



Park Hall Academy



Weekly News
6th February 2026

Staying at Number 1!



Park Hall Academy
Birmingham, Solihull

1,114,730

Park Hall Academy students have done it again, staying firmly at Number 1 across the region showing others how it's done. Almost **500 students logging on to Seneca over the weekend** so a big thank you to those taking accountability of their own learning.

ALL students are expected to achieve our minimum standard of 80% on each assignment. Students can also choose individual courses to complete independent study – a great way of closing gaps in their learning.

Special mention to our SENECA STARS this week. These are the students who have had the highest usage:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Maria Alberici	Mal Mwedziwendira	Leigha Hussain	Summer Giffin	Charlotte Aherne
Zakiya Nazir	Evie Hines	Finn Rooney	Harrison Brown	D'Arcy Gardner
Rosalea Byrne	Heidi-Louise Southam-Beebee	Isla Bradshaw	Sophie Britton	Alicia Baker
Marek Lalik	Tyler Bird	Layla Brown	Libby Rodway	Rebecca Hill
Kherys Bench	Shay Ward	Kade Wilson	Sophie Davies	Claudia Hodgins
Emily Skelcher	Amelia Sheppard	Lilly Clarke	Marvelous Andoh	Ellie Male
Aizah Haseeb	Evie O'Callaghan	Emma-Louise Moore	Ariella Savage	Hayden Murrain
Hareem Usman	Coryn Horne-Macdonald	Bernard Monks-Brown	Lucy Tilley	Neve Hartill
Jayden Wood	Ava Gough	Ayesha Nazir	Myles Sansoni	Makaila Winwood
Airin Khan	Jay Dunkley	Frankie Davis	Jalayah Thorne	Jack Goode

A particular acknowledgement to those achieving 100% on all assignments – well done for going above and beyond for your own learning!

Year 7 – Harris Mahmood.

Year 8 – Tilly McDonough and Joshua Crawford.

Year 9 – Jessica Harding, Summer Gauntlett and Maria Avram.

Year 10 – Ariella Savage, Jing To So, Roxi Stewart, Jacob Hewlett, Ben Smart, Harry Watson, Alarnah Carrington and Isaac Allcock.

Year 11 – Paige Flint, Rubie Carroll, Grace McLeod, Ben Sin, Leah Williamson, Arash Nessar, Kian Naven, Suzanna Otton, Dylan Hickin and Stevie Sullivan.

Year 11 Leadership Team Hosts Future Options Drop-In for Year 9 Students

On Friday 30th January 2026, our Year 11 Leadership Team demonstrated outstanding initiative and maturity by planning and running a special lunchtime drop-in session for Year 9 students. The aim of the session was to give younger students the chance to talk through their upcoming GCSE option choices with older peers who have recently been through the same process.

Throughout the lunchtime, Year 9 students were able to ask questions, hear honest student-to-student insights, and gain a clearer understanding of what different subjects involve. Our Year 11 leaders spoke about workloads, subject strengths, balancing commitments, and how certain choices can support future pathways—all in a friendly, relaxed environment.

This kind of peer support plays a valuable role in helping students make confident, informed decisions about their next steps. The Year 11 team showed real leadership, empathy, and responsibility, and we couldn't be prouder of the way they supported their younger peers.

A huge well done and thank you to all involved. Their contribution is helping to ensure Year 9 students feel prepared, supported, and ready to make the choices that are right for them.

Performing Arts!

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE IN PERFORMING ARTS

FUSION DANCE COMPANY

The Fusion Dance Company auditions took place on Monday 19th January and saw a fantastic turnout, with many students stepping forward to showcase their talent. A massive well done to everyone who participated — each dancer demonstrated impressive determination, commitment and enthusiasm throughout the audition process.

Congratulations to the eight students who were selected to join Fusion Dance Company (*left to right, bottom row: Sophia Reeve, Phoebe Boshier, Lily Crewe, Poppy Silke, Poppy McGrath, Angel Lilley, Lola Fothergill, Larayah Burke*); this is a brilliant achievement and a testament to your hard work. Students displayed fantastic technique, strong performance quality and clear choreographic knowledge, alongside teamwork, focus and a positive attitude.

For those who were not successful on this occasion, please be encouraged — there will be further opportunities to audition again in the near future, and we look forward to seeing your continued progress and passion for dance.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR
EXTRACURRICULAR
ACHIEVEMENTS IN PERFORMING
ARTS?

Please email sgoogan@parkhall.org
with any success stories you would
like us to share!



BILLY MORRIS-STEELE (YEAR 7)

Billy Morris-Steele has been involved in dance and gymnastics from a very young age and, over the past three years, has discovered a real passion for Performing Arts, Musical Theatre and singing.

Billy began gymnastics at the age of four, followed by dance from the age of five at Dazzlers Dance and Gymnastics School in Shard End, Birmingham. Over the past year, he has also taken on the role of Assistant Teacher in the school's Dinky Dancers classes (ages 2–6), demonstrating impressive maturity, responsibility and leadership.

Billy is about to commence his third professional show with Coleshill On Stage, performing a principal role as the Lord Chamberlain in Cinderella. The production will run for five performances in February 2026 at Coleshill Town Hall. Always eager to develop his skills, Billy regularly attends auditions and is delighted to have recently secured a place with another Musical Theatre Society after a successful audition process. He has since been cast in a principal role as Buddy, Galileo's mentor, in We Will Rock You, which will be performed across four shows in May 2026 at the Dovehouse Theatre in Solihull.

We are incredibly proud of Billy's dedication and achievements and look forward to seeing where his talent takes him next!

The Performing Arts Team



Sweet Success for Students After P.R.I.D.E. POWER Week

Friday 30th January marked a *sweet* reward for students who demonstrated outstanding RESPECT during our recent P.R.I.D.E. POWER Week.

As part of our ongoing focus on positive behaviour and values, students who earned a RESPECT sticker in their planner were recognised for their efforts. Each RESPECT sticker is worth **50 P.R.I.D.E. points**, making them a meaningful reward for consistently positive choices!

To celebrate these achievements, a Pick and Mix station was set up in the assembly hall on Friday. Students who had earned a RESPECT sticker were invited to help themselves to a selection of treats after being formally recognised - an enjoyable and well-deserved reward for their excellent conduct.

The criteria for earning RESPECT P.R.I.D.E. points include:

- Showing kindness to others
- Being polite and courteous
- Taking pride in book presentation
- Showing consideration and respect for peers and staff

These behaviours reflect the core values we strive to see across our school community, and it was fantastic to see so many students living them out in practice.

Well done to all students who were successful last week! Form tutors have been asked to total the RESPECT stickers in planners for the members of their form and the corresponding 50 P.R.I.D.E. points per sticker will be added in due course.

****A special mention also to members of the School Council who helped to set up the station and inform students of the Pick n Mix process! ****

Keep up the great work - your positive actions do not go unnoticed, and we are proud of you!



Park Hall Badminton Team Secures Second Place

Park Hall competed in a series of singles and doubles badminton matches yesterday at Smiths Wood Academy. The boys faced strong opposition and played several high-quality, competitive matches throughout the event.

Displaying great resilience, teamwork and determination, the team performed exceptionally well and finished the competition in second place overall. Their positive attitude and commitment were evident in every game they played.

Well done to all the players involved for representing Park Hall with such effort and sportsmanship — a fantastic result to be proud of!



Year 9 Girls Triumph at County Finals

The Year 9 team recently represented Park Hall at the county finals of Fit for a Knockout, and what a fantastic performance it was! Competing against schools from across the county, the girls took part in a wide range of fitness challenges, testing their strength, stamina, and teamwork as they aimed to achieve the highest overall scores.

After a demanding and highly competitive day, Park Hall finished in first place, an outstanding achievement. The girls were rewarded with medals and certificates in recognition of their hard work, determination, and commitment throughout the competition.

Congratulations to all involved — a brilliant effort and a result to be very proud of. Well, done, girls!



WHAT'S ON *in the* LIBRARY

Feb 6 2026

NATIONAL LIBRARY LOVERS MONTH

Students can now come and have a browse of our 'Blind Book Dates' or choose a book you love to read in here or cosied up at home. (And a free bookmark too)

694
Books
Checked out

Let's reach **700!!!!**

go on a *Blind Date* with a *Book*

COME TO THE LIBRARY AND CHECK OUT A BOOK BEFORE KNOWING WHAT'S INSIDE!

Spain Trip!

A space has become available on our exciting school trip to Spain during May half term, specifically for a Year 9 or Year 10 netball participant. This opportunity has arisen due to a student withdrawing from the trip. Please note that, due to the lateness of the arrangement, the full payment of £950 will be required. If you are interested or would like further details, please contact Mr Roberts at aroberts@parkhall.org.

WB: Monday 9th February 2026



7	8	9	10	11	12
What is Mental Health?	Social Media stress	Managing social anxiety	Managing Social Anxiety	Reducing stress for exam performance	Suicide Prevention

Social media – it's supposed to be fun, so why is it also stressful?

Signposting support:

Useful helplines and charities

Childline. Support for people under 19 in the UK. Call: 0800 11 11

Young Minds. Child and adolescent mental health charity. Call: 0808 802 5544 (parents' helpline)

Samaritans. Samaritans provide 24-hour online and phone support to people in distress. Call: 116 123

SANE. National out-of hours mental health charity offering emotional support, guidance and information. Call: 0300 304 7000 (4.30pm to 10.30pm)

Mental Health Foundation. Information and support for anyone with mental health problems or learning disabilities.

Rights online (coe.int) Your rights online as a young person using social media sites



LUNCH-TIME ACTIVITIES

Day	Lunchtime
Monday 9 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wellbeing Games and Puzzles with Miss Leigh in L17 Reading and Mindful Colouring with Mrs Kirkbride in GG4
Tuesday 10 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embroidery with Mrs Briscoe in S11 Reading and Mindful Colouring with Mrs Kirkbride in GG4 Film Trailers discussion with Miss Daniels G110 Chair Yoga with Miss Lapworth in GG6
Wednesday 11 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manifesting my future (Year 10 and 11) with Miss Hasan in G12 Embroidery with Mrs Briscoe in S11
Thursday 12 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Theatre Therapy with Ms Keyte and Mrs Plackowski in GG10 Embroidery with Mrs Briscoe in S11
Friday 13 th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embroidery with Mrs Briscoe in S11



P.R.I.D.E Points

Our students have the opportunity to earn PRIDE points in a variety of ways here at Park Hall. Well done to these students for receiving the most PRIDE points in their year group this week.

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Marlei Bignot	David Williams	Nancy McKinley	Toby-Jay Amphlett Harry Watson	Bethany Harper Peachey



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 13th February – Yr 9 MEN/DTP Vaccinations

Friday 13th February – Last day of term for students

HALF TERM – Monday 16th February to Friday 20th February

(Revision School – Thursday 19th & Friday 20th February)

Monday 23rd February – Inset Day – school closed for students

Tuesday 24th February – Students return to school

Year 11 Revision schools 2025-2026

Feb Half-term

Thursday 19th - Friday 20th February 2026
9.30-12.30pm



Year 9 Vaccinations



Teenage Booster Vaccines

Protecting against Infectious diseases
Diphtheria Tetanus Polio
& Meningitis ACWY



Teenage booster vaccinations— offer protection

Year 9: Teenage booster -- 2 vaccinations

1. **The Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio vaccine (3-in-1)** – this is a booster vaccine as you will have been offered previous doses as a baby and young child.
2. **Meningitis ACWY vaccine** – this is due to a rise in Meningitis W cases in University students and late teens

REMEMBER...

The Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is offered to all Year 8's – if you have missed it in year 8 get the vaccination in Yr 9

Children who have not received 2 doses of the Measles, Mumps and Rubella (MMR) vaccines are also offered the MMR vaccine as a catch-up.



How is Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio Spread ?

Diphtheria:
Diphtheria is spread by close contact with an infected person, such as coughs, sneezing, or sharing cups and cutlery.

Tetanus:
Tetanus is spread when the germs enter a person's open wound. This can include: cuts and grazes, splints in the skin, burns, animal bites, eye injuries, body piercings and tattoos.

Polio:
Polio is spread in numerous ways, such as coughs, sneezing, contaminated food, water or faeces. It can be spread by not washing your hands after contact with the disease and putting them in your mouth.



Why do we vaccinate ???

It's a **safe** way to be protected against infectious diseases – there are few side effects

It offers you protection against the diseases

It stops people spreading the diseases – if you cannot get the disease you cannot pass it on to others .

These diseases have all reduced drastically in the UK due to successful vaccinations (e.g. only 4 cases of Tetanus were found in the UK in 2019).

<https://youtu.be/9nadnOxvE74>



What are we protecting against ? Diphtheria, Tetanus and Polio

Tetanus: Tetanus is a serious disease which is caused when Tetanus bacteria enters a person's wound, the bacteria then quickly multiplies and releases toxins in the body which affect the nerves. Most people who contract Tetanus have not been vaccinated fully against Tetanus. Tetanus bacteria can be found in soil, metal items (e.g. rusty nails), animal's mouths, manure, and other places.

Diphtheria: Diphtheria is a very contagious infection that is caused by strains of bacteria releasing a toxin into the body (around 2-5 days after infection). The toxin causes the infected person to become unwell as it affects their organs. Diphtheria mainly affects the nose and throat; however, it can also affect the skin of infected individuals.

Polio: Polio is a life-threatening disease that is caused by the 'poliovirus'. The virus affects the nervous system and can cause paralysis very quickly. People who are not fully vaccinated against Polio are at greater risk of becoming unwell from Polio.



What is Meningitis ACWY?

- Meningitis is an infection in the brain and spinal cord. It causes the linings of the brain and spinal cord to become swollen and can also lead to blood poisoning (called Septicaemia (Sepsis)). Meningitis is caused by a group of bacteria called 'Meningococcal Bacteria'.
- Some people carry Meningococcal bacteria in their nose or throat. Not everyone becomes ill but they can still pass the bacteria on to others who then may become ill. Meningitis can cause some people to become severely ill or can even be fatal
- Meningitis bacteria spreads between people by close contact (eg; coughing, sneezing, kissing)

The best way to protect yourself is to get vaccinated



Attendance

How absence from school affects children long term

Attendance	Average earnings (aged 28)
99-100%	£32,200
90-98.9%	£29,800
50-89.9%	£19,500
Below 50%	£10,100

A recent study by the **Department for Education study**, investigated the long-term impact of absence on future earnings. It highlights how students who attend school more regularly tend to earn higher salaries by the age of 28.

- **Students with nearly perfect attendance (99-100%)** earn an average of **£32,200** per year.
- **Those with attendance at 90-98.9%** earn slightly less, at **£29,800** per year.
- **Students with lower attendance (50-89.9%)** see a significant drop in earnings, averaging **£19,500** per year.
- **Students who attend less than 50% of the time** earn the least, at only **£10,100** per year.

This **Department for Education study** emphasizes the importance of regular school attendance in shaping a child's future success. Encouraging consistent attendance can have a **long-term impact** on job opportunities and financial stability later in life.

Attendance Matters

As we all know, attendance plays a huge part in our children achieving their full potential. Research has shown that pupils who performed better at the end of secondary school missed fewer days than those who didn't perform as well. **Reporting a Student Absence:** On the occasions when children are too unwell to attend school, it is the responsibility of the parent/carer to contact school as soon as possible, by **8.30am** at the latest, on **each morning of absence**.

DID YOU KNOW...?

*There are **190** teaching days in a school year. **10** days of absence = **95%** attendance; **15** days of absence = **92%** attendance. Children with **OVER 90%** attendance are more likely to achieve 5 or more Grade 4+ qualifications Children with **LESS than 85%** attendance are **unlikely** to gain 5 or more 9-5 GCSE's or equivalent qualifications.*

Student Medication

This is a gentle reminder that if your child requires an inhaler, especially now that the colder weather is here, please ensure it is in their bag or blazer so they can use it as and when required. If your child needs medication that must be kept in school, please complete a consent form – please contact school if you need one

Contact Details

Have you changed your contact details? If you have changed your home address, telephone number, email address or name, please ensure that you contact the main office to update your details so that you do not miss out on information from school. You can update your details via email: post@parkhall.org or by calling 0121 748 0400.



For Parents - How to Report Online Harm

There are so many apps with different reporting functions, organisations, helplines and more it can be really frustrating for parents to get help. Internet Matters have a useful page which details some of these organisations and what they can do, how to report specific issues, how to report on many of the social platforms and games and where to go for more help. You can see all the details [HERE](#).

