

Friday 15th October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

The past fortnight has flown by and it has been a #PHAntastic two weeks at Pool Hayes Academy. Students have now settled into the school year and lessons are really calm and productive across the academy. I have been really proud of our students who are beginning to live our values of Aspiration, Respect, Excellence and Resilience. I have loved showing visitors, including our local MP Eddie Hughes, around our academy and everyone who has visited commented on how polite, focused and determined our students are. They really are a credit to us all.

Masks and Covid Measures

As you are aware, students now have to wear masks around our academy. This is a recommendation from Walsall Public Health and I fully support this move. I am really grateful to those of you who are ensuring that your child comes to the academy with a mask each day. This is brilliant and helps us ensure that they (and in turn you) are more protected. As we move into winter, we unfortunately be introducing further Covid measures after half term but they are minimal and will not be too intrusive for your child. We will continue to wear masks after half term in communal areas across the academy. As you can appreciate the cost of having to supply masks is huge and if you can continue to support us in ensuring your child brings one to school it would be most appreciated.

Year 7 Settling In Evening

We have recently held our Year 7 Settling In Evening to support students in their transition to Pool Hayes Academy. The evening was a huge success and thank you to those who attended. Year 7 have made a brilliant start this year and we look forward to seeing great things from them in their time here at Pool Hayes Academy.

Year 7 Theatre Productions

As part of our PHL curriculum, Year 7 were fortunate to watch two theatre productions at Pool Hayes Academy. The Saltmine Trust Theatre Company portrayed a gripping and thought provoking play on the dangers of knife crime. The production was amazing and students not only enjoyed it, but also found it a moving experience. They also watched a production on road safety from Performance in Education. This was another excellent production which showed the dangers of roads and reminded students to take extra precautions. Year 7 were gripped by both productions and they represented Pool Hayes magnificently. I would like to thank Mrs Rowlinson for organising two fantastic events and ensuring our students receive the highest quality educational performances.

Short Heath Lest We Forget

We were proud to represent our academy at the unveiling of the Short Heath Lest We Forget Memorial, dedicated to those from the local area who died in service post 1945. Corporal David Arthur Smith, Lance Corporal Kevin Mark Pawley and Marine Andrew Dawes were all part of our community and their sacrifice now has a fitting tribute. My thanks to Mrs Macey and HT (Year 12 student) for helping distribute the orders of service and representing our academy at the event.

Morrisons Vouchers

An appeal from myself and members of the Eco Club that if you are collecting the 'Grow Tokens' from Morrisons, can you please allocate them to Pool Hayes Academy through your 'MyMorrisons' account. The Eco Club are doing an amazing job transforming our garden area and are always looking for new equipment. If you could help it would make a huge difference to our academy. More information about the scheme and how to donate can be found by clicking on the following link:

[Morrisons It's Good to Grow \(itsgoodtogrow.co.uk\)](https://itsgoodtogrow.co.uk)

Finally, as this is my last update before half term I would like to thank you all for your continued support. We have done a huge amount of work this term in ensuring students are reacquainted with the expectations at Pool Hayes Academy, including launching our new vision and values. As the winter term approaches I would like to ask that you ensure your child has a suitable coat as students will be taking break and lunch outside after half term. It is really important also that we continue to take Covid tests on a regular basis (Sunday and Wednesday evenings). I'll sign off with a positive that we are slowly seeing a reduction in cases this week and we are working hard to keep this going.

Have a great weekend,



Mr T. McDowall
Principal

