



# Park Hall Academy

## Weekly News

17<sup>th</sup> April 2026



### SENECA success continues over the holidays!



Park Hall Academy  
Birmingham, Solihull

375,436

It has been fantastic to see so many students continuing to challenge themselves with their learning over the holiday period. This commitment reflects the strong habits they have developed around independent study and home learning, and it is something we are very proud of.

As we move into the summer term, we encourage all students to maintain and build on these positive routines. Platforms such as SENECA provide an excellent way to support knowledge recall and consolidation; this is just one part of effective home learning, we expect KS4 students to complement their use of SENECA with regular extended writing activities. Developing the ability to articulate ideas clearly and in depth is a crucial skill that will support success across all subjects. We look forward to seeing students continue to take ownership of their learning and strive for excellence in the weeks ahead.

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

Special mention to our SENECA STARS for the highest usage over the break:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Chigozirim	Oliver Willetts	Adam Jarca	Dexter Wilkes	Arturs Preijers
Ikechukwu-Obi	Lara Abdrabou	Oumie Ceesay	Isla Sheasby	Teagan Reeves
Lydia Puar	Mia Cockayne	Emma-Louise Moore	Libby Rodway	Daisy Jenkins
Emilie Ganly	Esme Maynard	Taylor Horton	Fern Tanser	Charlie Spiers
Nisma Ali	Emily Baldock	Maleehah Millwala	Ava Butler	Louis Yates
Tincuta Ciobanu				

Special mention to those **achieving 100%** on every single assignment over the break:

**Year 7** – Charlie Gough, Emily Skelcher, Harris Mahmood, Andras Imre, Leo-James Cobley, Niamh Bradshaw and T'Varni Harris-Williams.

**Year 8** – Logan McCormack, Jacob James, Myles Henry, Niamh Watkins, Liam Carrick and Danny Naven.

**Year 9** – Parker Jones, Faraz Nessar and Fin Thomasson.

**Year 10** – Jacob Hewlett, Kaiden Cartwright, Ariella Savage, Sophie Davies, Roxi Steward and Jing To So.

**Year 11** – Isabella James-Blake, Tyler Piper, Shayleigh Degville, Rafe Parry, Hayden Murrain and Eisa Imran.

## WHAT'S *in the* ON LIBRARY

Apr 17 2026

### Reminders:

Please return any books you have to the Library  
Remember to collect a pass at breaktime to come at lunchtime  
National Shakespeare Day is coming up next week!

### BOOK FAIR!

The Book Fair has gone and turned out to be a huge success!! The total spent by students and staff was £418, which means we exceeded our £400 goal and now have £167 in rewards to buy some new books for our Library!

It was amazing to see how excited students were to look for a new book and enjoy the experience! The Book Fair will be returning at the end of the school year so anyone who missed it will have another opportunity soon enough.

**954**

Books Checked  
Out

SCHOLASTIC  
**BOOK FAIR**



## Book Swap

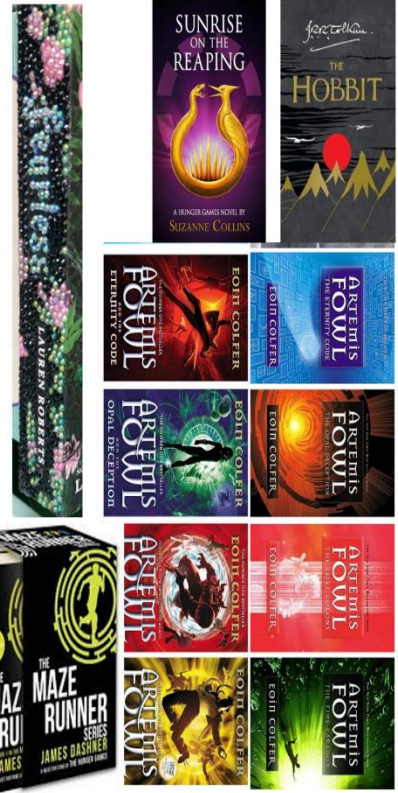
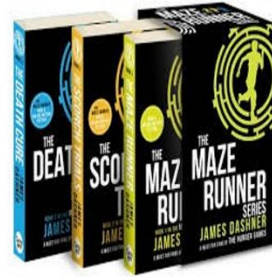
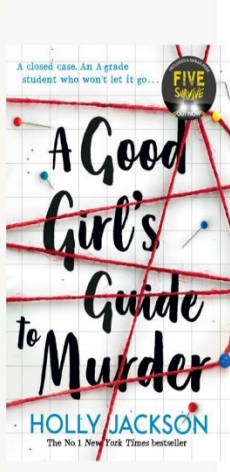
Books we have ready to swap! And special bedazzled copies

**Park Hall Academy**  
**BOOK SWAP**

Reading gives your imagination wings, it can strengthen your mental health and it will boost your grades!

*Where? When?*  
Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> April at Parents' Evening

*What do I do?*  
Bring along a book, any book, and swap it for a new one!





**STUDENT GUIDE**  
**2025-6**

**Launched: Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**  
**Deadline for award submission: Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

## What is the Character Award at Park Hall Academy?

The Character Award is given to Year 7-10 students who show strong character and citizenship in school.

A good character means being kind, respectful, resilient, and responsible, while a good citizen helps make the school a better place.

To achieve the award, students must:

**BRONZE AWARD** - Complete a **CHARACTER CARD** with all 12 STAMPS

**SILVER AWARD** - Complete a **CHARACTER CARD** with all 12 stamps plus 5 completed **CHARACTER CHALLENGES** in the portfolio

**GOLD AWARD** - Complete a **CHARACTER CARD** with all 12 stamps plus all 10 completed **CHARACTER CHALLENGES** in the portfolio



All students will receive both a certificate and enamel badge

### 1. What is a Character card?

Students are to carry this character card in the pocket of their blazer and when they have demonstrated a character trait in school, they must ask their form tutors/ teacher to complete it to say they have witnessed the character trait in action.

It is important for students not to lose the cards as they are the evidence needed towards getting the badge!



	<h1>CHARACTER CARD</h1> <p>2025-6</p>  <p>A record of my achievements, showing how I demonstrate good character in and around school!</p> <p>Student's name: _____</p> <p>Form group: _____</p>
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CHARACTER TRAIT	What you need to show...	British Value (D.R.I.M.T)	Where have you evidenced this?	Teachers signature	For every Character Trait achieved ask the teacher to sign and date the stamp on the other side
Commitment	Sticking with something, even when it gets hard.	Rule of Law			
Courage	Having a go, even when unsure or nervous.	Individual Liberty			
Compassion	Being kind and caring when someone needs help.	Mutual Respect			
Co-operation	Working well with others to get things done.	Democracy			
Curiosity	Wanting to learn new things and ask questions.	Individual Liberty			
Courtesy	Using good manners and being polite to everyone.	Mutual Respect			
Consistency	Being reliable and trying your best every day.	Rule of Law			
Creativity	Thinking of new ideas and trying different ways to do things.	Individual Liberty			
Calmness	Staying steady and in control when things feel stressful.	Tolerance			
Citizenship	Being a helpful, responsible member of our school community.	Democracy & Rule of Law			
Character	Doing the right thing, even when no one is watching.	Rule of Law			
Charity	Helping others by giving your time, support, or care.	Mutual Respect			

## 2. Do I have to do the CHARACTER CARD and CHARACTER PORTFOLIO?

No. Complete the card and you will be awarded a BRONZE award. Complete the card and 5 challenges in the portfolio and receive a SILVER Award or complete the card and all 10 challenges in the portfolio and achieve the GOLD Award.

## 3. When do I have to hand in the evidence?

Your form tutor will monitor the completion of each card and once completed they will keep hold of it. The card and portfolio must be handed to Mrs Cullum-Kenyon **FRIDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026**

## 4. When will I receive my award?

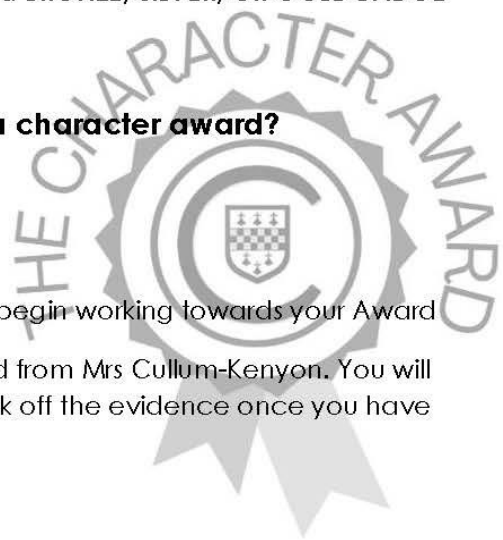
All certificates and awards are given at the end of the Summer Term during a special Awards events just for you. Students will be awarded a **BRONZE, SILVER, OR GOLD BADGE** for their blazer based on the strength of evidence.

## 5. Will I get more than one opportunity to get a character award?

You will get one opportunity each year.

## 6. WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO START?

- 1) Collect a Character Card from your form tutor to begin working towards your Award
- 2) Collect a portfolio for the SILVER and GOLD Award from Mrs Cullum-Kenyon. You will be given a contents page for you to track and tick off the evidence once you have completed a challenge



# Character Challenge

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMPLETE THE SILVER AND GOLD AWARD, PLEASE COLLECT A PORTFOLIO FROM MRS CK



Challenge	Challenge Title	What to Do	British Value (D.R.I.M.T)	Evidence Required	Completed (Yes/No)	Signed & dated
C1	Form group contribution	Contribute an idea in form by making a poster to support a school initiative / issue	Democracy	Photo/ poster tutor signature, or reflection.		
C2	Student Voice representative	Collect 3 student ideas and present them at the school Council.	Democracy	Summary of ideas or notes + witness signature from Mrs CK		
C3	Join a club	Attend an extra-curricular club for at least 6 sessions.	Rule of Law	Club leader signature or photo.		
C4	Earn a certificate	Earn a certificate (effort, reading, behaviour, sports, arts).	Rule of Law	Copy or photo of certificate.		
C5	Reading challenge	Read a book and write a short review.	Individual Liberty	Review, reading log, or photo with book.		
C6	Personal achievement	Set a personal goal and work on it for 7 days.	Individual Liberty	Reflection, progress record, or photos.		
C7	Helping at home	Do a helpful job at home without being asked.	Mutual Respect	Parent/guardian confirmation or photo.		
C8	Peer support	Help someone in school from a different year group and check in on them later.	Mutual Respect	Witness note or statement.		
C9	Charity contribution	Bring in an item for your year group's charity.	Tolerance	Photo, receipt, or tutor confirmation.		
C10	Support a school event	Volunteer to help at a school event/ assembly.	Tolerance	Staff signature from Mrs Ck or photo.		



7	8	9	10	11	12
An intro to drugs part 2	Knife Crime part 2	Online reputation	Consent: Being ready for intimacy	Unplanned pregnancies	Pornographic AI deepfakes and image sharing

### Wb 20th April assemblies: KOOOTH

#### Mental Health support

This week our assemblies are being delivered by **Kooth**, an online mental health service for young people.



#### How does this link to British Values? Individual Liberty

- You are allowed to be yourself
- Your thoughts and feelings matter
- You have choices and a voice
- It's okay to ask for help when you need it

#### Kooth supports Individual Liberty by:

- Giving young people a safe space to talk
- Letting you choose how and when you get support
- Supporting mental health without judgement

#### Key message:

*You are not alone, your voice matters, and support is available.*

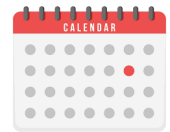




## P.R.I.D.E Points

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
Mikail Hafeez	Zahra Rehman	Macie Veitch	Rohey Manneh	Scarlett Kayola



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	-	Yr 7 Parents Evening – 3.30-6.30pm
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	-	Yr 10 Intervention Evening – 6pm
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Early May Bank Holiday (school closed)
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	-	Students return to school
<b><i>May Half Term – Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May</i></b>		
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	-	Students return to school
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> June	-	Yr 8 Parents Evening – 3.30-6.30pm

## Lost Property

We have quite a few coats in the lost property. Can you please ask your child to come and have a look before May half term as they will be bagged up and sent to the charity shop after this date.

Thank you  
Main Office

## 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](mailto:post@parkhall.org) or by calling 0121 748 0400.



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## 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](#).

