



**Pool Hayes
Academy**

Newsletter

KEY DATES

Easter

Academy Closes:

Thursday 1st April 2021

Academy Opens:

Monday 19th April 2021

Bank Holiday:

Monday 3rd May 2021

HALF TERM

Academy Closes:

Friday 28th May 2021

Academy Opens:

Monday 7th June 2021

Training Day:

Monday 5th July 2021

End of Academic Year

Academy Closes:

Monday 19th July 2021 (Students
Finish at 12:45pm)

Training Days:

Tuesday 20th July 2021 &
Wednesday 21st July 2021

Occasionally changes are unavoidable.

*If this happens we will inform you as soon
as possible.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another successful and busy term is over and I would like to thank you all for the support you continually give to the academy. Since our full return to face to face teaching from 8th March, we have achieved a great deal. Nearly 3000 lateral flow tests have been administered, remote learning has continued as appropriate and staff have enjoyed returning to face to face teaching. Our remote Parents Evenings have also been a great success! Most importantly, students have returned with smiles on their faces. Whatever challenges Covid-19 has brought to our 'normal' way of working, we have managed to overcome them with your continued support.

Next term, we will continue to do everything we can to ensure our students learning continues, as we move through this turbulent time. We look forward to working with you and your child to ensure we are an academy which has amazing teaching and learning, exceptional pastoral care and huge ambition.

As stated in the letter that has already been communicated to you, I will be leaving Pool Hayes Academy at the end of this term due to a promotion. Although I have only been at the academy for just over two years, we have worked together to achieve great impact. Students progress and outcomes are higher than ever and greater collaboration exists, both internally and externally. A new behaviour and teaching and learning strategy continues to bring about positive change. The academy is fully staffed with specialist teachers and our student numbers for Year 7 and Year 12 in September 2021 are at their highest. I would like to formally thank all of the staff at Pool Hayes Academy for their continued commitment and professionalism, especially during recent times. I am sure the academy will continue to flourish, with the support of Academy Transformation Trust.

Please have a lovely Easter break, as much as are able to, with your families and loved ones. We look forward to our students' safe return on Monday 19th April 2021.

Take care,

Mrs P Harris
Principal



Easter Attendance Challenge

Congratulations to all of the winners of our Easter Attendance Challenge who managed to maintain 100% attendance, either physically or remotely, from Monday 15th March 2021—Thursday 1st April 2021. We hope you enjoy spending your gift vouchers and have an egg-cellent Easter!



Egg-cellent Engagement!

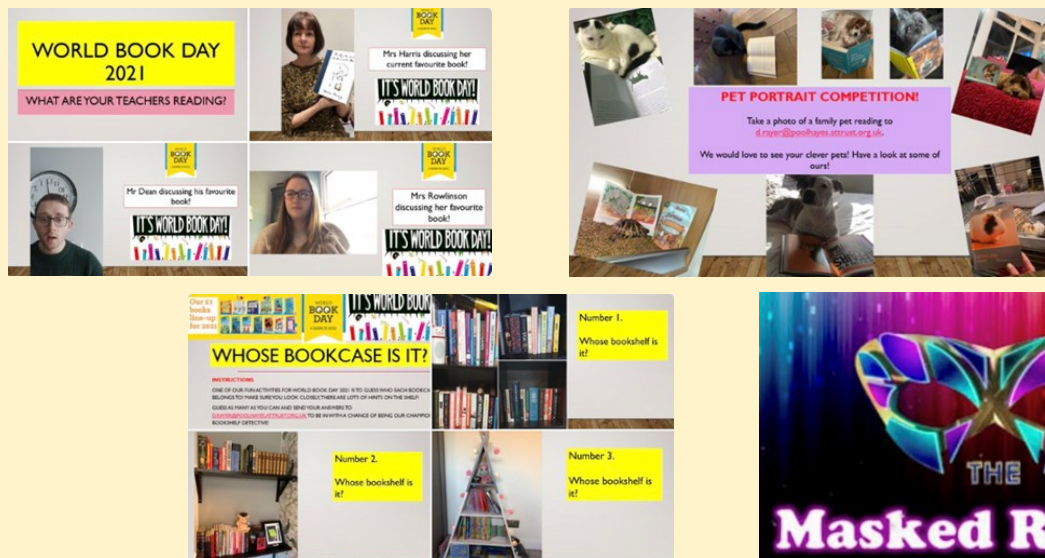
Students who maintained a 100% engagement record to lessons during lockdown, today received a chocolatey treat for all of their PHAntastic efforts!

Over 150 Easter Eggs were given out over the course of the day to our PHAntastic students! Well done!



World Book Day

For World Book Day on Thursday 4th March, our staff spoke about their favourite books! Videos of staff sharing their stories were shown to our students at the start of each lesson. Students were also asked to guess who our masked staff readers were in our 'Masked Reader' competition. We also launched a Pet Portrait competition for World Book Day 2021 with our staff's pet photos being shared for inspiration! Our final competition was 'Guess the staff bookcase'. Students had to guess which staff member the bookcase belonged to, with some helpful clues along the way. Well done to our four PHAntastic competition winners and thank you Mrs Rayer for organising such a fun day for all!

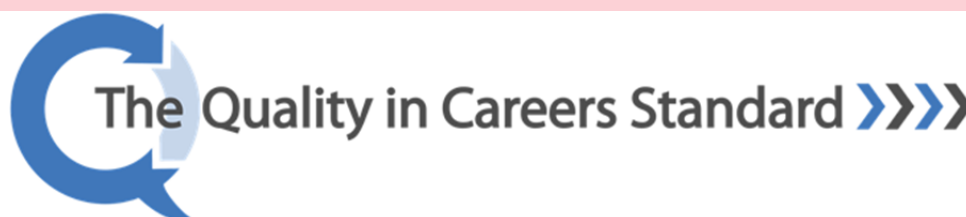


Quality in Careers Award!

Earlier this year, our academy was recognised for its outstanding careers work! We been awarded the national Quality in Careers Standard by Prospects. The national Quality in Careers Standard is awarded to schools and education providers who can demonstrate the importance they place on careers and how they support students to make decisions about their life after school. We continue to work to improve the chances and opportunities of all our students.

Achieving the national Quality in Careers Standard shows the Principal, governors and leadership team at our academy embrace, promote and endorse quality careers education and recognise the part it plays in the overall success of the academy and our students. We offer a range of activities to introduce students to the world of work and help them make decisions about life after school.

Phillipa Harris, Principal said: "We are thrilled to have achieved the national Quality in Careers Standard awarded by Prospects. We are also proud of the fact that we have also been accredited with the Gold standard which demonstrates our careers provision is outstanding. At Pool Hayes Academy, we recognise the important role the academy plays in helping students develop their knowledge, skills and experience so they can go out into the world and achieve personal success. This award has provided a flexible framework that enabled us to audit our work on careers and ensure our students are receiving the very best advice, practical support and experience so they are prepared for the next stage of their education, employment, self-employment or training."



Covid-19 Testing Over Easter

The DfE has confirmed that it is vital to keep testing at home throughout the Easter holidays and into the summer term. Please follow DfE guidance below to ensure we keep our students as safe as possible over Easter and upon our return to the academy on Monday 19th April 2021.

- Test twice a week at home from now on (all those who are able to do so).
- Report results online as positive, negative or void. This information is critical in helping us to understand the prevalence of the virus across the country.
- Continue to test twice weekly over the Easter holidays.
- Test before returning to school for the summer term, either the night before, or morning of, the first day back, to find and isolate any positive cases.

Please ensure you contact us as soon as possible to inform us of any positive results, even students who test positive over the Easter break, by emailing office@poolhayes.attrust.org.uk

A reminder that Testing kits are available for collection or delivery to your house on the following website:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Books & Biscuits Club!

A reminder to all Year 9 students that the Books & Biscuits Club will take place in the library every Thursday 3:45pm–4:15pm after Easter! They have stacks of books and biscuits to share so make sure to pop by!



Uniform

We are pleased to say that from 12th April 2021, our uniform stockists Clive Mark, will be open 3 days a week on a Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday 9:30am–4:30pm.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for maintaining students smart attire with regards to uniform and footwear, even throughout the temporary closure of stores.



FSM Vouchers

Walsall LA have asked that we share the below information with you: 'Walsall as a local authority is taking the same approach as our February Half Term break with eligible families receiving a payment direct for food and heating over the Easter holidays. Payments will be made directly into family bank accounts based on entitlement to Council Tax reduction to identify low income households. The payment will also be made to pupils who live outside of Walsall but attend a Walsall school. Where Walsall LA have bank account details families will be paid direct. Residents who we did not already have bank account details for were written to requesting that they register and upload their bank details onto a secure portal <https://www.grantapproval.co.uk/> so that payments can be made. Where this could not be met by resident's voucher/s was sent via mail. Please direct any queries you have to 0300 555 2855, you can also call the number if you need further information.

Stakeholder Surveys

Thank you to all Parents and Carers that completed our stakeholder surveys back in February. In response to your suggestions, one of the measures we put in place was 'screen free' afternoons. These afternoons took place each Wednesday during remote education and were a huge success with both students and staff, and it is you we have to thank!

Thank You!

We would just like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and carers for their support throughout this academic year so far! Your unwavering support is always appreciated, but even more so through the uncertain times we have faced this year, together. As always, if you have any queries or feedback, please contact us on office@poolhayes.attrust.org.uk

#PHAntastic

Pool Hayes Academy

Take a look at our latest prospectus and virtual academy tour on the Pool Hayes Academy website:

<https://www.poolhayes.atrust.org.uk>



Holiday Requests

Due to regulations issued by the Department for Education schools are **not permitted** to authorise holidays during term time.

Social Media

Pool Hayes Academy is on Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn. Follow us to keep up to date with events and news from our academy.



@poolhayesacad



poolhayesacademy

Our Chosen Charity

St Giles

Hospice Care

