



# Park Hall Academy

Weekly News

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026



**Even the heatwave and the World Cup  
couldn't slow down our SENECA success!**



Park Hall Academy  
Birmingham, Solihull

884,894

Despite this week's soaring temperatures and the excitement of the World Cup, our students have continued to demonstrate an outstanding commitment to their independent learning through SENECA. We are incredibly proud that, even with plenty of distractions, our students have maintained their excellent work ethic and helped us retain our position as the number one school. This achievement is a testament to the dedication and resilience shown by students across all year groups.

As we move ever closer to the end of the academic year, it has been fantastic to see students continuing to engage so positively with revision activities, knowledge retrieval and independent study. Whether completing assignments during the cooler parts of the day or fitting in revision around the World Cup fixtures, our students have shown that their learning remains a priority. Last week alone, students completed an incredible **348 additional hours of study** on SENECA.

These achievements reflect the exceptional attitudes to learning demonstrated by our students and we could not be prouder of the effort they continue to show. We would like to thank our students for their perseverance and commitment as well as our parents and carers for the invaluable encouragement and support they provide at home. As always, we encourage all students to continue striving for excellence by aiming to achieve a minimum score of **80%** on every SENECA assignment they complete.

Our Top 10 SENECA STARS for the highest usage over the last week are:

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Ethan Hart	Mal	Cody Baynes	William James-Blake
Kherys Bench	Mwedziwendira	Layla Brown	Emma Hill
Tincuta Ciobanu	Charlotte Brown	Shaylah Joseph	Fern Tanser
Finlay Shaw	Poppy McGrath	Cullen	Summer Giffin
Aizah Haseeb	Jeremy Liu	Frankie Davis	Omari Owusu-Brentuo
Ahman Khan	Grace Jones	Owen Witten	Ceejay Bridges
Aaliyah Bell	Mia Cockayne	Ethan McAleenan	Archie Fallows
Emily Skelcher	Lillie Hall	Kieran Southwell	Aidan Sin
Zachary Strong	Theo Perks	Poppy-May Addison	Myles Sansoni
Jorgie Swallow	Beau Leather	Elias-Blue Buckley	Olivia Slater
	Ayda Mahfooz	Cordi Savage	

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

**Year 7** – Muhammad Tanveer, Lola Fothergill, Martins Okungbeni, Aaliyah Bell, Andras Imre, Lucia Alcock, Jesse Ataria, Marlei Bignot, Emily Skelcher and Sophie Mullins

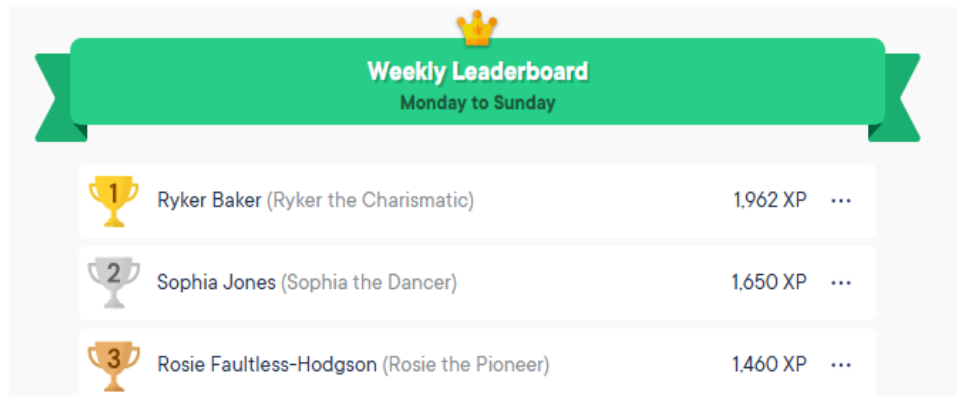
**Year 8** – Amelia Sheppard, Olivia Farrell, Jayden Leadbetter, Ellie Hill, Alexandra Oana, Theo Perks, Tilly McDonough, Alfie Williams, Jacob James and Niamh Watkins

**Year 9** – Emmie Edge, Milena Jovanovic, Emma-Louise Moore, Summer Gauntlett and Jessica Harding.

**Year 10** – Frankie Collins, Ben Smart, Jacob Hewlett, Maya Naheed and Sophie Davies.

## SPARX Maths Leaderboard

Well done to all our students who are engaging with SPARX maths and making real progress in their maths lessons. A huge well done to Addison, Adam and Bernard for making the top 3 for XP across the whole school last week. Keep it up!



Our highest XP students from last week...

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10
Sophie Mullins 1,042 XP	Sophia Jones 1,650 XP	Ryker Baker 1,962 XP	Marissa-Ella Hartzke 1,090 XP
Ayana Hussain 1,040 XP	Betsy Langton 1,255 XP	Rosie Faultless- Hodgson 1,460 XP	Alexia Cuffe 1,009 XP
Oscar Broome 995 XP	Joshua Crawford 1,180 XP	Jac Smith 1,356 XP	Rohey Manneh 875 XP
Harry Wootton 880 XP	Lara Abdrabou 1,131 XP	Bernard Monks-Brown 1,305 XP	Jing To So 825 XP
Poppy Tanser 785 XP	Evie O'Callaghan 1,090 XP	Lexi Turner 1,025 XP	Sum Kiu Chan 680 XP

**If you are in the top 5 for your year group, please remember to collect your chocolate bar from your maths teacher on Friday.**

Highest completion:  
**8B1/Ma (54.8%)**

Reached a new XP Level:  
**116 students**  
[view](#)

Biggest completion improvement vs  
previous week:  
**10A3/Ma 40.7% (+18.5%)**

Highest average XP per student:  
**7A4/Ma (880 XP)**

## The Learning Link: Students making a significant impact at Park Hall Academy

The Learning Link are a group of students who have worked consistently hard across the year to discuss the student experience at Park Hall Academy. They undertook a cycle of educational research, discussion and lesson reflection over all aspects of lessons and wider school life. Some of the group presented their body of work to teaching staff during a Wednesday morning training session. Areas they focussed their presentation on included Challenge in lessons, Assessment, Homework and what they value most at Park Hall Academy.

They presented admirably with both clarity and passion leaving staff completely clear on their thoughts. Although the occasion would have been daunting, they found the experience most rewarding:

“As I presented, I felt increasingly brave”

“It was exciting.... In the moment its intimidating but the adrenaline rush felt great afterwards”

“It made me realise just how proud I was of our hard work”.

“It’s rewarding to see some of the changes we’ve discussed being made first hand.”

These were just some of their comments afterwards.

The group have helped drive significant change in school life so far and it will be exciting to watch these students develop their leadership skills even further.

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## Year 9 Photography Trip – Calke Abbey

Year 9 Photography Scavenger Hunt at Calke Abbey.

Our Year 9 students with a passion for photography recently enjoyed a fantastic trip to Calke Abbey, where they took part in an exciting photography scavenger hunt.

Blessed with glorious weather throughout the day, students explored the beautiful grounds while completing a range of creative photography challenges. One of the highlights of the visit was the famous venue itself, which was used as a filming location for the new *Peaky Blinders* film. Students even had the opportunity to recreate some of the cinematic shots with their own creative twist.

The trip was a wonderful opportunity for students to develop their photography skills, work together and enjoy a day of creativity in a stunning setting.

There is still time to enter our competition for the best photographs taken on the day. To submit your entries, please email your photos to [rkennedy@parkhall.org](mailto:rkennedy@parkhall.org).

We can't wait to see your fantastic entries!



## Year 8 ART Graffiti Workshop

Sixty Year 8 pupils recently took part in an exciting and creative Graffiti Workshop, spending the day exploring the history, purpose, and culture of graffiti art.

The workshop encouraged students to think critically about the role of graffiti in society by discussing the question: *Is graffiti art or vandalism?* Pupils shared a range of viewpoints and debated the topic thoughtfully. By the end of the discussion, the majority of students felt that graffiti should be considered a legitimate form of art, particularly when used as a means of self-expression and creativity.

Working in small groups, pupils collaborated to develop their own graffiti designs. They began by brainstorming and planning their ideas on large sheets of paper, carefully considering colour, lettering styles, and visual impact. Once their designs were complete, they brought their ideas to life by painting directly onto tables, creating a collection of bold and imaginative artworks. The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for students to work together, develop their artistic skills, and gain a greater understanding of contemporary art forms. The finished pieces are a wonderful celebration of creativity and teamwork and have been proudly displayed at the Year 11 and Year 13 Art Exhibition this Thursday.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Form Induction Day Exploring A Level Fine Art

Our prospective Sixth Form students had a fantastic time at Induction Day, getting a real taste of the creativity and excitement of our Art course. Inspired by the bold, expressive work of Franz Kline, students explored shape, line, and composition by creating imaginative chair sculptures before transforming them into striking charcoal drawings. Through their artwork, they investigated the powerful relationship between positive and negative space, producing impressive outcomes while developing new skills, building confidence, and enjoying a fun, hands-on creative experience.



## ART

This week, the Art Department, alongside our Year 12 Art and Photography work experience students, have been working hard to transform the breakout area into a dedicated A Level workspace. The refreshed space has been designed to provide students with an inspiring environment where they can develop their creativity, collaborate, and work independently.

We have also introduced a new Art Library, filled with a range of art and photography books to encourage reading for pleasure, inspire creative ideas, and support students in their artistic development. We look forward to seeing the space become a valuable resource for our students throughout the year.



# Eye-Conic Adventures: Rewards Students Take on London!

## Year 7 Dream Team



Marlei Bignot  
Angel Lilley  
Isla Hobbs  
Sophia Reeve  
Poppy Kinloch-Williams  
Zak Jones  
Sophie Mullins  
Phoebe Bishop  
Jessé Ataria  
Paige Dragoonis  
Billy Morris-Steele

## Year 8 Dream Team



Poppy Jones  
Zahra Rehman  
Jacob Harris  
Zack Sills  
Olivia Firth  
Aiden Tong  
Alexandra Oana  
Olivia Farrell  
Poppy McGrath  
Ralph Robinson  
Darcy Milward

## Year 9 Dream Team



Nancy McKinley  
Cordi Savage  
Lexi Turner  
Rosie Faultless-Hodgson  
Billy McLeod  
Jorgie Bright  
Hassan Ali  
Finn Rooney  
Macie Veitch  
Ella Rigby  
Poppy-May Addison

## Year 10 Dream Team



Roxi Steward  
Jacob Hewlett  
Lexie Fox  
Libby Rodway  
Madison Pike  
Rohey Manneh  
Harry Watson  
Sophie Hunt  
Ceejay Bridges  
Jing To So  
Daisy Carter

On Friday 26th June, our Dream Team students enjoyed a fantastic rewards trip to London in recognition of their outstanding commitment to school life throughout the year.

The trip was offered to students who have consistently demonstrated our school values through excellent behaviour, attendance, positive attitudes to learning and impressive Top P.R.I.D.E. Point totals in their year group.

After an early start and a prompt departure from school at 7:00am, students travelled to the capital for a memorable day of cultural enrichment, exploration and celebration. The first major highlight of the day was a ride on the iconic London Eye. The views across the city allowed students to spot some of London's most famous landmarks and provided many opportunities for photographs and shared memories with friends.

Students then visited Leicester Square, where they enjoyed exploring attractions including M&M World and the LEGO Store. There was plenty of excitement as students browsed the stores and made the most of their free time in one of London's busiest and most vibrant locations. Lunch was enjoyed in Leicester Square, with the ever-popular choice of McDonald's proving a favourite for many.

On Friday, London was experiencing exceptionally high temperatures, making it a very hot day for sightseeing and walking around the city. Despite the challenging conditions, students were excellent throughout the trip. They showed maturity and resilience by staying hydrated, looking after one another and maintaining positive attitudes throughout the day. Staff were incredibly impressed with how well students coped with the heat while continuing to enjoy every aspect of the visit.

The afternoon was spent at the world-famous Natural History Museum, where students explored a wide range of fascinating exhibits. From dinosaur skeletons and volcanic displays to precious gems and natural wonders from around the globe.

The trip was a wonderful way to celebrate the achievements of our students and reward the hard work, dedication and positive attitudes they have demonstrated throughout the year. Staff were particularly proud of the exemplary conduct shown by all students, who represented the school with maturity, respect and enthusiasm throughout the day. A huge congratulations to all students who earned their place on this special rewards experience. It was a thoroughly enjoyable day filled with fun, learning and unforgettable memories, and a fitting way to recognise their achievements and success.

Well done to all involved on a truly well-deserved reward.

Miss Keyte & Mr Scott

# Photo Highlights





## 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
Mikail Hafeez	Niamh Watkins Sabeeka Ahmed	Zach Everett	Joshua Mowatt



## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Parent Carer Forum – 5.30pm - 6pm
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Sports Day
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Last day of term
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	-	Inset Day for students



P A R K H A L L A C A D E M Y

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2026 5.30-6pm**

For more information please contact:

Mrs Cullum-Kenyon  
Associate Assistant Headteacher

## Lost Property

Can you please check lost property for anything you have lost before 17th July as after that date everything will be sent to the charity shop.

Kind Regards  
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

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## 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](#).



**PARK HALL ACADEMY**

# HOT WEATHER CAN BE DEADLY

**4 CHILDREN DIED IN THE UK DURING MAY HALF TERM 2026**

**DROWNING CAN HAPPEN ANYWHERE, ANYTIME**

Recent hot weather has tragically led to a rise in deaths in water. Young people are at risk. **Don't** let a fun day out turn into a tragedy.

**ENJOY THE SUN STAY SAFE NEAR WATER**

**STAY SAFE**

### THE FACTS

- Last week saw record breaking temperatures in this country, it was so hot!
- Young children jumped in the water to cool off but unfortunately not all children survived.
- The majority of deaths happened in rivers, lakes and quarries – not just at the seaside.
- The hot weather is a major factor. When it's hot, more people go near water – and take more risks.

### WHY IS IT SO DANGEROUS?

- COLD WATER SHOCK**  
Cold water can steal your breath and cause panic.
- HIDDEN DANGERS**  
You can't see what's under the water – it could be deep, have strong currents, or hidden debris.
- RISKY CHOICES**  
Jumping in, swimming after dark or going in alone can be deadly.
- HOT WEATHER = MORE RISK**  
When it's hot, people underestimate the dangers and take more risks.

### STAY SAFE – FOLLOW THESE RULES

- DON'T GO IN ALONE**  
Always go with an adult or a friend.
- DON'T JUMP IN OR TAKE RISKS**  
It only takes a second for things to go wrong.
- STICK TO SAFE PLACES**  
Swim at beaches with lifeguards where possible.
- CHECK THE WATER**  
It might look calm, but it could be dangerous.
- IN AN EMERGENCY**  
Shout for help, ring 999 and throw something that floats.

**WATER IS FUN – BUT RESPECT IT STAY ALERT STAY ALIVE**

**IT'S COOL TO BE SAFE**

**WATER CAN BE UNPREDICTABLE. ONE MOMENT OF RISK CAN CHANGE EVERYTHING. LOOK OUT FOR YOUR FRIENDS. MAKE GOOD CHOICES. STAY SAFE.**

**IN AN EMERGENCY CALL 999 AND ASK FOR THE COASTGUARD**

For more water safety tips visit:  
[www.rfsa.org.uk](http://www.rfsa.org.uk)  
[www.rnspc.com](http://www.rnspc.com)  
[www.bbc.co.uk/news](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news)

# Work Experience For 14 – 18 year olds!

Are you interested in building your CV before summer and want to have a say on issues that genuinely impact you?

Solihull Council have partnered with Warwick University to be able to offer two cohorts of five day placements, for any young person who lives or goes to school in Solihull Borough.

**Dates:** 29<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July (Youth Unemployment Project)  
20<sup>th</sup> July to 24<sup>th</sup> July (North Solihull Youth Offer)

**Times:** 10am to 2:30pm each day

Work experience details:

- Develop peer research and consultation plan
- Work in the community asking people's views and opinions
- Bring findings together and present them to the team.
- Q&A with Directors, Head of Service and Council Officers to find out about their role.
- Session from a Professor of Warwick University on Peer Research
- Meet new people, have fun and then have the chance to join the Youth Voice Network.

**Please email [youthoffer@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:youthoffer@solihull.gov.uk) to find out more and book a space. Limited spaces available so sign up ASAP.**

**UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK**

**Solihull METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL**