 victory over Beccles High School.

Pakefield showed fantastic resilience after finding themselves 2–0 down inside the opening 15 minutes. Max Halliday gave Pakefield hope with a well-taken goal before half-time to make it 2–1.

Pakefield piled on the pressure after the break and deservedly equalised through Oscar Reynolds, who finished well from the edge of the area. The comeback was completed shortly afterwards when Oakley Liddell-Andrews produced a fantastic strike into the top corner to give Pakefield the lead.

The boys managed the final 10 minutes brilliantly to secure the 3–2 win and a place in the next round. A fantastic comeback and a brilliant team performance — well done, boys!

Year 8 Girls Football

Pakefield High School's Year 8 girls' football team produced a fantastic performance in their County Cup fixture against Benjamin Britten, securing an impressive 10–0 victory.

Despite having no substitutes available, the girls worked throughout the match and showed great determination from start to finish. Playing some excellent attacking football, they created numerous chances and were rewarded with a dominant score line.

Maisie Trussler and Tilly Porter both scored hat-tricks, while Millie Batchelor, Evelyn Malcom, Erin Taylor and Millie Piggin each added a goal to complete the scoring.

The girls displayed excellent teamwork, work rate and resilience throughout the game, particularly given that they played the entire match without any substitutes. They should be extremely proud of their performance as they progress to the next round of the County Cup.

Duke Of Edinburgh

Year 9 students are invited to sign up for the Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Please see Miss Grice in MFL2 for a letter.



The Three Pillars Challenge

Students will earn between 0 and 5 points based on their position within their year group for:

- ✓ Behaviour
- ✓ Attendance
- ✓ Extra-Curricular Attendance

Points from each category will contribute to their form group's overall score. At the end of each half term, prizes and rewards will be awarded to the highest-scoring form in each year group in recognition of their commitment, participation, and achievement.

This board is located in the middle of the street and will be updated with points every Monday Morning.

Attendance Tickets



Introducing Our New Extra-Curricular Attendance Tokens!

We are excited to launch our new Extra-Curricular Attendance Tokens, which have now replaced the loyalty card system.

Students will receive one token every time they attend an after-school extra-curricular club. Simply write your name and form on the token and place it straight into the Extra-Curricular Prize Draw post box. (Outside Mr Gibbons Office)

At the end of Autumn Term 1, winning tokens will be drawn and students will have the chance to win a range of exciting prizes!

- 📌 Attend a club = Earn a token
- 📌 Post your token in the prize box
- 📌 Be entered into the prize draw
- ★ The more clubs you attend, the more tokens you earn and the greater your chance of winning!



New Reward Tokens

Introducing Pakefield Reward Tokens!



These new tokens will replace Amazon vouchers and give students even more choice in their rewards. Every week, students with 100% attendance will be entered into a draw, with lucky winners receiving a reward token.

Students who take part in extra-curricular activities can also win tokens through the Extra-Curricular Post-box draw each half term.

Once you have earned a Pakefield Reward Token, bring it to Mrs Moore to choose and collect your prize. Tokens can be exchanged for a range of rewards, including footballs, stationery, games, and other exciting items.

Find my Future STEM Event (Year 8)



Find My Future is a unique 1-day conference for Year 8 students on Thursday the 26th November 2026

Hosted at the John Innes Centre, designed to inspire the next generation of STEM professionals.

Students will hear from and meet inspirational speakers across UEA, the Norwich Research Park and STEM businesses, through taking part in interactive workshops and networking sessions.

There are only 12 places available. If you are interested, please see Mrs Moore





Virtual Work Experience for students aged 14+

WORK EXPERIENCE (WEX)

If you're a student with aspirations of becoming a doctor, then the Medic Mentor Virtual Work Experience Programme is an incredible opportunity that you won't want to miss. Developed in partnership with the University Hospital Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust, this programme provides a comprehensive and immersive virtual experience that will give you a real insight into the world of medicine.

All you need to do is attend a Get Into Medicine conference to start accessing the Virtual Work Experience straight away!

[SIGN UP HERE](#)

[SPEAK TO DOCTORS](#)



**University Hospitals
Birmingham**
NHS Foundation Trust

Please see Mrs Moore for more information.

<https://medicmentor.org/university-hospitals-birmingham-trust-virtual-work-experience/>

Inspire: Innovate – Engineering Community Event

East Norfolk College in collaboration with Saxon Air, are hosting the Inspire: Innovate - Engineering Community Event which will enable students to explore careers, skills and opportunities within the engineering sectors.

The event is aimed at **Year 8 pupils and above**, and they can attend with their families.

Head of School: Mr Philip Dougherty
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Suffolk Academy – Rugby (All Years)

Over the past three seasons, Advantage Rugby Academy (ARA) has grown significantly, now providing coaching, playing opportunities and additional rugby experiences to around 250 state-school players each year.

Our fundamental aim is simple: to give players who receive little or no rugby at school the opportunity to continue developing and experiencing rugby at a level that more closely reflects the opportunities available within the independent sector.

The Academy is open to club players from across the county and has developed a programme that combines high-quality coaching with regular playing opportunities, specialist support and access to experiences that many state-school players would otherwise struggle to access.

Career Days: Age 13-18

Designed for students aged 13–18, Career Days provides one-day immersive online experiences across a range of professions — including medicine, law, psychology, business, performing arts, veterinary medicine and more. Each event is carefully structured to give you genuine insight into life in your chosen field.



Sessions cost approximately £79

Apply for free school meals

October

Saturday 3rd – Medicine
Sunday 4th – Dentistry
Saturday 10th – Veterinary Medicine
Saturday 17th – Computer Science
Sunday 18th – Performing Arts
Saturday 24th – Midwifery
Saturday 31st – Psychology

November

Saturday 7th – Architecture
Saturday 21st – Engineering
Saturday 28th – Law

December

Saturday 5th – Business

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Safeguarding Update: Friendships and Kindness

Supporting Positive Friendships

Friendships are an important part of secondary school life. Positive friendships can help young people feel a sense of belonging, build confidence and develop important social skills. However, friendships can sometimes be challenging, particularly as young people navigate changing relationships, disagreements and social pressures.

As parents and carers, there are ways you can support your child to develop healthy and respectful friendships.

Encourage kindness and respect

Remind your child that everyone deserves to be treated with kindness, dignity and respect. Encourage them to:

- Listen to others and try to understand different points of view.
- Include others rather than deliberately leaving someone out.
- Think carefully about how their words and actions might make someone else feel.
- Be supportive when a friend is having a difficult time.
- Respect personal boundaries and understand that people may have different comfort levels.
- Speak up or seek help if they see someone being bullied, isolated or treated unkindly.

When friendships become difficult

It is normal for young people to experience disagreements with friends. Encourage your child to talk about what has happened and help them consider constructive ways to resolve disagreements.

It is important, however, to recognise when behaviour goes beyond a normal friendship disagreement. Repeated name-calling, humiliation, threats, controlling behaviour, deliberately excluding someone, spreading rumours or harmful behaviour online can have a significant impact on a young person's wellbeing.

If your child is worried about a friendship, feels uncomfortable or unsafe, or is concerned about the way someone else is being treated, encourage them to talk to a trusted adult. This could be a parent or carer, member of school staff, or another trusted adult.



A reminder about online friendships

Friendships increasingly continue outside school through social media, messaging and gaming. Encourage your child to consider whether their online behaviour reflects the same kindness and respect expected face-to-face. Remind them that messages, images and comments can be misunderstood and can have a lasting impact.

Please encourage your child to come to you or a trusted adult if something online makes them uncomfortable, worried or unsafe.

What parents and carers can do

Regular, informal conversations can make it easier for young people to talk when something is wrong. Rather than only asking, *"How was school?"*, try asking about friendships, how others are treating them and whether they have noticed anyone being left out or struggling.

Most importantly, reassure your child that asking for help is a strength, not a weakness. If you have a safeguarding concern about your child or another young person, please contact the school and speak to a member of the safeguarding team.

Find out if your child is eligible for free school meals and how to apply.

You can apply online for free school meals. You'll get an immediate response and confirmation email after you've completed your application.

Use this link to check and [Apply for free school meals](#)

If your child is eligible for targeted free school meals, they'll also qualify for the Holiday Activity and Food Programme. [More information from Suffolk County Council is available here](#)



Week Beginning	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
12/10/2026			Flu Vaccine	Year 11 Parents Evening	
19/10/2026	School Photos				PD Day No students in school
02/11/2026	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks
09/11/2026	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks	Year 11 Mocks
16/11/2026		Year 11 Geography Field Trip - Norwich		Year 7 Parents Evening – Meet the Tutor	
23/11/2026					

Warm regards,

Mr P Dougherty
Head of School