



## KEY DATES & EVENTS

**Christmas Play Nights:** Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> & Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December

### Advance Notice

**Christmas Concert:** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December at 6:30pm

**Christmas Dinner Day:** Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> December

**Variety Show:** Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> December

**PHA Sixth Quiz Night Fundraiser:** Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 5:30pm

## MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF ACADEMY

*Written by Mrs L. Macey*

It has been a very busy week for our Year 11 and Year 13 students who have been completing their mock examinations. I am so proud of how they have conducted themselves over the past two weeks and from early suggestions, we are seeing improvements! I am looking forward to the week ahead as we have two nights of performances to look forward to, Thursday and Friday evenings. If you have not purchased your tickets, please do so quickly. I cannot believe that we are moving into December next week, we have

a lot of excellent opportunities planned over the final weeks of this half term including our Christmas lunch day on 10<sup>th</sup> December so please ensure your child has booked this in advance. Have a great weekend!



## POWER UP NOTIFICATIONS

A new Sparx Power Up will be available from:

- Maths = Friday at 8am - Deadline Wednesday at 9pm
- Reader = Friday at 8am - Deadline Thursday at 9pm
- Science = Wednesday at 12pm - Deadline Tuesday at 10pm

[Click here to go to Sparx Learning](#)

A new Seneca Power Up (all Key Stages) will now be set **every Monday**.

[Click here to go to Seneca](#)

Languagenut is set once a week.

[Click here to go to Languagenut](#)

## IMPORTANT REMINDER:

As part of our 'Not Seen, Not Heard' mobile phone policy, any confiscated phones must be collected by parents/carers **after school only**. Please note, break and lunchtime collections aren't possible due to safeguarding and staffing commitments. We appreciate your understanding.

## STUDENT SUCCESSES

Our students have had a #PHAntastic week and have earned lots of positive points. As an academy they have achieved **628,118 positive points!** The year group with the most points this week was **Year 7** who managed to achieve **13,183 points**. **7V1** are this week's form leaders and together as a team they racked up **1,952!** A massive congratulations to our students!

Students have also been working hard to complete their Sparx Power Ups. So far as a school this year we have read for **1,498 hours** and read **1,323 different books!** In Maths we have answered **363,820 questions!** In Science we have answered **146,701 questions!** On Languagenut students have earned an impressive **2232300 points so far this month!**

Congratulations! Amazing work and a great effort from students!! **This week's Power Ups are available on Sparx now.**

## SIXTH FORM UPDATES

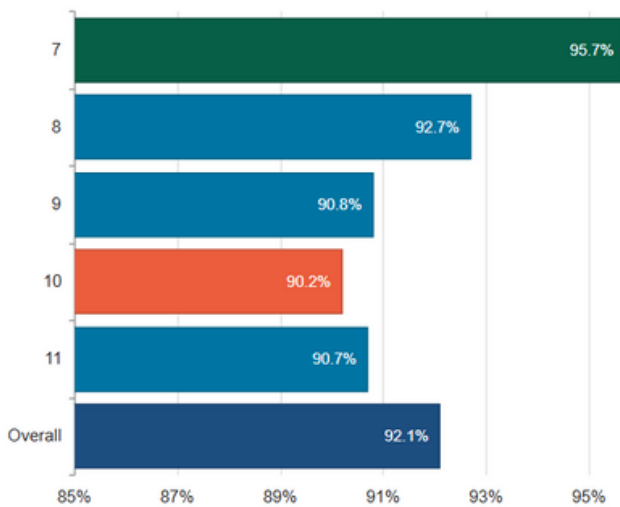
We're excited to invite eligible Year 11 students to join us on **Friday, 5th December** for a festive treat!

Come along and enjoy hot chocolate, cookies, and candy canes while getting into the Christmas spirit.

This is a fantastic opportunity to meet our staff and Sixth Form students, ask questions, and discover what life at PHA Sixth is all about. Tickets will need to be handed in on arrival. We can't wait to see you there!



## ATTENDANCE FIGURES



Attendance to school is improving week on week - thank you for your support as parents!

Remember that the attendance team can be contacted at [PHA-Attendance@atrust.org.uk](mailto:PHA-Attendance@atrust.org.uk)

Further attendance information can be found on our website: [Attendance - Pool Hayes Academy](#).

## LATEST LETTERS

Please click on the link below to view our latest letters sent home.

[Letters - Home Page](#)

## KEY CONTACTS

Please click on the link below to view contact details for our key academy staff.

[Key Staff - Contact Details](#)

## TIME TO TALK

Sometimes it's easier to write things down than say them out loud - and that's okay.

We now have two 'Time to Talk' boxes in our academy where students can share any worry or concern, whether it's about themselves or a friend, and pop it into the box.

A member of our brilliant safeguarding team will pick it up and check in, so no student has to deal with things on their own.

For parents and carers, it's a reassuring way to know there's always a safe, simple route for students to reach out when they need help.

Time to Talk boxes can be found outside Mrs Edward's and Ms Pittaway's offices.





**PROTECT YOUR PEACE**

**NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD**

Phones constantly trigger your stress response. A phone-free day = less drama, less pressure, more time, more success.

**MOBILE PHONES**

**'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'**  
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.

**TAKE A BREAK FROM THE CONSTANT PRESSURE TO RESPOND. NO BLUE TICKS. NO GROUP CHAT EXPECTATIONS. NO OVERTHINKING MESSAGES. JUST YOUR TIME IN SCHOOL**

**NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD**

**MOBILE PHONES**

**'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'**  
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.

**WE'RE KEEPING YOU SAFE**

**NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD**

STATISTICS SHOW MOST SAFEGUARDING INCIDENTS IN SCHOOL START WITH A PHONE.

**MOBILE PHONES**

**'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'**  
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.

**YOUR IMAGINATION SWITCHES ON WHEN YOUR PHONE SWITCHES OFF**

**NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD**

**MOBILE PHONES**

**'NOT SEEN, NOT HEARD'**  
FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF THE ACADEMY DAY, INCLUDING BREAK/LUNCH TIMES.



## WELCOME TO THE CAREERS CORNER!

This new space in The Key is here to keep careers front and centre at Pool Hayes - sharing opportunities, raising aspirations, and helping every student feel confident about their next steps.

I'm Mr Lewis, your Careers Lead, and my aim is simple: to build a strong careers culture across our school so every student knows their options and feels supported to pursue them.

## MINI CAREERS FACT OF THE WEEK!

THERE ARE OVER 350 NHS CAREERS FROM RADIOGRAPHY AND PROSTHETICS TO IT, ENGINEERING AND CREATIVE ROLES.



## CAREER OF THE WEEK PARAMEDIC

### What the job is:

Paramedics respond to emergencies, give life-saving treatment, assess patients, and transport them safely to hospital. They work under pressure and often make critical decisions on the spot.

### Skills needed:

Calm under pressure, quick thinking, teamwork, communication, empathy, physical stamina.

### Salary range:

£28,000 - £43,000 (specialist roles £50,000+).

### Training routes:

- Paramedic Science degree (approved by the HCPC)
- Degree apprenticeship with an ambulance service (where available)
- Progression from Emergency Care Assistant roles (with further training)



## Staff Career Spotlight

**Name:** Mrs Thomson

**Current Role:** Head of Inclusion

### What happened after Year 11?

Mrs Thomson went to college to study Counselling, building the foundations for her future work supporting young people.

### Previous Job Roles:

- Postwoman - developing time management and people skills
- School Receptionist - strengthening communication and organisation
- Pastoral Coordinator - supporting student wellbeing
- Head of Year / Progress Leader - leading behaviour, support and progress

### Mrs Thomson's career path shows:

Progression isn't always a straight line - every role helped her build skills that led to her current position in Inclusion.

### Advice for students:

"The brain is for thinking; the feet are for dancing."



## ASK MR LEWIS

Your Careers Questions - Answered Here! Students can submit any careers question (big or small), and each week Mr Lewis will answer one in The Key.

Submit your questions to Mr Lewis - [michael.lewis@atrust.org.uk](mailto:michael.lewis@atrust.org.uk) or find him at the back of the common room!

## UPCOMING DATES!

December

Mon 15 - Fri 19 Dec - Turbo Week - Pool Hayes Academy

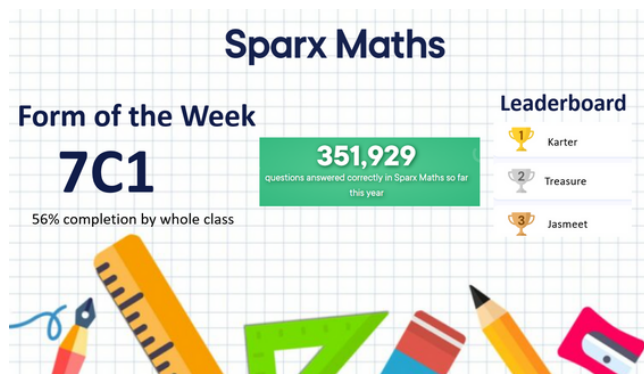
Wed 3 Dec - University of Wolverhampton - Undergraduate & Postgraduate Open Day

Thu 4 Dec - Birmingham City University / Royal Birmingham Conservatoire - Conservatoire Open Day

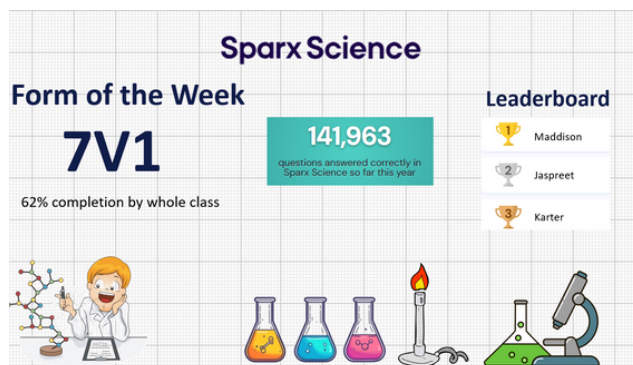


## SPARX STARS ★

A big well done to Form 7C1 who are our Sparx Maths - Stars of the Week! An extra special shout out to 🏆<sup>1</sup> Karter 🏆<sup>2</sup> Treasure and 🏆<sup>3</sup> Jasmeet, who are top of the class this week.



A big well done to Form 7V1 who are our Sparx Science - Stars of the Week! An extra special shout out to 🏆<sup>1</sup> Maddison 🏆<sup>2</sup> Jaspreet and 🏆<sup>3</sup> Karter, who are top of the class this week.



A big well done to Form 7C1 who are our Sparx Reader - Stars of the Week! An extra special shout out to 🏆<sup>1</sup> William 🏆<sup>2</sup> Darasimi and 🏆<sup>3</sup> Nathan, who are top of the class this week.



Complete your Sparx Reader, Sparx Science and Sparx Maths homework each week to be in with a chance to win:

- 'Form class of the week' (Reader, Maths, Science)
- 'Pupil of the fortnight' will be able to select a reward from the vending machine
- 'Form of the term' will have a treat to enjoy during registration at the end of term
- Raffle - students who complete homework's will be entered into a raffle to win a £10 voucher in rewards assemblies