

Pool Hayes Academy Newsletter



Pool Hayes
Academy

Issue 02 | July 2017 | www.poolhayes.attrust.org.uk | 01902 368147

DIARY DATES

27th July Onwards
NCS Programme

17th August
Sixth Form Results Day

24th August
Year 11 Results Day

6th September
Year 7 & 12 Induction Day

26th September
Open Evening

FUTURES DAY

Year 12 will be had a day of fun filled speakers, activities and careers focused events aimed at helping them decide what their next steps will be. Students then went on work experience for the week (3-7th July) and took part in either a personal statement interactive workshop or an apprenticeship workshop when they returned (10th July). Year 10 also took part in apprenticeship and college activities, including how to apply for places and learning interview skills and techniques. Year 11 had their Induction to Sixth Form day on Mon 3rd July. This was a week of experience and learning for our students at Pool Hayes.



IN THIS ISSUE

- School of Rock
- Year 11 Leavers Assembly
- Year 11 Prom
- Year 13 Leavers Breakfast
- Sports Day
- Futures Week
- Music For Charity
- Rock Fest
- Summer Concert



Holiday Update

TERM FINISHES: FRIDAY 21ST JULY 2017

TERM STARTS: 6TH SEPTEMBER 2017 YEARS 7 & 12

TERM STARTS: 7TH SEPTEMBER 2017 ALL YEARS



At Christmas I commented both on how quickly that first term had gone and also how amazing it had been. There is no doubt that as we prepare ourselves for the summer holiday, Pool Hayes has continued its drive forward towards becoming an outstanding learning environment. Pupils, staff and parents have all contributed massively this year and have made my first year as Principal a relatively easy one,, certainly easier than I was expecting it to be. What we have here are pupils who, for the most part, want to be successful and will work hard to achieve it. We have dedicated staff who are determined above all to support our youngsters to do their absolute best; and we have parents who support their children and the academy to achieve. I have said all along “it is a team game this schooling lark” and I am pleased to be able to recognize what a great team we have.

We have had so much going on this year it is difficult to select a few things to mention out of so many worthy achievements. Sports Day was once again an amazing success with the PE team doing a fantastic job of organizing, pupils breaking all sorts of records and Parkes ultimately emerging as the first winners of the Lynn Williams Sports Trophy. As many of you will know, Lynn Williams our Assistant Head has been at Pool Hayes since 1978 when she joined the school as a probationary teacher. After all these years she is finally saying goodbye to us as she steps into a well-deserved retirement. She will, however, be remaining part of the Pool Hayes community as she has kindly offered to become a governor. I am sure you will join me in wishing her a happy retirement.

Whilst we are losing other colleagues this year for promotions and relocations elsewhere, I am pleased to say that we will also be welcoming several new team members in September including our new Assistant Principal Lisa Macey who will be taking on the running of the sixth form amongst other things. It will be an exciting year next year as we continue to build on the successes of this year and welcome what is scheduled to be our biggest year group in Year 7. As a school we are also involved in two massive research projects which have an enormous impact on the learning and support of our pupils. In partnership with VS, a German furniture manufacturer, and The Learning Crowd we are investigating the impact that furniture design has on learning. This includes us receiving £40,000 worth of free furniture! Next time you are visiting the academy, do make sure you get in to look at it in action. We look forward to the outcomes of the research.

Finally, I would once again like to thank all connected to the academy for their support. It has been a great year and we are all looking forward to more achievement, success and fun next year. Have a great summer!

Principal

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'L Baker', written in a cursive style.

Mr Luke Baker



ROCK FEST

Pool Hayes music students performed their hearts out at the Robin 2 Bilston showcasing their talent. Songs ranged from AC-DC to The Kooks. The venue was very busy with parents and friends supporting our students in delivering a fun packed night of varied music from the 1960s onwards. The music department would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, parents and friends for representing themselves and the academy and we wish them a fantastic summer and look forward to starting a new music programme for September.



SUMMER CONCERT

Pool Hayes music students performed a varied repertoire at our summer concert ranging from pop, rock and soul amongst other styles. Those that attended remarked at how smooth the transition was between acts and how the academy has a large amount of students whom are proud to showcase their musical skills and abilities. The music department would like to take this opportunity to thank the students, parents and friends for representing themselves and the academy and we wish them a fantastic summer and look forward to starting a new music programme for September.



YEAR 11 LEAVERS

This year's Leavers' Assembly was once again an emotional affair, full of smiles as well as some tears. Year 11 enjoyed a delightful breakfast along with some very entertaining presentations including embarrassing baby photos sent in by parents, much to the hilarity of all in attendance. Other highlights included looking back at some fantastic memories from their time at Pool Hayes, along with farewell messages from Mr Baker and other members of staff. Year 11 will be sorely missed and we wish them all the best for the future.



YEAR 11 PROM

On Wednesday 5th July after months of planning the eagerly awaited Year 11 Prom finally arrived and once again it was a very glamorous affair. One hundred and thirty students arrived in style in an array of spectacular vehicles. After endlessly posing in the sunshine for their proud parents to capture the moment the students finally made it inside and were soon taking full advantage of yet more photo opportunities, with the photo booth proving a huge hit. As the night progressed the dancefloor was quick to fill up while the candy cart and popcorn machine were equally as quick to empty! The smiles on the faces of both pupils and staff reflected the huge success the evening had been!



YEAR 13 LEAVERS

Year 13 celebrated their annual Leavers' Breakfast on Friday 26th May which marked the end of their two year journey with us in the Sixth Form. The event was a fantastic celebration, where tutors and the Sixth Form team got to spend time with the students reflecting on memories and achievements over their time here. The breakfast ended with a toast to the future. We wish all of our students luck for their final exams this summer and look forward to a final celebration on results day!



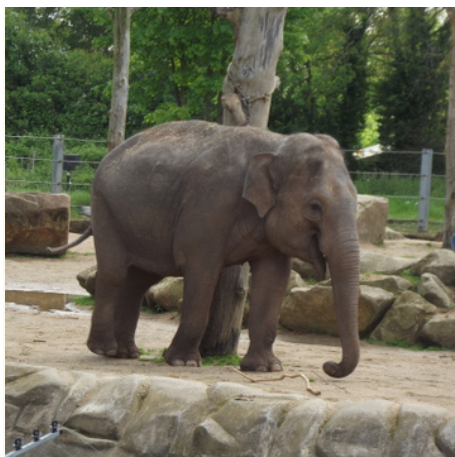
Mayor of Walsall

Saturday at 15:48 · 🌐

Had a lovely afternoon at Rosedale C of E Infant School to share in the Short Heath Federation 'Morgan's Birthday Fundraiser'. Morgan would have been 16 this birthday sadly she passed away age 6. The fundraising will go to Bereavement Counselling Service. They do some wonderful work across the Borough but have lost all Council Funding. Bought lots of nice bits and bobs, had lunch there too. Bought cakes home. Won some toiletries too. Rain came down very heavily but it didn't dampen spirits either. Some lovely singing and bands. Well done everyone.

MUSIC FOR CHARITY

On Saturday 20th May our Peripatetic guitar teacher Mr Bolger attended Rosedale Infant School with students from Pool Hayes where they performed for the Walsall Bereavement Service. This was in honor of Morgan a little girl who sadly lost her life a few years ago. £2000 pound was raised on the day! The Mayor of Walsall posted on the Walsall Mayor Facebook page that the bands and singers were very good and personally praised the band whilst rehearsing. Students were: James Hollick our guitar and sound tech, Charlotte Oun, Jade Stanton, Connor Batham doing beat box, Callum McCarthy on guitar, George Jones on the Cajon and percussion! Mr Bolger played guitar and directed the performance.



TWYCROSS ZOO

Year 10 art students visited Twycross Zoo as part of their GCSE art course and what a lovely day they had, the weather was amazing, the animals all came out and the pupils collected fantastic photographs and information to develop into their projects back at school. Miss Degg and Miss Kew wanted to say what a pleasure it was to take them all and how great a day it was.



BRYNTYSILLIO

Students took part in a trip to Bryntysillio, which started with rock climbing and abseiling. To be successful students had to be confident, enthusiastic, have an open mind and be willing to persevere. Students said that abseiling was the most nerve wracking, looking over the edge of the cliff preparing to descend. Staff and students were very proud as students pushed themselves to do tasks they never thought they would be able to do. Some said their confidence has even improved! It was a great trip for all and everyone had a fantastic time.



ST ANTON SKIING

During the Easter break, 32 students from Year's 7 - 11 enjoyed 6 days of thrilling alpine skiing. The week started off with all students being assessed by their instructors. The advanced ski group were quick to head up the mountain more or less straight away and then spent the whole week exploring the resort and the snow park. The remaining two groups mastered being able to stop and turn and before long were up the mountain to try the challenging blue back into the resort. As the week progressed, all the students developed and improved their technique along with a few moans and groans of aches and pains they were hitting the wide blue runs and steeper reds and before long it was time to return home.



ST JOHNS AMBULANCE

Year 12 students have signed up to do a St John Ambulance Essential and Basic First Aid Course. This is a one day course which will take place in school on 17th July. Students will cover emergency life support techniques (adult only) as well as how to deal with minor and deteriorating conditions in any casualty. Areas covered include: Bites and stings, Burns, Severe and minor bleeds, Chest pains, Choking in adults, Fainting, Adult resuscitation, Sprains and strains, Treatment of an unresponsive casualty, Priorities of first aid and managing the scene and Communication and casualty care. On completion of the course all students will be presented with a Certificate which lasts for 3 years.



BOOK QUIZ

On Wednesday 28th June, some of the academy's well-read students secured second place in the Walsall Schools Book Challenge. The squad of six (The Book Disciples) steered by team captain Amy (Yr8), gave a commendable account of themselves, in the truly testing, two-hour contest. All credit to the students for their commitment and teamwork during preparations and the on the day, the camaraderie amongst the team was incredible. For example, after the initial flavour of frustration had faded, and former title holder Louie (Yr8) had lamented the missed opportunity to retain the trophy, he promised to lend his support to his current year 7 co-players, and next year's newcomers.



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 overall winners of the day were **Parkes** House followed by **Carpenter** House in second place and **Tildesley** House in third! **Parkes** are now the reigning Champions for 2 years in a row! Well done **Parkes**!



SCHOOL OF ROCK

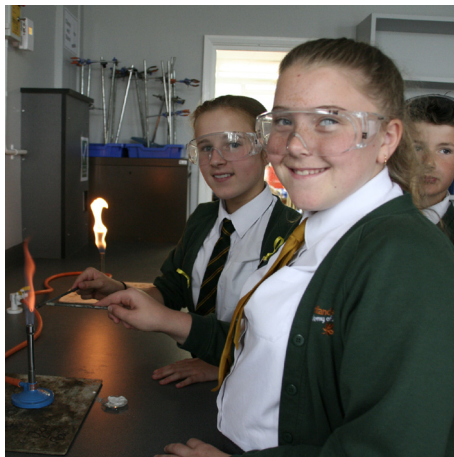
Pool Hayes are so proud of all of the pupils in our school production this year, 'The School of Rock'. The show was amazing and we had rave reviews coming from a range of people. "One of the best shows I have ever seen, professionally and from amateur groups". The whole cast and crew worked extremely hard for 6 months on the show and it really paid off, proving that hard work gets its rewards. Thank you for everyone's support and we look forward to the next show.

YEAR 7 STUDENTS 2017/18



NEW INTAKE

We are delighted to announce that our intake numbers have remained high again and that we have a large Year 7 for 2017-2018. 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.





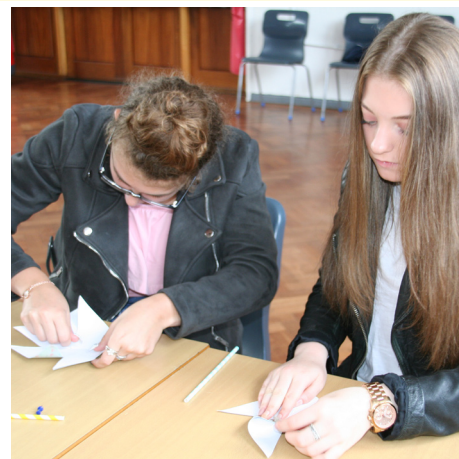
YEAR 11 RESULTS DAY

Year 11 Results Day starts on the morning of Thursday 24th 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.



YEAR 13 RESULTS DAY

Sixth Form Results Day starts on the morning of Thursday 17th 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.



2017/18 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.



NCS PROGRAMME

Year 11 and Year 12 students who have been accepted onto the NCS programme met up with the team organising the project where they were given their NCS T-shirts and found out a little bit more on the programme which begins during the summer holidays in 43 days. Students will spend a short time living away from home, and have the opportunity to meet lots of new people and to gain new skills by trying out unfamiliar activities. Students will be taking part in a team project within the local community. It is a really exciting time for our students to be able to get out there and learn new things in a fun and challenging environment. Keep a look out for how students got on from September.



CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Pool Hayes Academy are pleased to announce that its Christmas Concert will be a much loved event this year and we hope to showcase as much musical talent and varied repertoire as possible. The show will be during the week commencing 4th December and will be a fantastic opportunity for everyone to get into the Christmas spirit. The students and the music team are very much looking forward to seeing you all there to enjoy a fabulous night.

Pool Hayes Academy
Castle Drive
Willenhall
WV12 4QZ

Tel: 01902 368147
Fax: 01902 609501
Web: www.poolhayes.attrust.org.uk
Email: office@poolhayes.attrust.org.uk

