

Pool Hayes Academy Newsletter



Pool Hayes
Academy

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DIARY DATES

18th August

Sixth Form Results Day

25th August

Year 11 Results Day

5th & 6th September

Inset Day

7th September

Year 7 and Year 12 Induction Day

8th September

Term Starts All Years

27th September

Open Evening

NEW PRINCIPAL AT POOL HAYES

September 2016 will see a new Principal installed at Pool Hayes Academy with Mr Matt Allman being replaced by Mr Luke Baker. The change means that the academy can continue its upward momentum as Mr Baker has been Vice Principal and has played a leading role in achieving the high praise in our recent OFSTED Report (Oct 2015).

Equally, the ATT remain with the academy, and having played a key role in attracting a high calibre field of applicants, they, with our Chair of Governors, were delighted to make the popular and well-deserved appointment of Mr Baker.

Mr Allman commented: "My move is related to family commitments and I am very disappointed to be leaving Pool Hayes at this time. Even so, I can think of no better alternative than Luke and I know he will do a wonderful job for the students, parents and staff at the academy."

Mr Baker added: "I am delighted to take on the role of Principal at Pool Hayes Academy and, whilst continuing the excellent work that has already been done, I know there are so many more things we can work on to improve further. I am looking forward to the challenge and to making our academy the outstanding local choice."



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Holiday Update

TERM STARTS: MONDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2016

HALF TERM: MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER - FRIDAY 28TH

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY: MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER -
MONDAY 2ND JANUARY 2017



What a year for Pool Hayes. Starting with our best OFSTED outcomes to date, in which Personal Development, Behaviour & Welfare, Leadership & Management and 16-19 ere all rated as 'Good', the pupils have continued to flourish and show exactly what they are capable of.

You will also be aware that we have now switched from Pool Hayes School to Pool Hayes Academy and our partnership with the Academy Transformation Trust (ATT) is only strengthening our commitment to transform the academy and achieve the best possible standards.

Our staff are enjoying the extra support, training, input and challenge provided by the ATT team and we even saw Miss Williams and

Mr Harris win national recognition at the ATT Staff Awards event which was a wonderful achievement for them and the wider academy.

In addition, with summer building work being part funded by the organisation, there will be even better facilities for our community and current parents will be pleased to see that the fantastic refurbishment programme which has revolutionised facilities is continuing.

The Summer Term is clearly the business-end of things with the Y11-Y13 students having put in a tremendous amount of work in preparation for their final exams. The exams went as well as we could have hoped and everything is crossed that the surge in results we enjoyed last summer will be replicated this year. Indeed, many of the vocational results have already come in and they have only improved from last year; no mean feat when many of our courses hit top marks last year - with Level 3 Creative Technology coming in as the second highest achieving course nationally.

Our local community work has carried on at a great pace and each of our five Houses have been fund-raising for their local charities. We have seen Own Clothes' Days, ice-cream and cake sales, jewellery sales, and even sponge- the-teacher events! All in all, local charities will receive over £3,000 by the end of this term.

Elsewhere, we have been working hard with local primary schools and it has been fantastic to see youngsters visit our academy to handle weird and wonderful animals from the Exotic Zoo and to see the superb performances of 'Billy Elliot' that played to packed houses across three nights. We have also led the way in setting up a secondary partnership body with West Midlands Police to support local families and have benefited from the local fire brigade and army regiments coming in to work with students.

And so to next year... Matt Allman, the Principal since January 2014, will be leaving us at the end of this year to take over the reins of a school nearer to his home. However, as I take on the role of Principal, I know that my job is made so much easier thanks to the tremendous support I am given by our caring and supportive parents, our exceptional staff and our amazing pupils. This year has been great. I can't wait for the next one.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Luke Baker'.

Luke Baker
Vice Principal



SKI TRIP 2016

The mammoth 26hr journey was all worthwhile when students and staff arrived at the fantastic skiing resort in Andorra. The fantastic hotel had a swimming pool, sauna and jacuzzi, excellent skiing equipment and most importantly the snow was in abundance. The initial sledging competition was won by Miss Priest but more impressive was that after just 2 days every student could ski like a veteran. Negotiating ski lifts, turning at pace, and going flat out, were all easily accomplished. The students departed exhausted but having had a wonderful time and each of them represented the academy immaculately.



PSHEE - RELATIONSHIPS

Our PSHEE programme provides the advice needed to prepare students for the day-to-day challenges of life with topics ranging from drugs awareness to e-safety and sex education to economic competency. Recently, Year 7 and Year 9 undertook work on dealing with 'Relationships' so that they would be better equipped to forge their own as they proceed through their life. They focused on good / bad signs in relationships and how to better equip themselves to build better ties with others. They were trained to spot risks, de-escalate conflict, informed on where to go for advice, and faced problem-solving challenges which saw them acting as parents.



FLIP OUT

Rewards play a big part in life at Pool Hayes and celebrating students who do the right things every day is a big priority. The Top 25 students - judged on achievement, attendance and behaviour - from each of the five Houses were invited on a rewards trip that literally turned them upside down! 'Flip Out' is located in Stone and has numerous trampolines so that students can go wild - whilst kept safe and secure. The teachers showed their skills too - though Mr Mallott's veteran status lessened his mobility - but the students were the ones that shone. Well done to all that attended!



ART EXHIBITION

The annual Art Exhibitions are always a huge source of pride in the academy and this year was no exception. The Y13s previewed their work in the newly refurbished library and themes ranged from 'Alice in Wonderland' to self-identity. The work was on sale, with profits going onto fund further projects and education and attendees included, students, staff, parents and other community stakeholders. The Art results in the academy have been on a continual path of improvement and all the evidence on display in this event suggest the trend is only going upwards.



SCIENCE AT UNIVERSITY

Our Science Club attended the Salter's Festival of Chemistry at the University of Birmingham this term. Our representatives got to work in the world-leading Chemistry Department with resident undergraduates and completed a series of scientific challenges which tested this subject knowledge and scientific skills. These challenges ranged from CSI style detective skills to chromatography, and from acid and alkali testing to handling mystery chemicals. This university visit was just one strand of our extensive Aim Higher programme.



DUKE OF EDINBURGH

Students recently completed their First Expedition in pursuing their Bronze Award as our DofE programme took off this term. The Y10 students undertook a gruelling journey across Cannock Chase braving the elements - and we are talking serious sleet, hail and rain! Our two groups were last to depart on the mission but were the first to reach the destination which was testament to their perseverance, commitment and team spirit. Ms Sheridan took the plaudits for setting up the programme and, alongside the Principal Mr Allman, attended an awards ceremony at Buckingham Palace.



FIRE CADET HEROES

Our Learning Hub set up a superb fire cadet package for five Y10 students and all successfully passed their fire cadet training despite facing a lengthy and intensive programme which stretched over multiple evenings and weekends. The course finished with a practical task, a parade and a mayoral presentation and our students were commended by local dignitaries and fire service leaders. The event was attended by parents and staff who were all bursting with pride. Indeed, some of our students were asked to re-engage with the programme to act as mentors and coaches for younger students coming through the ranks. This programme only adds to the range of activities connected to our highly-praised Learning Hub.



YEAR 12 FUTURES WEEK

Our Excellent Year 12 Futures Week entered its second year and built upon the superb provision of its inaugural year. The motivational speakers and guests from a range of university and apprenticeship providers made sure our students were left with a clear sense of direction for the future. In addition, the 'Dragon's Den' challenge saw fierce competition and student feedback was resoundingly positive. The programme added to the events through the year that have included the Aim Higher Evenings, the Staffordshire University Battle Bus and National Careers Week and is one of several reasons the academy was this year awarded with our highly-prized accreditation for our excellent CEIAG provision.



GREAT MINDS BUS TOUR

Pool Hayes had the pleasure of a visit from Staffordshire University on the Great Minds Bus Tour. The tour was aimed at encouraging our students to learn about the benefits of higher education, the positive impact a degree will have on their lives and what university life is like. All of our Year 12 students had the opportunity to experience the bus where they got to watch a trailer about university in the on board cinema with popcorn, go on a campus tour with the virtual reality headsets and experience what the newly refurbished rooms are like in the halls of residence at the university. The students were incredibly inspired by the event. Many are now applying for university Summer Schools this August to further experience higher education.



BRITISH ARMY VISIT

On Tuesday 28th June the British Army came to Pool Hayes Academy to put the Leaning Hub students through a day of challenging activities and team building exercises. The day was a great success with students taking part on a typical Army PT session, experiencing life outdoors in camouflage, cooking and tasting their rationed food and challenges on the Climbing Wall. The commitment and resilience shown by the students has resulted in them being extended a formal invitation to visit Staffordshire barracks for a day so that they can further develop their skills. This event is only part of a wider package of events designed to stretch and challenge the wider life skills of our students.



YEAR 11 PROM

Every year the Prom seems to get bigger and better - and this year was no exception. It was a night of glamour dresses, fake tan, sharp suits and parents looking at empty wallets as the passing out parade of all passing out parades took place. The arrival was marked with the usual array of spectacular vehicles and loud music, a sumptuous buffet and happy tears were plentiful. The dancefloor was heaving and the night ended all too soon. The students and staff who arranged the event deserve all the plaudits but those students who attended made the academy very proud - again!



SPORTS DAY

Sports Day was a huge success, with students from all year groups participating in a variety of different sports throughout the day. All years showed their support and encouragement for both their house team, individuals and teachers! This day was made extra special by the fantastic effort and enthusiasm shown by all staff and students representing their houses. The events were finished off with the most energetic relay where teachers of each house competed against students. The race was won by the students! The overall winners of the day were Parkes House followed by Hodson House in second place and Vaughan House in third!



BILLY ELLIOT

Billy Elliot is a story of a boy's journey against all odds and sees him break through the pressure of conforming to what everyone else thinks is the 'norm'. Equally it is also the story of our cast and since the rehearsals began in early January it has been a journey for each cast member to develop their characters, learn new things about themselves and discover how far they can push their abilities. The entire cast came together to create a truly magnificent performance and they have received glowing praise from packed audiences. It was a wonderful experience for all involved which we hope the students will remember forever and should give them the confidence to go on and become even more positive, empathetic and understanding individuals. We are all very proud of what they have accomplished.



YEAR 7 POSTCARDS

Mrs Ashman Busell Jones School
I have enjoyed my first year at Pool Hayes Academy. My favorite lessons is Drama because you get to act and pretend to be other people. My favorite teacher is Mr Fano because he is kind and friendly. The best PE which is another good lesson at Pool Hayes Academy.

Connor Nelson

To Mrs Gibbons (Miss Pearce?) Woodlands Academy of Learning
This year has been a brilliant 1st year at Pool Hayes. I have made new friends and some of them have become my best friends. When I had first joined Pool Hayes I thought it would be completely different to what it actually is.

Bye Tamara Corbett.

Libby Pearce. Barcroft Primary School.
To Mrs Wosh my first year at Pool Hayes has been amazing. I have made lots of new friends and I have got settled in very well and I really enjoyed Pool Hayes.

Short Heath Junior
Dear Miss Jevons
I'm really enjoying school here, it's really different to being at Primary, the lessons too. I have made lots of new friends and my favorite lesson is Science, music, art and I.T.

Elise Edwards (Miss You xx)

Beacon Primary School
Arthur
Miss & Mr Bird
I miss you all very much and I hope to see you soon. This year at Pool Hayes has been amazing. My favorite lessons are Art, Drama, IT, Science and R.E. You were 2 of my favourite teachers. Thank you for everything.

Lucy Dwyer

Miss Guy
I have really enjoyed my first year at Pool Hayes Primary School. Lessons are ART and PE. I like them because I like using my imagination and I like being active during a lesson. My favorite teachers are Mr Bagshall and Miss Dagg because they make the lessons enjoyable and interactive. We do a lot of fun tasks and learn alot whilst doing them. So yeah, I have really enjoyed my first year at Pool Hayes Academy.

Katy Stansted.

Bentley West Primary
Miss Dean. My first year at Secondary School is fab I enjoy my lessons and I have fun. My favourite lessons are Art, Science, Maths and English. I have lots of mates and I love my Secondary School.

From Amelia Davies

New Invention Junior School
Dear Mr Shea.
I'm coming to the end of my first year at Pool Hayes and I've enjoyed it alot. I've been involved with alot of opportunities throughout the school and in all of my lessons. Also, I think that my confidence has improved alot and I've also started a basketball team outside of school and I'm doing great I've got 15 trophies and 25 medals.

Yours Sincerely, Daniel Hollindale

Fibbersley Park V6
Remember when I was awful at maths, I've gotten so much better at it. I got a score of 92 on my division test out of 100. I've made so many new friends here I never knew I would fit in so well! Chelsea Demaine

Mrs Darvall
I have enjoyed my first year at Pool Hayes, and I really like it here. We do a lot of exciting things here and take part in loads of competitions. We have lots of trips here that we can all take part in and the teachers make them fun.

From Alix

To Woodlands
I am having a great time at Pool Hayes and if your coming here I'm sure you will enjoy the variety of lessons. At the moment I am learning spanish it is great fun.

from Taylor

Mrs Simmonds
I am writing to you to tell you how much I have enjoyed my first year at Pool Hayes Academy. My favorite teacher is Mr Combes who is my form tutor. My favorite lesson is art and PE because I like to say I can't wait for year 11 because I have to keep my head down in the exams and work hard.

Sophie Webster

St Giles C of E Primary
Dear miss Page, I have Settled well into Pool Hayes. I will be coming into Year eight this Year. I have made so many new friends. Pool Hayes is less scary than I thought it was. I miss all the teachers at St Giles.

With love From Megan Hoyalx

TO PRIMARY SCHOOLS

St. Giles primary School.
To all the year six's who is coming to Pool Hayes it is a good school. The teachers are very nice. I can't wait to see you. I've enjoyed it so much it's unbelievable.

Lots of love
Amie Downing





SIXTH FORM RESULTS

Sixth Form Results Day starts on the morning of Thursday 18th August and will start the rustle of envelopes, the trepidation of viewing certificates and will decide the destination of our star students as they move on from our academy. The day will be staged in the Sixth Form Centre and staff will be on hand to celebrate the fantastic results we know will arrive, as well as support any students who have just missed out on their place at university or employment. The university process is particularly hectic at this time so the support of our Careers Advisors and senior staff can be all-important in securing that last-minute place or snatching that course upgrade.

Examination results	Qual	Level	Type	Result
GCSE ENGLISH LITERATURE B AS	GCSE	AS9	C	D
GCSE APPLIED BUSINESS AS	GCSE	AS9	C	C
HISTORY A	GCSE	AS9	C	C
PSYCHOLOGY 1	GCSE	AS9	C	C
PSYCHOLOGY 2	GCSE	AS9	C	C
GCSE APPLIED BUSINESS UNIT 1	GCSE	AS9	C	C
GCSE APPLIED BUSINESS UNIT 2	GCSE	AS9	C	C
GCSE APPLIED BUSINESS UNIT 3	GCSE	AS9	C	C
HISTORY MODERN 1782-2000	GCSE	B	U	U
GCSE MODERN 1782-2000	GCSE	B	U	U

YEAR 11 RESULTS

Year 11 Results Day starts on the morning of Thursday 25th August and in many ways represents the biggest day in the academy year as the future pathways of so many students are decided in one fell swoop. The result certificates will be given out in the Sixth Form Centre and teaching staff and Careers Advisors will be on hand to support students in getting onto their preferred pathway. Naturally, many of our students stay on in our excellent Sixth Form so there is often just a quick check on course grades ready for Y12 Induction at the start of September. The students and staff have given 100% so let's hope the summer brought success for as many people as possible.



2016-17 INDUCTION

The academy year will again start with our comprehensive induction programme for new Year 7 students and new Sixth Formers - with specific times and dates circulated to students and parents in advance of the return dates. The term dates are on the front of this newsletter, but these induction days provide an invaluable support in assisting new students to settle into their new surroundings and expectations. The days often involves tutor guidance, guest speakers, and special assemblies and are designed to provide clear direction but also a warm welcome. The next year will be a busy one with new GCSEs.... new A-Levels... new government measurements...so it is vital we all get off to as good a start as possible!



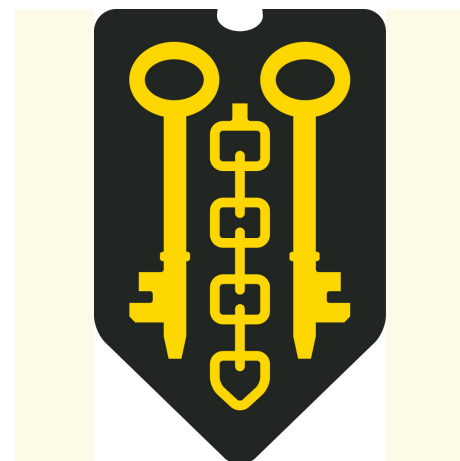
OPEN EVENING

The academy's open evening is scheduled for Tuesday 27th September and promises to be a fun-packed and lively evening which shows why Pool Hayes Academy is the destination of choice for so many Y6 students. Last year saw a 22% increase in intake as we moved to being over-subscribed but we would encourage all local families to apply as we are confident you will all get your places. The smart classrooms, excellent support facilities, new Sixth Form, amazing sports facilities and superb library are always big attractions, only matched by the exuberance of the students and the dedication of the staff. This will be followed by day-time slots to see how we operate on a day-to-day basis and our open-access policy means there are no gimmicks or shows, just the realities of a successful academy.



NEW INTAKE 2016-17

We are delighted to announce that our intake numbers have remained high again and that we have a large Year 7 for 2016-2017. The academy has seen a surge in popularity in recent years and we are delighted that whilst also seeing a growing roll, we are also currently able to ensure places for those students living in our local community. We are continuing with our close work with local primary schools and will be maintaining the high levels of transition support which has worked so well in the last couple of years. The popularity of the academy tallies with the improving standards and so we will make sure we go onwards and upwards for here.



ATT SUPPORT

We are continuing to receive superb support for the Academy Transformation Trust (ATT) as part of the MAT organisation our academy belongs to. This has included high levels of funding for the main building roof, excellent training provision for staff, specialist advice and guidance to make sure student provision remains exceptional strong, and ever closer ties with local partners. Equally, the ATT are 100% behind our own developments which include taking a lead with the West Midlands Police Panel, a high profile Duke of Edinburgh programme and our extensive fund-raising work with local community charities. Our academy conversion went very smoothly in February and the new status is only making a strong school into an even stronger academy.

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