



Park Hall Academy



Weekly News
13th February 2026

Consistency is key!



Park Hall Academy
Birmingham, Solihull

949,460

Our students are showing time and time that consistency is key to their home learning as we maintain our top spot in the region – but now is not the time to take our foot off the pedal – please do continue to encourage your child to log onto SENECA to complete their assigned tasks. Your child is also able to complete independent learning by selecting a course of their choice from the menu on the left-hand side – this is a great way of closing gaps in their learning.

Year 8 are currently taking the lead with the highest engagement of all year groups spending a collective **94 hours and 21 minutes** using SENECA in the last week – a big well done to you all.

ALL students are expected to achieve our **minimum standard of 80%** on each assignment.

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
Emily Skelcher – 1 hour, 17 minues!	Ciana Hughes – 2 hours, 18 minutes!	Frankie Davis – 2 hours and 24 minutes!	Joshua Mowatt – 2 hours!	D’Arcy Gardner – 6 hours and 8 minutes!
Phoebe Lloyd	Oliver Willetts	Adam Jarca	Kacey O’Neill	Arturs Preijers
Poppy Kinloch-Williams	Jackson Carter	Poppy Hines	Harry Watson	Kye Mills
Nisma Ali	Poppy McGrath	Layla Brown	Jing To So	George Smith
Matila Walker	Oliver Grant	Lincoln Deakin	Marvelous Andoh	Neve Hartill
Kherys Bench	Coryn Horne-Macdonald	Maleehah Millwala	Sum Kiu Chan	Ryan Bevan
Essa Majid	Zayaan Asim	Macie Bayliss	Riley Woakes	Zara Khan
Lucy Roberts	Leanne Lennon	Kade Wilson	Isla Sheasby	Noah Cunliffe
Jayden Wood	Kallen Smith-Adams	William Wright	Toby-Jay Amphlett	Kian Hawes
Tincuta Ciobanu	Ayda Mahfooz	Oumie Ceesay	Humza Shahbaz	Charlie Whitehouse
Airin Khan				

And those **achieving 100% on all assignments** – well done to you for going above and beyond for your own learning!

Year 7 – Lilah Faughey and Jesse Ataria.

Year 8 – Tilly McDonough, Amelia Duchnowska, Coryn Horne-Macdonald and Jacob James.

Year 9 – Finn Rooney, Isaac Hartill and Fin Thomasson.

Year 10 – Blake Williams, Jacob Hewlett, Alarnah Carrington, Aidan Sin, Roxi Stewart, Ben Smart, Isaac Allcock, Miles Harrison and Holly Dickinson.

Year 11 – Grace McLeod, Rubie Carroll, Raff Parry, Paige Flint, Kian Naven, Arash Nessar, Leah Williamson and Lewis Carpenter.

Year 9 Athletics Spotlight – Dylan O'Donnell

The PE Department is delighted to celebrate the outstanding achievements of Dylan O'Donnell (Year 9), who continues to excel both regionally and nationally in athletics.

Dylan is currently ranked 13th fastest in the country for his age group and an impressive 2nd in the West Midlands, clearly marking him as one of the most exciting young prospects in the region. Representing the prestigious Birchfield Harriers, Dylan has shown exceptional dedication, discipline and a drive to continually improve.

Over the winter training period, Dylan has been fully committed to developing his performance through focused strength and conditioning work, laying a strong foundation ahead of the new athletics season. His hard work during these colder months demonstrates a maturity and professionalism well beyond his years.

With the upcoming season fast approaching, Dylan is aiming to build on this strong winter block and further improve his PBs through continued hard work and quality training.

As a PE Department, we are incredibly proud of everything Dylan has achieved so far and are excited to see where his talent and dedication will take him next.

Well done, Dylan – keep up the fantastic work!



County Final Glory at the Combat Centre

Our students delivered an outstanding performance at the recent county CrossFit-style knockout event, proudly representing the school against the very best teams from across the West Midlands.

The competition, held at the Combat Centre, featured six gruelling, CrossFit Games-style challenges designed to test strength, endurance, teamwork and mental resilience. Competing against the top schools in the county final, our team rose to the occasion in spectacular fashion — finishing 1st in five out of the six events and comprehensively outperforming the competition.

Their dominance across the day secured overall gold, an incredible achievement at such a high level of competition.

Representing the school were the dream team:

Dylan O'Donnell
Thomas Leigh-Green
Tommy Pettit
Mason Moore
Archie Davis
George Arnold

Each student demonstrated exceptional determination, teamwork and sportsmanship. Their commitment to training and their support for one another was evident throughout every challenge.

The owner of the Combat Centre was full of praise, commenting that in all his years of running the event, he had “never seen such a strong team.” This is an incredible compliment and a testament to the boys’ hard work and dedication.

We could not be prouder of their achievement. The PE Department would like to congratulate the team on an exceptional performance — you were a true credit to the school.

Well done, boys!



Year 7 Kick Off Their Junior NBA Campaign

Our Year 7 basketball team began their Junior NBA journey on Tuesday with two competitive fixtures against Plantsbrook and Fortis Academy.

In the opening game, the team faced a well-drilled Plantsbrook side and were defeated 22–0. Despite the tough result, the players showed great determination and continued to work hard throughout.

Their spirit was rewarded in the second match against Fortis Academy. Park Hall led at half-time, demonstrating clear progress and learning from the earlier game. Although the match ended in a narrow 10–6 loss, the improvement in performance was outstanding and a credit to the team’s effort and resilience.

The squad should be proud of their positive attitude and teamwork—an excellent foundation to build upon for the rest of the Junior NBA season.



Science Fair!

We are running a science fair to celebrate British science week. The Park Hall Science fair will be taking place on **Friday 13th March 2026, 3:30-5pm.**

Students can enter as teams or as individuals but must sign up with Mrs Cooper in L14

Prizes will be awarded for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place

If students want to get involved but need support every Wednesday Lunchtime in L14 there will be support available to help them plan and create their entry.

WHAT'S ON *in the* LIBRARY

Feb 13 2026



That's gone up by
70 in one week!

764
Books
Checked out

NATIONAL LIBRARY LOVERS MONTH

The 'Blind Book Dates' have been very popular and there are still over 20 left!

Students have also been taking the time to share why they love the library for our display window.

Reminder: Anyone that checks a book out for the month of February gets a pack of Love Hearts!!

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.



Park Hall Academy Children's Mental Health Week



This week, our school has been proud to take part in **Children's Mental Health Week**, focusing on the theme **"Your Form, Your Place."** Across tutor time, students engaged in a sequence of activities designed to nurture wellbeing, belonging, and connection, and to help every young person feel valued within their form community.

Throughout the week, each form explored sessions on:

- **Belonging** – understanding the importance of feeling part of something
- **My Place at School** – reflecting on identity, strengths, and personal contribution
- **Celebrating each other and our form** – recognising accomplishments and appreciating peers
- **Peer Connections** – preparing for our whole-school *Walk and Talk* activity

	7	8	9	10	11
Monday	Celebration Assembly	Belonging	Belonging	Belonging	Assembly
Tuesday	Belonging	Celebration Assembly	My place at school	My place at school	My place at school
Wednesday	Walk & Talk				Revision session
Thursday	My place at school	My place at school	Celebration Assembly	Celebrating each other	Subject specific
Friday	Celebrating each other	Celebrating each other	Celebrating each other	Celebration Assembly	Subject specific

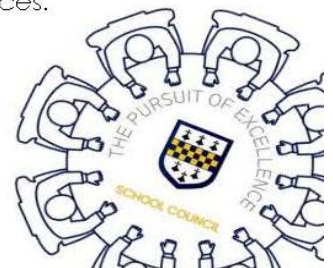
These sessions provided meaningful opportunities for students to slow down, reflect, and engage in open, supportive conversations with their tutors and classmates.

School council leading the way

We were delighted to see our **School Council representatives'** step into active leadership roles throughout the week. Representatives supported the delivery of sessions, helped guide discussions, and encouraged their peers to share their thoughts and experiences.

In their upcoming School Council meeting, they will be presenting:

- Top tips gathered from students
- Ideas for strengthening form communities



- Suggestions for future wellbeing-focused sessions
- Feedback on what helped students feel more connected

Their involvement has been a powerful example of student voice in action, and we are incredibly proud of their contribution to the week.

Promoting wellbeing through extra-curricular 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

As part of the week's focus on wellbeing, students were encouraged to take time away from their busy schedules to relax, discover new interests, develop skills, or simply enjoy doing something they love.

Taking part in extra-curricular activities can help students:

- build confidence
- form new friendships
- develop resilience
- improve mental and emotional wellbeing

We encourage all students to explore the timetable and try something new.



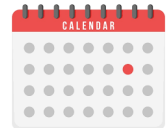


P.R.I.D.E Points

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
Poppy Kinloch-Williams	Codi Clark Zahra Rehman	Hassan Ali	Marissa-Ella Hartze	Charlie Whitehouse

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY



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
- Friday 27th February – Yr 9 MEN/DTP Vaccinations
- Friday 13th March – Science Fair – 3.30-5pm
- Thursday 26th March – Yr 11 Parents Evening – 3.30-6.30pm
- Friday 27th March – Last day of term for students

EASTER HOLIDAYS – Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

- Monday 13th April – Students return to school

Year 11 Revision school 2025-2026

JOIN US AT...

**REVISION
SCHOOL**

FEB HALF-TERM 2026

**Thursday 19th Feb - Friday 20th Feb
2026**

**YOU HAVE GOT
THIS** | **DON'T MISS
OUT** | **YOU CAN
DO IT**

Thursday 19th February 9.30-12.30pm

Subject	WHEN? 9.30-11 11-12.30	WHO? (class)	ROOM?	WITH? (Teacher's name)	FOCUS?
English Literature	9.30-11	Grades 6+	GG4	Mrs Kirkbride	English Literature Paper 2 Power and conflict poetry
English Language	11-12.30				English Language Paper 1 - Reading section
Science	Both	Targeted pupils	LG1	Miss Ali	Examology & Required Practical
Science	Both	Targeted pupils	LG2	Mr Robinson	Examology & Required Practical
Triple Physics	Both	Targeted pupils	LG3	Mr Brockbank	Examology & calculations
Maths	Both	Higher Target Grade 5-7	G23	Mr Ghaffer / Mrs Raju (G210)	Algebra Fluency and Geometry
History	Both	All	B16	Mr Rowland	American West
RE	Both	All	BG2	Miss Malik	year 10 content- Christianity
Child Development	Both	Year 10 and Year 11	BG8	Ms Bartlett	Resit Comp 1
Art	Both	Year 11	S218	Mrs Carlin	Externally set assignment
French	Both	Year 11	B12	Ms Sweeney	Higher-level speaking and writing skills.
Photography	Both	Year 11	S25	Mrs Kennedy	Externally set assignment
A Level Geography	Both	Year 13	B23	Miss Ahmed	Exam practice – paper 1
English Lang	9.30-11	11EN5	GG5	Mrs Hasan	English Lang paper 1
English Lit	11-12.30				Unseen Poetry

Friday 20th February 9.30-12.30pm

Subject	WHEN? 9.30-11 11-12.30	WHO? (class)	ROOM?	WITH? (Teacher's name)	FOCUS?
English Lang	9.30-11	Grades 4-5	G12	Ms Daniels	Paper 1 Questions 2 and 4
	11-12.30				Unseen Poetry
Performing Arts	Both	Year 11 BTEC	S214	Mrs CK	Comp 3 - Practical
Performing Arts	Both	Year 13 BTEC	S27	Mrs CK	Unit 3 - Practical
Geography	Both	All	B29	Mr Moore	Rivers and Coasts
Science	Both	Targeted pupils	LG1	Miss Ali	Examology & Required Practical
Science	Both	Targeted pupils	LG2	Miss Crowton	Examology & Required Practical
Maths	Both	Foundation Target Grade 3-4	G23	Mr Wainman	Algebra Fluency and Geometry
RE	Both	All	BG2	Miss Malik	year 10 content-Christianity
Spanish	Both	Year 11	B12	Ms Sweeney	Higher-level speaking and writing skills.
PE	Both	All	GG7	Mr Steadman	NCFE Sport
History	Both	All	B16	Mr Rowland	Germany
English Lang	9.30-11	Grades 4-5	GG10	Mrs Plackowski	Paper 1 questions 3 and 4
	11-12.30				Paper 1 question 5



Signposting support:



Useful helplines and charities

Young Minds. Child and adolescent mental health charity. Call: 0800 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)

<https://mensadvice.org.uk/contact-us/> Men's advice and support site

<https://safeline.org.uk/mens-mental-health-a-silent-crisis/> Men's mental health site

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



Three Trees



Solihull College
& University Centre

ART FOR WELLBEING

AT
THREE TREES
COMMUNITY
CENTRE

Starts 24th February • 9:30 - 15:00 • 5 weeks

A friendly, creative space for unemployed adults* who may be feeling stuck or disconnected. Art for Wellbeing uses simple art-making to support mental wellbeing, confidence, and a sense of progress—one session at a time. Enjoy a free lunch and weekly sessions every Tuesday for five weeks.

Email community.projects@solihull.ac.uk or scan the QR code to sign up



*Unemployed residents in Solihull only.

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](#).

