



23/10/2026

PARENT & CARER NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF ACADEMY

Written by Mrs L. Macey

As we reach the end of our first half term, I want to take a moment to reflect on what has been a truly **PHAntastic start to the academic year** at Pool Hayes Academy.

This half term has been filled with achievements, opportunities and memorable experiences for our students and staff. We were incredibly proud to welcome **Ofsted** into our academy and showcase the hard work, commitment and ambition that our whole school community demonstrates every day. Thank you to everyone who played their part in making this such a positive experience.

Our academy has also continued to strengthen its links with the wider community. The recent **Community Musical Event** was a wonderful celebration of talent and togetherness, bringing people of all ages together through music and performance.

Last Friday's **Halloween Event** was another huge success. It was fantastic to see so many students and families getting involved, and I am delighted to share that we raised **over £700 for the NSPCC**. Thank you to everyone who contributed and supported such a worthwhile cause.

This week, our **Year 10 and Year 11 Drama students** enjoyed a theatre visit to see Blood Brothers. The trip provided an excellent opportunity for students to experience live theatre and deepen their understanding of a text that is such an important part of their studies.

Sport has also been a real highlight this half term, with students representing the academy in numerous fixtures, competitions and sporting events. We are incredibly proud of the

KEY DATES & EVENTS

Barcelona Sports Trip:

Sunday 25th - Thursday 29th October

Half Term:

Monday 26th - Friday 30th October

Year 11 Unlocking Your Potential Evening:

Tuesday 3rd November

PHA Sixth Open Evening:

Tuesday 3rd November

commitment, resilience and teamwork shown by all of our students who have competed.

Looking ahead, we are excited that over the half-term break a group of our **Year 9, 10 and 11 students** will be travelling to **Barcelona** to take part in football and netball coaching. This promises to be an incredible experience, providing opportunities to develop skills, build confidence and create lasting memories.

I would like to thank our students, staff, parents and carers for their continued support throughout what has been a busy and productive half term. I hope everyone enjoys a **well-deserved rest over the half-term break**, spending time with family and friends and returning refreshed for the weeks ahead.

As we prepare for our return, please remember that **high standards of uniform and equipment are essential**. We ask all students to ensure they are wearing the correct uniform and fully equipped for learning so that we can continue our positive start to the year.

Have a safe, enjoyable and restful half term, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another busy and successful term at Pool Hayes Academy. **#PHAntastic** ★



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PSHE FORM TIME TOPIC

Each week in form time, students take part in a PSHE discussion designed to support their wellbeing, personal development, and understanding of life beyond the classroom. This week, students explored **why respect is important** and how treating others with kindness, fairness, and consideration helps create a safe and inclusive school community.

Students discussed how respect can be shown in everyday life, including listening to others, accepting different opinions, respecting personal boundaries, and including others. They also explored national survey findings about acceptance, kindness, and bullying among KS3 pupils, reflecting on how a lack of respect can affect people's experiences of school.

The session encouraged students to reflect on their own behaviour and identify ways to show greater respect to others. It reinforced the importance of challenging unfair treatment, speaking up when someone is being treated badly, and recognising that small acts of kindness can make a positive difference. Through these discussions, students were encouraged to help ensure that everyone feels valued, accepted, and safe within our school community.

HALLOWEEN CHARITY EVENT

On Friday 16th October, the PHA Sixth Leadership Team organised an incredible event for our academy, The Ultimate Halloween Charity Event.

The evening was a huge success, with a constant queue for the Scare Maze throughout the entire two-hour event.

Alongside the Scare Maze, the team organised a variety of activities, including a Halloween quiz, live band, raffle, games, and a colouring station for our younger guests. The event brought together students, staff, families, and members of the local community for a fun-filled evening, all while supporting a fantastic cause.

We are incredibly proud that our students raised an amazing £737 for the NSPCC. This outstanding achievement reflects the dedication, creativity, and hard work of the PHA Sixth Leadership Team and everyone who supported the event.





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CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN SPANISH

Caught on camera are our Year 11 students KL, AF, PF and KR, who are celebrating their high standards and success in Spanish with their Head of Year, Miss Agha. Well done!



This photo shows just a small selection of the many #PHAntastic Spanish students who are making us incredibly proud. Through hard work, determination and pride in their learning, students are producing high-quality independent extended writing and demonstrating excellent standards. ¡Enhorabuena!

There has been some PHAntastic work taking place in Spanish lessons. We're really proud to showcase a small selection of work from each year group, with students demonstrating high standards and real pride in their learning. Our PHA Spanish students are producing well-presented work, responding thoughtfully to feedback, and showing increasing confidence in their use of Spanish. We are particularly pleased with the quality of students' independent extended writing. Students are using their vocabulary and grammatical knowledge to write at length in Spanish, communicating their ideas with increasing accuracy and sophistication. It has been impressive to see students applying their learning independently, taking risks with the language and producing work that goes beyond minimum expectations.

The care and effort evident in students' books reflects the high aspirations we have for all learners. Their commitment to excellence, resilience when tackling challenging tasks, and pride in their achievements are helping them to develop not only as linguists but also as successful, independent learners.

¡Enhorabuena a todos nuestros estudiantes de español! Congratulations to all our Spanish students!



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CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN SPANISH

Year 7 Spanish
First Writing Assessment Success!

Section C: Application of Knowledge

Your new friend wants to know about you. Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Hola, me llamo [Name] y estoy regular. Soy divertido y tranquilo pero no soy serio. Tengo once años, también mi cumpleaños es el dieciocho de agosto. No tengo animales. Sin embargo, me gusta un gato y una cabra. Momos y blancas.

Year 10 Spanish Independent Writing

Section C: Application of Knowledge

Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Hola, me llamo [Name]. Es mi mejor amiga. Se llama Lexi. Es bastante alta y tiene el pelo castaño. Es muy simpática y tiene un buen sentido del humor. Nos conocimos en la escuela y tenemos muchos amigos en común. Nos encanta escuchar música. Me gusta mucho bien con ella porque es divertida y me ayuda a mejorar mis habilidades. También me ayuda y nunca me critica.

Year 8 Spanish developing their grammatical understanding

Section C: Application of Knowledge

Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Hola, me llamo [Name] y estoy regular. Soy divertido y tranquilo pero no soy serio. Tengo once años, también mi cumpleaños es el dieciocho de agosto. No tengo animales. Sin embargo, me gusta un gato y una cabra. Momos y blancas.

Year 11 have been developing their confidence in completing 90 and 150 word exam tasks!

Section C: Application of Knowledge

Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Hola, me llamo [Name]. Es mi mejor amiga. Se llama Lexi. Es bastante alta y tiene el pelo castaño. Es muy simpática y tiene un buen sentido del humor. Nos conocimos en la escuela y tenemos muchos amigos en común. Nos encanta escuchar música. Me gusta mucho bien con ella porque es divertida y me ayuda a mejorar mis habilidades. También me ayuda y nunca me critica.

Year 9 Spanish becoming increasingly sophisticated in their writing and making us very proud of their progress!

Section C: Application of Knowledge

Write a paragraph that is approximately 40-50 words in total.

Hola, me llamo [Name]. Es mi mejor amiga. Se llama Lexi. Es bastante alta y tiene el pelo castaño. Es muy simpática y tiene un buen sentido del humor. Nos conocimos en la escuela y tenemos muchos amigos en común. Nos encanta escuchar música. Me gusta mucho bien con ella porque es divertida y me ayuda a mejorar mis habilidades. También me ayuda y nunca me critica.

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2026

Monday 16th to Friday 20th November

BREAK THE SILENCE

#ANTIBULLYINGWEEK

ANTI-BULLYING ALLIANCE

3 WEEKS TO GO!



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DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

The Spanish and Art departments will be celebrating the Day of the Dead (El Día de los Muertos) on Monday 2 November through a range of creative and cultural activities in lessons, giving students the opportunity to explore this colourful Mexican tradition.

The celebrations will continue on Tuesday 3 November at lunchtime with a piñata activity in the Year 7 undercover area.

Students who would like to take part should collect a raffle ticket from their Spanish teachers on Monday 2 November or on Tuesday 3 November up to breaktime.

We look forward to celebrating together!





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CERTIFICATE COLLECTION EVENING

Following emails sent to several former student cohorts, we were overwhelmed by the positive response and the number of collection requests received. As a result, we're now opening this opportunity up to all eligible current and former students.

Certificate Collection Evening: 12 January 2027 - 4pm to 6pm

- GCSE and A-Level certificates are available for the following years: 2020-2025
- 2026 certificates are not yet available but are expected to be by January 2027

If you would like to collect your certificates on this date, you **must complete the Microsoft Form** using the link below:

[!\[\]\(d5d7044e5caf6907399af2dced8d6ff8_img.jpg\) PHA GCSE and A-Level Certificate Collection Evening Form \(12th January 2027\) – Fill out form](#)

Important Information

- ✓ **Photo ID must be provided** when collecting certificates.
- ✓ If someone is collecting your certificates on your behalf, this **must be declared on the Microsoft Form**. We are unable to release certificates to any third party without your written consent.
- ✓ Please ensure that all details submitted on the form are accurate to help us prepare your certificates for collection.

Important Notice Regarding Unclaimed Certificates

While we understand how important these documents are, **Pool Hayes Academy is only required to retain certificates for a minimum of 12 months**. Going forward, we will be reviewing our archive and **any unclaimed certificates dated between 2020-2025 will be logged and securely destroyed in line with JCQ regulations after Thursday 25th March 2027**. If you wish to have your certificates after this date you will have to contact the exam boards and pay fees for replacements. Certificates from the 2026 exams will be held for the minimum 12 months.

If you believe we may be holding certificates for you, or will be expecting your certificates from the summer of 2026, please don't miss this opportunity to collect them.

If you would like to collect them another time, please contact our Exams Officer at: adam.bida@attrust.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you back to Pool Hayes Academy on **12 January 2027**.



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SPORT FIXTURES & RESULTS

Results

Tuesday 20th October - Year 8 boys football team tournament, won one, drew one and lost one at Shelfield.

Wednesday 21st October - Year 7 girls netball game was cancelled at St Thomas Moore.

Wednesday 21st October - Year 8 girls netball team lost at St Francis.

Wednesday 21st October - Year 11 boys football team were knocked out in the group stage of the tournament at Streetly.

Upcoming Fixtures

There are no fixtures planned for the week back after half term.



SPORTS SPONSORSHIP

We are delighted to thank AB Wooden Gates & Garage Doors for their generous sponsorship of Pool Hayes Academy's sports teams.

Their support has enabled us to purchase 30 new football kits and two sets of netball bibs, helping our students represent the academy with pride on the pitch and court.

We are incredibly grateful for this contribution. Support from local businesses makes a real difference to our students, and we look forward to seeing our teams putting their new kit to good use!

We would also welcome enquiries from any businesses or individuals interested in future sponsorship opportunities. To find out how you could support sport at Pool Hayes Academy, please contact our Head of PE at luke.french@attrust.org.uk



AB WOODEN GATES & GARAGE DOORS LTD - WEST MIDLANDS



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POWER UP NOTIFICATIONS

A new Sparx Power Up will be available from:

- Maths = Monday at 8am - Sunday 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 be set **every Monday**.

[Click here to go to Seneca](#)

Languagenut is set once a week.

[Click here to go to Languagenut](#)

STUDENT SUCCESS

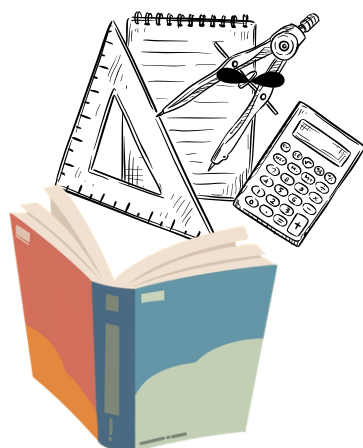
Our students have had a #PHAntastic week and have earnt lots of positive points. As an academy they have achieved **331,797 positive points!** The year group with the most points this week was **Year 11** who managed to achieve **9,851 points**. **11P1** are this week's form leaders and together as a team they racked up **1,985!** 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 **749 hours** and read **473 different books!** In Maths we have answered **159,171 questions!** In Science we have answered **77,497 questions!**

On Languagenut student have earned an impressive **2,042,100 points** this month!

Congratulations! Amazing work and effort to our students!!

This week's Power Ups are available on Sparx now.





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CAREERS @ PHA



WELCOME TO THE CAREERS CORNER!

As we approach October half term, Careers @ PHA is here to share opportunities, raise aspirations and help you explore exciting possibilities for your future. Wishing everyone a fantastic break!

I'm Mr Lewis, your Careers Lead, and this week we spotlight Pharmacy Technician as our Career of the Week and explore Mrs Thomson's career journey in our Staff Career Spotlight, helping every student feel informed, confident and supported.

MINI CAREERS FACT OF THE WEEK!

PHARMACY TECHNICIANS WORK BEYOND PHARMACIES - WITH CAREERS IN HOSPITALS, PRISONS, GP PRACTICES AND COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE.

CAREER OF THE WEEK - PHARMACY TECHNICIAN

What the job is:
Pharmacy Technicians prepare and supply medicines, manage stock and support patients alongside pharmacists in hospitals and community pharmacies.

Skills needed:
Accuracy, communication, organisation, teamwork, attention to detail.

Salary range:
£27,000 - £38,000 (specialist roles can pay more).

Training routes:

- Pharmacy Technician apprenticeship
- Approved Level 3 pharmacy qualification
- Training within NHS or community pharmacies
- Registration with the GPhC

Staff Career Spotlight

Name: Mrs Thomson

Current Role: Head of Inclusion

What happened after Year 11?
Mrs Thompson 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."



Mrs Thomson

ASK MR LEWIS

What if I can't find anywhere to take me for work experience?
Ask teachers, family, friends, and check Unifrog - something always turns up.

Submit your questions to Mr Lewis -
michael.lewis@attrust.org.uk
or find him at the back of the library!

UPCOMING DATES!

Tue 3rd Nov - PHA Sixth Open Evening

Thur 5th Nov - Walsall College Open Day

Thur 28th Nov - University of Wolverhampton - Open Day

CAREERS @ PHA



Pool Hayes
Academy

THE KEY

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KEY CONTACTS

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

[Key Staff - Contact Details](#)



LATEST LETTERS

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

[Letters - Home Page](#)



SAFEGUARDING



Pool Hayes
Academy

HELPLINE CONTACTS FOR STUDENTS



YoungMinds – www.youngminds.org.uk (Mental Health Support)

Childline – 0800 1111 OR www.childline.org

Kooth – “Need to talk” online support www.kooth.com
(online support and counselling)

Frank – Call 03001236600 OR www.talktofrank.com
(Support for substance misuse)

Samaritans – Call 116 123

Kaleidoscope Group – www.kaleidoscopeplus.org.uk
(Supporting Mental Health)

St Giles Hospice – www.stgileshospice.com/phoenix
(Supporting with bereavement)

Chat Health – www.healthforteens.co.uk
(General concerns around health & wellbeing)



ASKING
— for —
HELP
is OK



Pool Hayes
Academy

THE KEY

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SPORT EXTRA-CURRICULAR

TUESDAY
Badminton & Fitness
All years - Except Fitness Suite (Year 9+ only)

WEDNESDAY
Netball & Boys Football
All year groups

THURSDAY
Basketball & Girls Football
All year groups

Fixtures will be planned along with team selection and then posted on the PE Office door - These can fall on a variety of evenings. Permission slip is needed from parents/guardians before participation. These can be collected from a staff member of the PE Department



LUNCHTIME CLUBS

Monday - Thursday

BADMINTON

📍 Sports Hall

BASKETBALL

📍 Upstairs Gym

- You must bring trainers to participate.
- Blazer and tie need to be taken off and belongings put neatly in the corner of sport room.
- Eat lunch BEFORE attending - No food allowed in sport areas.
- DO NOT enter sport areas until a member of staff is present.



Pool Hayes
Academy

ENRICHMENT TIMETABLE

🕒 After School

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 (No after school activities)	 Show Rehearsals (After School) Library (After School) Badminton Fitness Club	 Netball Boys Football Performing Arts Industry Training Yr11-13 Library (After School)	 Basketball Girls Football Choir MT1 - Room K53 - 3.30 - 4.20 Library (After School) Dance Club (Year 9, 10 & 11 - After School)	 Show Rehearsals 2.35 - 4.00pm

🍴 Lunchtime

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
 Drama Ambassador Meeting Library	 Basketball Badminton Show Rehearsals (After School)	 Basketball Badminton Library	 Basketball Dance Club (Year 7 & 8 - Lunchtime) Badminton Library	 Library Chess Club (Lunchtime) Instrumental Club - Room 51

Unlocking Your Potential. Empowering Through Success.



Pool Hayes
Academy

THE KEY

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ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

From
MONDAY 16th to FRIDAY 20th
NOVEMBER 2026

MONDAY 16TH NOVEMBER

ODD SOCK DAY

50p minimum donation

KINDNESS RAFFLE

Win hot chocolate and cake with Mrs Macey!

DESIGNING BOOKMARKS

Get creative and design a bookmark with a positive message in your art lessons!

POSTER COMPETITION

Create a poster to 'Break the Silence' with a powerful message. Win LovetoShop Vouchers!

WHO HELPED YOU WALL

Share the name of someone who has helped or supported you and add it to our wall!

FRIDAY 20TH NOVEMBER

DISCO