



The PA

MAGAZINE

The Year of
Ψellow!

Seacole take the House Cup

Summer 2025 Edition

Editorial:

Hi! Welcome to the final edition of the PA Magazine for 2025. It's been such a pleasure to be making this newspaper and showing you guys exactly what has been happening in our school this year! It's finally the summer, and a whole lot of exciting new things have happened, so stay tuned. The year has gone by super-fast, with the Year 11s finishing their GCSEs and Year 13s with their A Levels and Seacole being crowned House Cup Champions. Being an Editor of a newspaper for the first time showed me what hard work means and the importance of teamwork- we've made numerous editions with the determination and involvement of others. However, getting something ready on a certain date has been quite stressful and has required great organisation and dedication- which is definitely a useful skills for my exams! Read across for teacher reflections and what they think about this year. Keep reading for the low down on Sports Day, Year 8's visit to Surrey University, Year 12 Work Experience and teacher goodbyes. From everyone at PA- stay cool, rest well and have a great and exciting summer! We all wish you the best!

Signing Off (for the final time!)

-Editor,
Aliya Sheikh.



Reliving the highs of '24/25

Summer is upon us & the end of the academic year is nigh. Below, teachers reflect on the year, sharing their favourite moments, as well as their goals, hopes

and tips for success in September.



Above: Mr Sutton was joined by his former professional footballer dad Chris for a special assembly in the Spring.

Top right: Mr DiPasqua and Mr Jones on sports day

Mr Sutton

What is one word that you would use to describe this year at PA?
Enjoyable.

What is the biggest achievement for your year group this year?
The whole year group learning lifesaving CPR with London Lifesavers

What was your favourite event hosted at PA this year?
This would have to be my dad coming to visit! Although he made lots of jokes at my expense and beat me in a

keepie-ups competition, it was a very proud moment for me to show him the work we do here and introduce him to my colleagues as well as of course the wonderful Year 8 students!

What are your hopes for next year at PA?
To see the focus on kindness continued & all students demonstrating kindness every day.

What's your one message to students ahead of their summer?
Enjoy the break, stay safe and do kind things for other people!



Mr DiPasqua

What is one word that you would use to describe this year at Paddington?
Noteworthy.

What is the biggest achievement for your year group this year?
Making the transition into early adulthood, for example through, completing work experience.

What was your favourite event hosted at PA this year?
The Y13 celebration after their graduation.

What are your hopes for next year at PA?
That 6th form students adjust well to their new realities and succeed in their exams!

What's your one message to students ahead of their summer?
Enjoy yourselves and make the most of opportunities that come your way! Get outside and meet up with friends. It is just as important to have healthy routines about how you spend your free time as it is to have healthy routines about your time in school.

Mr Jones

What is one word you would use to describe this year at PA?
Successful.

What was your favourite event hosted at PA this year?
Year 11 Graduation as this year there were so many award winners due to an exceptional year by them.

What are your hopes for next year at PA?
That the students at PA continue to get involved in as many opportunities as possible, whilst still achieving great academic results

What's your one message to students ahead of summer?
Make sure you don't spend a single day of your summer sitting at home in front of a device! Get out and do something, whether in London or in another country.

Below: Year 13 Graduation



Ms Liyanwela

What is one word that you would use to describe this year at PA?
Transformative.

What is the biggest achievement for your year group this year?
How well Y7 has settled into the school and embraced our values.

What was your favourite event hosted at PA this year?
The GCSE And A-level Art Exhibition - such a great range of brilliant and inspirational artworks

What are your hopes for next year at PA?
Seeing the Year 7s grow into confident and curious learners as they progress into Year 8.

What's your one message to students ahead of summer?
Take time to recharge, read widely, get outdoors and enjoy quality time with family and loved ones!

SPORTS DAY SPECTACULAR!

Paddington held their first whole-school sports day in more than ten years at Paddington Rec. Students from Year 7-12 enjoyed competing for their houses in a variety of track-and-field events. **Equiano** emerged as the champions.



Above: Mouhsen, Mehdi and Ayman Bakali sprinting in the 100m Year 8 Boy's race. It was one of the tightest races of the event.
Below: DJ White in the house!



Mr. White, who organised the sports day event, said: "It was fantastic to see the whole of PA at Paddington Rec in great spirits. Stand out performances were from Asia B in the 200m, Rehab in Year 7 in the long jump, Suleman for the year 10 javelin and Gabriella in the 400m race."



Top right: Year 12 girls celebrating with Mr. Di Pasqua after their events.
Below: Year 9 Equiano boys heaving with all their might in the tug-of-war.



Above: Ms. Morris cheers on racers.



Below left: Hellena Afonso (Year 10) showing her love for Hawking, with facepainting being provided by Ms. Bushell. Students donated 50p to charity for each design.
Right: Amina El-Ghaoubar shows off her moral-boosting Equiano poster.



BEHIND THE SCENES: YEAR 12 GET A FLAVOUR OF THE WORKING WORLD



Year 12 students left the classroom to enter the world of work at various placements around London. Three members of the Editorial team decided to share their experience.

Ismail Habib Bakht (Oaklin)

What does spaghetti and marshmallows have to do with a business consulting firm? It's not something I ever thought I'd consider, but the afternoon I spent exploring this was one of the most engaging parts of my work experience.

I was working for Oaklin, a business consulting firm which specializes in helping other businesses. In addition to the marshmallows (and the sticky mess that ensued), I worked on various scenarios of businesses needing help or assistance with finances, strategy, and general day-to-day concerns. One example was a charity which was involved in the welfare of animals where we were tasked with raising awareness of these issues for the younger generation. I felt that the experience really helped enhance my teamwork and problem-solving skills, as every scenario was different as naturally all businesses operated differently. Oaklin was a very unique business where the hierarchy was very flat therefore, I got to speak with all types of employees such as juniors and some partners. My favorite conversation was with one of the founding partners as I was surprised by how down to earth he was.

Cezar Rasul (Allied Law Solicitors Chambers)

I came into my week at Allied Law Solicitors Chambers - a law firm that specialises in working property, criminal and immigration law - full of curiosity. I have been intrigued by law for some time and hoped this experience would give me a full insight into the work of a lawyer. It certainly didn't disappoint. In fact, the week was one of the most exciting things that has happened to me all year. I was given the opportunity to gain a better insight into important matters, such as how solicitors handle their client's paperwork, along with learning all the basics of the court and law system. This experience has also allowed me to be exposed to the work environment of a law firm, with key takeaways being the fact that all the solicitors treated

each other with respect and how the law firm worked in a collaborative effort towards completing all of their cases. Another highlight was that all of my questions related to being a solicitor were answered. These questions included how clients would get into contact and work with the firms, along with how a solicitor starts their career after university.

Pronson Brahmtoh (Tumman Thai Restaurant)

I became a waiter for 5 days. Sufficed to say, I found the experience both fun and enlightening. While not a desk job that many might have taken part in, the experience made me realise how meticulous being a waiter is. For instance, we must lay out the cutlery and plates in a certain way, maintain our appearances and most crucially, remember exactly what each customer ordered (even harder if they have allergies or make specific requests.) When I reflect on my time working there, I realised that I struggled most with providing proper service to customers without messing up. While it shouldn't be that serious for a newbie like me, such an event will probably haunt me for months to come. Nevertheless, it allowed me to get out of my comfort zone and have fun by joking around and entertaining my customers, especially on Friday night when there was a party of 8 people in one table! I also got to improve my teamworking and communication skills with the staff that welcomed me in with open arms and showed me the ropes one step at a time. This boost in confidence will certainly help in the future.



'It's always good to work where you're wanted. The times I've worked where I wasn't wanted - That's just never a good experience.'
- Cezar Rasul.

YR8'S GRAD DAY OUT!



Year 8 students sampled undergraduate life outside of London on a recent trip to Surrey University. *Maysoon Chelqi* and *Veamini Manichselvin* report.

Maysoon's Perspective



This visit wasn't just a day out, it was an opportunity to gain firsthand experience of university life, explore future academic paths, and understand the environment of higher education. The aim was to inspire and inform, providing a tangible glimpse into possibilities that await after secondary school. The day's activities included a campus tour, a fascinating engineering workshop, and a challenging university quiz testing our general knowledge and problem-solving skills. Stepping onto the Surrey University campus provided a stark contrast to the familiar confines of our secondary school. The sheer size and complexity of the campus were immediately apparent, a vast landscape of academic buildings, modern facilities, and sprawling green spaces. This scale, while initially somewhat daunting, also served to ignite a sense of excitement and possibility. The vibrant atmosphere presented a compelling vision of university life, markedly different from the more structured environment of our school. The juxtaposition of bustling activity with pockets of quiet study areas highlighted the diverse nature of university life concentrate on that topic specifically as opposed to the 12 subjects that KS3 study together.

Veamini's Point-Of-View



I've learnt many differences between secondary school and university. Lifestyle was varied as students saw that there was an option to live in accommodation without family, them start to adapt to independence and the future when they are adults and paying for their own housing. Also, there were many extra places in the University of Surrey and its two campuses; for example, a multiple-floor library, an area named The Nest, the Wates House, accommodation flats, small shops, The Hideout and much more which made it differ from a regular school. Usually, the university students would select one course to study that they would enjoy so that they can focus and concentrate on that topic specifically as opposed to the 12 subjects that KS3 study together. The university has worked on many wonderful things which surprised the Year 8s- including space missions. For example, a recent mission has been planned to launch a suborbital vehicle 500km into space. Additionally, the university's mechanical engineering course had students build together a Formula One car for racing. Overall, from the campus tour and the engineering session the groups did together, the students felt like they had a positive view of the university.

Final Goodbyes

Good things don't last, as they say. With this last page, the Paddington Press team would like to praise and thank the teachers who will be leaving us at the end of this year. While the teachers listed here have spent at least 3 years as a staff member of the PA faculty, with a special mention to Dr. Samy who's spent 19 years here at PA! There are still some who will be leaving who will not be mentioned, so please say your goodbyes to them as well as we are sure that they will appreciate your kind words. For now, the parting messages of some of the teachers leaving are listed below.

Mr. Colledge: 'What an incredible six years it's been! Thank you to all students and staff for making my time here so memorable. I will miss you all!'



Mr. Di Pasqua: 'To all PA students, I would like to give you some advice as I depart. First, make the most of every opportunity. Some doors open once. Walk through them. Say yes to the things that scare you a little—those are often the ones that help you grow the most.

Second, always strive to be the best version of yourself. Not someone else's version. Show up every day with purpose, own your decisions, and never stop learning or improving.

And finally, never underestimate the power of politeness and good manners. A kind word, a respectful gesture, a moment of genuine interest in someone else, it costs nothing but earns everything. How you treat people really matters.

Thank you for allowing me to be a small part of your journey. I'll be cheering you on, all the way from Rome wherever life takes you next.'



Dr. Samy: 'To all my students, thank you for letting me be part of your lives. You've taught me just as much as I've taught you, probably more. Never stop learning, never stop ques-

tioning, and always believe in yourselves. As I retire from teaching, I don't retire from caring. I'll always be cheering this school on from the sidelines, proud of the legacy of all students. Thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for unforgettable 20 years.'

Ms. Wood: 'PA students, thank you so much for the last 5 years. You have taught me so much, provided me with laughter, made me cry (for good and bad reasons) and made me incredibly proud of many of you. You are exceptional young



people and I will miss you all. Keep working hard and I know you can achieve anything you want in life. I hope you don't miss me too much, but, in the words of Sabrina Carpenter 'I leave quite an impression, 5 feet to be exact'. All the best, Ms Wood.'

Ms. Forster: 'To all the staff and students at PA, thank you for giving me such a brilliant three years. Every single student that I have taught here has made such a significant impact on me, and I will never forget you!'

Special thanks to all our contributors who helped create this magazine:
Aliya Sheikh (Editor), Pronson Brahmtoh (Deputy Editor), Ismail Habib Bakht (Honorary Deputy Editor) and Cezar Rasul (Junior Editor)