



Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this update finds you and your family well and in good health. It's been a very busy start to the term already! As you will be aware we hosted Ofsted in the previous fortnight as well as all the usual activities that take place at Pool Hayes Academy. It feels like every term is a busy one but this half term is especially important for our Year 11 and Year 13 students. I'm sure you will join me in wishing them all the best for their exam period.

# **Ofsted Inspection**

We were delighted to host Ofsted last week for our full inspection. I am unable to share the result of our inspection at present due to the report being drafted. However, I would like to thank those of you for completing the parent survey. This was most helpful to us and our academy. As expected, students didn't let us down during the inspection and represented Pool Hayes Academy to the highest standard. As soon as the full report is published we will be sharing it with you and I am excited about the future of Pool Hayes Academy as we move forward into next year.

# Year 11 and Year 13 Exams

I have been especially proud of our Year 11 and Year 13 students over the Easter holidays and since we returned. They are incredibly focussed and determined to succeed in the exam period. Attendance to our extensive revision programme over the Easter period was excellent and I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring students are seeing the vital importance of their exams. Our value of Aspiration means that we work hard to achieve our ambitions and I can assure you, students across the whole academy are really living this value. We have also held revision 'fish and chip' nights for engineering and Spanish and this has been well received by all students and staff. There are also additional booster sessions happening on various Saturdays and during May half term and my thanks go to staff for giving up their time to ensure our students unlock their potential. This year has been very different to the previous two years which were affected heavily by Covid-19. I am especially proud of our current Year 11 and Year 13 because despite all the adversity and uncertainty, they are rising to the challenge and giving it their best shot. What this shows is the remarkable resilience of young people and that when they are focussed and determined, they can overcome any obstacle.

## Uniform

As we move into the summer term, I know you will be looking at purchasing uniform for September 2022. Can I please remind you to check our website to ensure that you meet our uniform requirements. We have done some further cost cutting of our uniform this year to try to help with the cost of living strains we are all feeling. If you have any concerns about uniform and costs, please contact your child's head of year and we can work with you.





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## **Matilda Production**

We have confirmed the dates for our summer production of 'Matilda'. They will be Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>, Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> July. I will let you know exact timings and ticket arrangements in due course. We have seen a phenomenal amount of interest in the production this summer. The cast has doubled from our Christmas production with record numbers of students wanting to be involved in the cast. This is truly wonderful and shows how much students value and love the opportunity to perform. I look forward to seeing you there in July!

## Vacancies

There are a number of teaching and non-teaching vacancies on our website and we are excited to be welcoming new colleagues into our team. If you are interested in working with us at our #PHAntastic academy, please take a look at the link below. We have a brilliant staff team here and if you feel any of our positions interest please apply online or contact us for further information.

https://www.eteach.com/careers/poolhayes-attrust/

Finally, it has nearly been a year since I joined Pool Hayes Academy and I have loved every second of being the Principal of this vibrant and exciting academy. We are moving from strength to strength and what is most encouraging is the quality of the curriculum we are providing for our students. It is truly wonderful to walk through lessons and see such fantastic teaching taking place. This demonstrates that our academy is built on a solid foundation and moving forward this really will enable students to achieve and then have the power to make positive choices about their futures and careers.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr T McDowall Principal





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