Pool Hayes Academy

THE KEY

13/11/2026

PARENT & CARER NEWSLETTER



KEY DATES & EVENTS

Year 11 & 13 Mock Exams:
Monday 16th - Thursday 26th November

Year 11 Christmas Carol Theatre Trip:
Tuesday 17th November

PHA Sixth Keele University Trip:
Wednesday 18th November

PHA Sixth - Army Elite Skills Talk:
Thursday 19th November

Staff Training Day (Academy closed to students):
Friday 27th November

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF ACADEMY

Written by Mrs L. Macey

This week has been a PHAntastic one at Pool Hayes Academy as we came together to celebrate, reflect and learn.

Students enjoyed celebrating Diwali, learning about the Festival of Light and its significance, while our annual Remembrance Parade provided a meaningful opportunity to honour those who have served. We were also incredibly proud of the students who represented the academy at the Short Heath Remembrance Parade last Sunday with such respect and maturity.

Adding to an already memorable week, a group of our talented Art students visited Oxford, gaining inspiration from its rich history, architecture and artistic heritage. We are incredibly proud of how our students continue to embrace every opportunity and represent the academy so positively.

Weeks like this remind us how fortunate we are to have such thoughtful, respectful and engaged young people at Pool Hayes Academy.

Whether celebrating cultural diversity, showing respect for those who came before us, or embracing exciting educational experiences, our students continue to make us incredibly proud.

Finally, I would like to apologise for the disruption to our emails and incoming calls today. Although the outage was beyond our control, I appreciate how inconvenient this has been for parents and carers attenpting to get in touch with the academy. Thank you for your patience, understanding and ongoing support.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

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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 the world around them. This week, students explored **the importance of belonging**, considering what it means to feel accepted, valued and included within their family, friendship groups, school and wider community.

Students learned about the importance of belonging and how feeling connected to others can have a positive impact on their wellbeing and confidence. They explored research highlighting that while many young people feel a sense of belonging at school, some still experience feelings of isolation, exclusion or pressure to fit in. The discussion also considered how supportive relationships and safe spaces can help young people feel more connected.

The session encouraged students to reflect on how schools and individuals can help create an inclusive environment where everyone feels welcome and respected. Through discussion, students considered practical ways to support others, including listening, welcoming new people, including others in conversations and respecting individual differences. It reinforced the message that belonging does not mean everyone has to be the same, but that everyone should feel accepted for who they are and valued as part of their community.

MATCHDAY REWARDS

Through our PHAntastic partnership with Wolverhampton Wanders FC, we were delighted to reward two students with pairs of tickets to the next Wolves home match! CS won two tickets for having 100% attendance and a superb number of positive points and MM was awarded a pair for his great engagement with the Wolves Foundation on their Year 7 transition programme that we have been running this term. Both students were over the moon for the prizes and are looking forward to seeing Wolves play Charlton in their next home game!



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ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Anti-Bullying week is next week and there are lots of activities happening in our academy that we want our PHAmily to get involved in. This year's theme is Break the Silence which is about encouraging everyone to speak up and encouraging kindness towards others.



We have the following activities taking place in our academy next week:

- Monday 16 November – Odd Socks Day: Wear your odd socks, as bright and colourful as you want to celebrate what makes us unique! Minimum donation: 50p (this will go to the Anti-Bullying Alliance)
- Bookmark designing in Art lessons.
- Kindness Raffle: Win hot chocolate and cake with Mrs Macey!
- Break the Silence Poster Competition: Win Love2shop vouchers! The winning poster will also be displayed around our academy.
- "Who Helped You?" Wall: Recognise someone who has helped or supported you.
- Friday 20 November – Disco: Round off the week with a celebration!



Everyone deserves to feel safe, valued and heard. Together, let's spread kindness, support one another and break the silence on bullying. Look out for pictures from this PHAntastic week on our Social Media pages!

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LIGHTING UP PHA WITH KINDNESS FOR DIWALI

On Monday 9th November, our academy celebrated Diwali with Rangoli-style chalk designs, a curry lunch and a display inspired by the Festival of Lights.

Students added paper flames to our kindness diya display, sharing thoughtful messages of hope, joy and positivity. Their contributions highlighted how small acts of kindness can brighten someone's day and help create a caring academy community.

We are proud of our students for the kindness and creativity they showed. Thank you to everyone who took part and helped bring our Diwali celebrations to life!





STUDENT SUCCESS IN MUSIC

The Music Department are proud to share that Year 7 are practicing their keyboard skills this term and playing melodies from films.

Year 9 are exploring composing music using music software and using a wide variety of problem solving and compositional skills.

Keep up the great work!



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POOL HAYES REMEMBERS

On 11th November, the whole academy community came together for our Remembrance Day event, Pool Hayes Remembers, to pay our respects and honour those who have served and sacrificed for our country.



Members of the Short Heath Royal British Legion, alongside our Student Leadership Team and students proudly wearing their organisational uniforms, followed the Standard Bearer in a respectful parade. Every member of the school participated, lining up together in a dignified and thoughtful manner.



We began by reading the moving poem For the Fallen, followed by the sounding of the Last Post by our bugler. This marked the beginning of our two-minute silence, during which we took time to pause, reflect and remember all those who gave their lives in service. The silence was brought to a close with the sounding of the Reveille, before our parade respectfully made its way out of the playground.



It was a truly meaningful occasion, demonstrating the respect, unity and gratitude of our academy community as we remembered those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

We will remember them.

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CELEBRATING SUCCESS IN ENGLISH

From experimenting with sentence structure in Year 7 to exploring poetic voice in Sixth Form, students across the academy have been developing their skills as readers and writers.

Year 7 have been experimenting with varied sentence structures as they plan their descriptive writing.

Year 8 have been exploring legendary figures such as Beowulf and Medusa, using some fantastic vocabulary to explain their ideas.

Year 9 showed great maturity last half term when discussing themes of injustice and racism in Ghost Boys. They also tried the PEZEL writing frame for the first time, and it's already helping them structure their responses.

Year 10 have made a great start to their GCSE course by writing their first full essays on the key themes in Macbeth.

Year 11 have been 'thinking about their thinking' as they review their own responses. They've used highlighters to identify the different skills they've demonstrated in their writing.

Sixth Form students have been exploring poetic voice in Robert Browning's poetry, looking closely at his language choices and building confidence in their exam responses.

Year 12 have also been researching and presenting the context of The Handmaid's Tale ahead of studying the novel for A level.

Check out the next page for some PHAntastic examples of English work from each year group!







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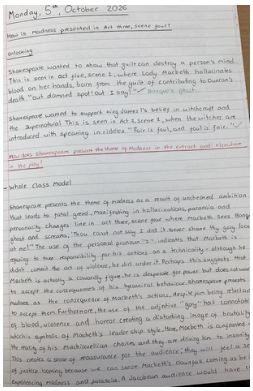
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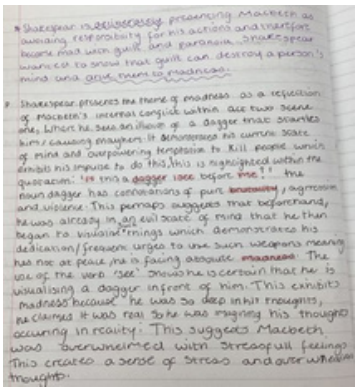
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Year 7

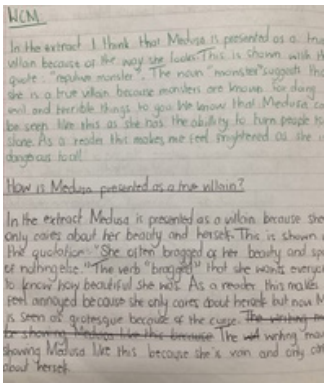


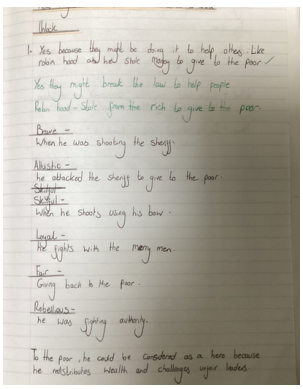
Year 10



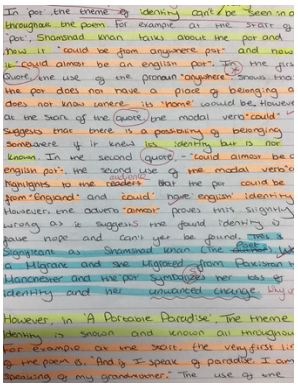


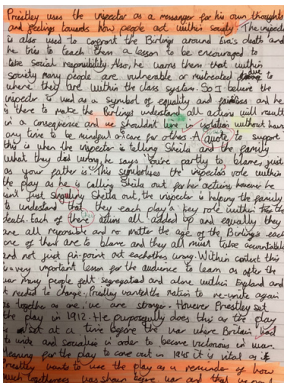
Year 8



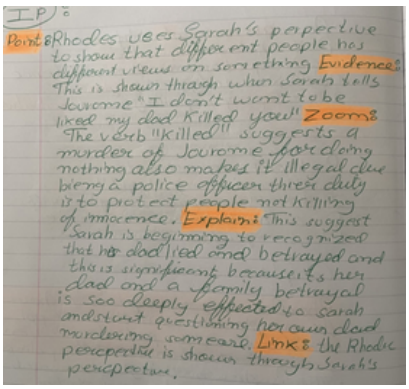


Year 11

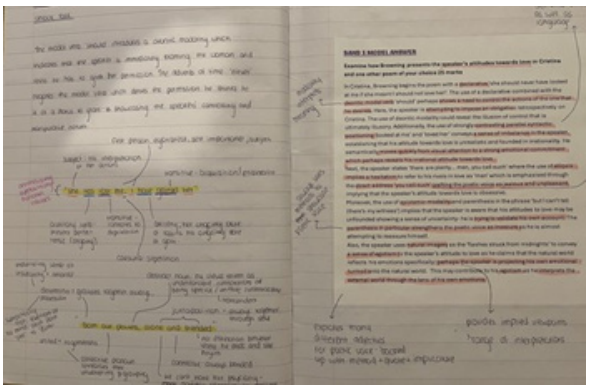




Year 9



Sixth Form



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SPORT FIXTURES & RESULTS

Results

Monday 9th November - Year 11 boys football Team won 3-1 in the West Midlands Cup v Sandwell.

Tuesday 10th November - Year 10 boys football finished second in the 7 a side Walsall Tournament. They drew all 4 games but only conceded one goal!

Tuesday 10th November - Year 7 & 8 girls football team drew both games 0-0 at Joseph Leckie.

Wednesday 11th November - Year 7 girls netball team won 1, drew 1 and lost 2 in the Central Walsall Tournament. However, it was noted that the girls played with resilience throughout!

Wednesday 11th November - Year 11 boys football team game in the Walsall Cup at St Thomas Moore was cancelled.

Upcoming Fixtures

There are no upcoming fixtures next week.

SPORTS FIELD REMINDER

We were disappointed to find a large amount of rubbish and used fireworks on Five Fields, our academy owned private sports field this week. Before students could use the field safely again, our PE team had to spend time their own time clearing the debris, taking time away from planning lessons.

Five Fields is reserved for PE lessons and school sport. We ask members of the public to respect that it is private academy property and to not leave rubbish around this site.

Thank you to our PE team for taking time to clear the site and making it safe for our students to use again.



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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

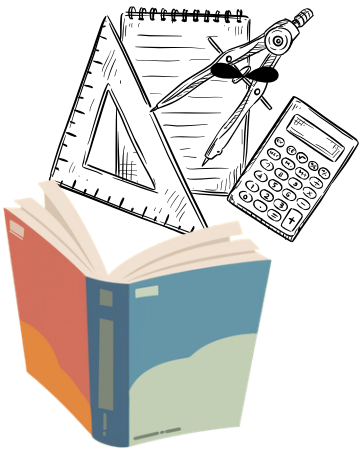
Our students have had a #PHAntastic week and have earnt lots of positive points. As an academy they have achieved **433,680 positive points!** The year group with the most points this week was **Year 11** who managed to achieve **11,995 points**. **11P1** are this week's form leaders and together as a team they racked up **2,443!** 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 **1,039 hours** and read **727 different books!** In Maths we have answered **210,401 questions!** In Science we have answered **100,774 questions!**

On Languagenut student have earned an impressive **3,482,700 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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WELCOME TO THE CAREERS CORNER!

As November gets underway, Careers @ PHA continues to share opportunities, raise aspirations and help you discover the different pathways your future could take.

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

MINI CAREERS FACT OF THE WEEK!

FORKLIFT DRIVERS WORK IN MORE THAN WAREHOUSES – INCLUDING AIRPORTS, CONSTRUCTION SITES, FACTORIES AND PORTS.

CAREER OF THE WEEK – FORKLIFT TRUCK DRIVER

What the job is:
Forklift Drivers move and stack goods safely in warehouses, factories and distribution centres.

Skills needed:
Concentration, coordination, safety awareness, reliability, teamwork.

Salary range:
£23,000 - £32,000 (experienced or shift-based roles may pay more).

Training routes:

- Employer-provided forklift training
- Recognised operator training and assessment
- Warehouse and logistics apprenticeships
- On-the-job experience

Staff Career Spotlight



Name: Mr Brooke

Current Role: Head of Faculty for Humanities

What happened after Year 11?
Mr Brooke stayed on in Sixth Form, studying Geography, Biology, Economics and Maths. He then completed a Geography BSc at the University of Birmingham.

Previous Job Roles:

- Construction work during Sixth Form
- Construction work while at university

Mr Brooke's career path shows:
Hard work, subject passion and taking opportunities can lead to leadership roles over time.

Advice for students:
"Do today what others won't, so tomorrow you can do what others can't."

ASK MR LEWIS

Does work experience have to be linked to my future career?
No - any experience builds useful skills.

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

UPCOMING DATES!

Sat 14th Nov - City of Wolverhampton College Open Event

Wed 25th Nov - Walsall College Open Day

Sat 28th Nov - University of Wolverhampton Open Day

CAREERS @ PHA

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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

Academy Transformation Trust

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)





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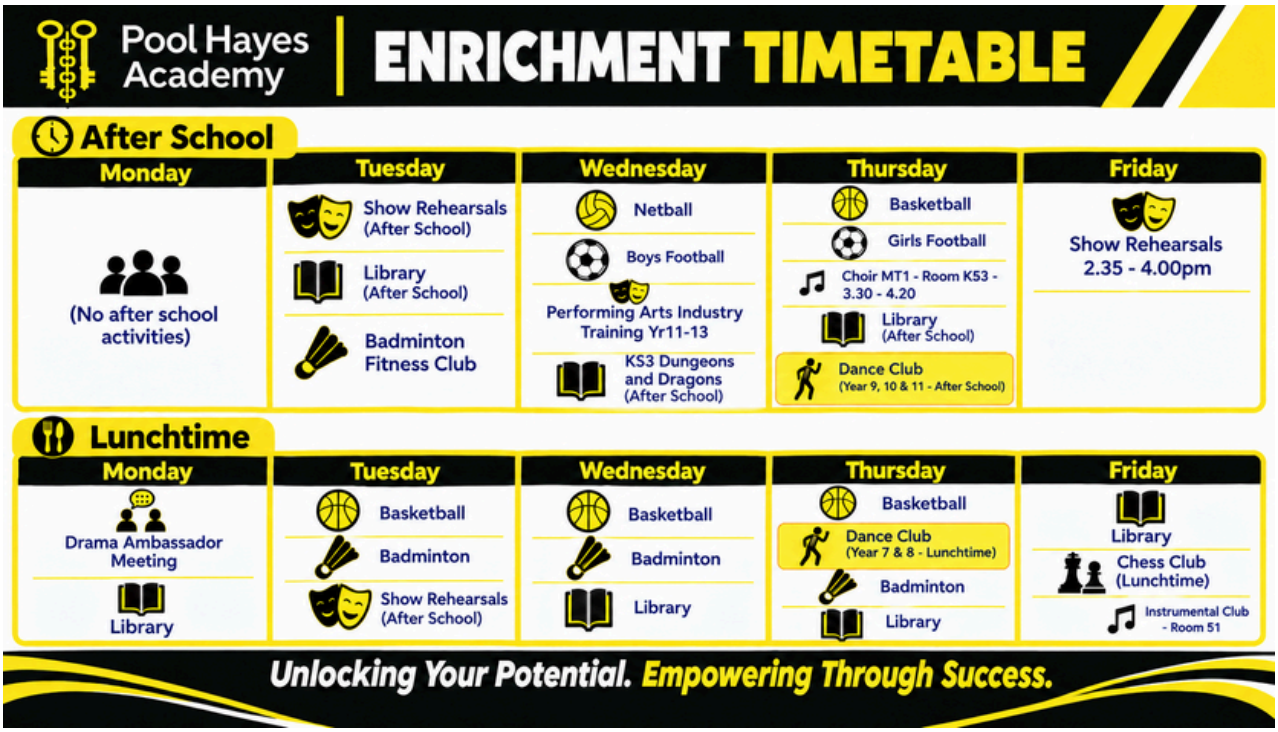
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