



PADGATE ACADEMY

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Principal: Mr A McMillan Bsc (Hons)

Ref: AMC/MSI

3rd April 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we come to the end of another busy and productive term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the fantastic events and achievements that have taken place at Padgate Academy over the past few months.

Celebrating Our Achievements

This term has been filled with wonderful moments that have showcased the talent, dedication, and hard work of our students and staff. We have enjoyed a variety of events, including inspiring performances from our drama and music students, outstanding participation in sports competitions, and successful academic initiatives designed to challenge and support our students. Additionally, we have seen our students engage in charitable activities, demonstrating their commitment to making a difference in the community.

Here are some of the key events and activities that took place this term:

Trips & Events

- Cadets residential visit
- A wealth of sports fixtures
- Hospitality trip to The Kimpton Hotel in Manchester
- Languages trip to Priestley College
- Careers trips to local colleges

Assemblies & Awareness Campaigns

- World Autism Acceptance Month
- Fairtrade & Sustainability
- Careers Week
- World Book Day
- International Women's Day recognition
- Cyber Awareness for all year groups

Special Events Promoting Learning & Inclusion

- Maths Pi Day – Engaging students in mathematical learning and inclusion activities.
- Red Nose Day Fundraising – Organised by our Student Leadership Team, raising money for a great cause.

A particular highlight of this term was the inspiring performances in Poppins, our school production. This fantastic show highlighted the performing talents of many of our students, some of whom took to the stage for the first time. It also enabled us to try out the new drama lighting and sound and new stage curtains. The production was performed for local primary schools and members of our community over six days, creating lifelong memories for those involved. A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to making this event a success, as well as to all our staff who have worked tirelessly to support these school activities.



Exciting School Developments

We are delighted to share that, due to local development, Padgate Academy will be receiving approximately £3.5 million to invest in improving our school over the next three years. This funding will allow us to enhance our facilities and provide an even better learning environment for our students. Work will begin in the summer term, with several large projects set to be completed this year. We look forward to sharing updates on these improvements as they progress.

In addition to this exciting development, we are still continuing to improve our onsite facilities for our students, and we have seen 2 additional IT suites introduced since the start of September and a further IT suite refurbishment which will be completed over this holiday period. We have also seen the introduction of 65 new laptops to be used by students around site and over 100 new desktop computers installed.

Inclusive School Award

We are incredibly proud to have been accredited with the Inclusion Quality Mark and recommended to apply for Centre of Excellence status for our work on inclusion. This recognition follows a rigorous assessment process, during which we provided detailed evidence of our inclusive practices and hosted a two-day accreditation visit. The final report concluded with the following statement:

'Padgate Academy is a remarkable school. It is succeeding in translating a truly inclusive vision and principled values into practical reality in a way which is replicable by other mainstream schools. The intelligent thought around systems and processes, coupled with the deep care for each individual, is humbling to witness. It was a pleasure and a privilege to visit the school'.

This achievement is a testament to the dedication and commitment of our staff, students, and wider school community. We are incredibly grateful for your support in making our school a place where every student is valued and can thrive.

Uniform refresh update

As we have previously communicated, we are excited to launch a new Padgate Academy uniform from the start of September. We have finalised our new uniform policy which we encourage all parents and carers to read. The policy includes the expectations for your child and photos of the new designs. The policy can be access via the following link [School Uniform](#) and is also available on our website.

Staff Farewell

This week, we bid a fond farewell to Karen, our dedicated Science Technician, who is retiring at the end of this term after more than 20 years of outstanding service to Padgate Academy. Karen has been an invaluable member of our school community, playing a crucial role in supporting the science department during that time. On behalf of all students, staff, and the wider school community, we thank Karen for her many years of commitment and wish her a very happy and well-earned retirement.

Easter Break Information

As we approach the Easter holidays, I would like to remind you that tomorrow (Friday 4th April) is a non-uniform day for all students and school will close at 3:05 PM. We will welcome students back on Tuesday 22nd April at 8:25 AM.

I wish you all a happy, restful, and enjoyable Easter break. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another successful term ahead.

Yours faithfully

Adam McMillan, Principal