



REDHILL
ACADEMY TRUST

Hall Park Academy

newsletter

May 2022

It has been another busy half term at Hall Park Academy. Examinations have started for Year 11 students and celebrations to mark the end of their time with us started with Year 11 Commendation Evening this week. Many of our Year 11 students will return next year to become part of our growing and thriving Sixth Form. Year 13 students are also preparing for their examinations and for making their next steps in education and training. We wish both year groups all the best in their exams and their next steps, whatever those may be.

There is much to celebrate from this half term, which you will find in the pages of this newsletter. We have seen the culmination of the annual Hall Park's Got Talent. Twelve finalists performed in the last week of the term. At the time of writing the winner is yet to be decided but I congratulate all students and staff that took part. Year 8 students took part in a day where they produced their own branded coffee as part of the aspirational programme to stretch student's thinking and broaden their horizons. Hall Park students continue to do well in sports, including representing the academy at Broxtowe Schools Athletics Competition and achieving some fantastic results. Hall Park students also took part in the British Schools Karting Championships, achieving great results. Many students have decided to take part in the Duke of Edinburgh Award and will be heading out on their training expedition next month.

You will no doubt be aware that the school was inspected by Ofsted in the final week of the last half term. We are pleased that the inspection team noted the progress that the school has made since the last visit 2 terms before. This is the culmination of much hard work by students and staff. I want to take this opportunity to thank staff for their dedication and commitment to school and its students and to thank parents for their ongoing support.

Finally, I want to wish all students, families and staff a good half-term break.

Mr Crossley - Headteacher



Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

This term the anti-bullying ambassadors have been around tutor groups talking about the issue of online bullying. They have discussed the forms that it can take and what steps a student should take to report it.

Many students were not aware of the age limits on some social media apps and even fewer knew how to report or block another person's account. This information can be found in the online section of the school website.

Next term the team will be busy as the week beginning 20th June will see national anti-bullying week commence. Students are planning activities for the whole week to educate and support actions against any form of bullying.

Also Hall Park Academy are having their own celebration week in July called "It's good to be me." We want to celebrate all the great individual students in this school. The team has been researching ways to celebrate this and promote the diverse society in which we live.



Remember if you are a victim or witness any form of bullying, please report it to any member of staff, place a note in the anti-bullying box in house support or email on our confidential email:

anti-bullying@hallparkacademy.org.uk.

Hall Park Academy will not tolerate any form of bullying within our school.



Year 9's alumni programme continued with a visit from James Bostock, former Head Boy of Hall Park Academy. James left Hall Park in 2017 and attended Loughborough University to study computer science. James highly recommends the campus uni for Hall Park students. "It's not too far from home but far enough that you can meet new people and have a sense of independence."

James threw himself into student life by joining Loughborough Students' Union Media. Year 9 watched two short films produced by James, which have received national recognition. The first Bounceback, follows the Loughborough men's basketball team during the COVID-19 pandemic. The second was a highlights reel showcasing different aspects of James' work, including live sports broadcast and news. Students were interested to find out more about the skills required to produce films, such as how to conduct interviews and how to live stream content, along with how to produce on-screen graphics.

James decided to pursue his new-found passion for media and remained at Loughborough to study a Masters in the subject following the completion of his undergraduate degree. He has now begun looking for jobs in the media, a sector notoriously difficult to break into. James reflected fondly on his time at Hall Park, especially the later years when he was House Captain for Erewash and held more responsibility within school. James' best piece of advice was to try new things, as you never know where they will take you. "If you keep putting yourself out there you will make those life-changing actions; then it's just a matter of time before you find what you truly want to do."



HALL PARK'S GOT TALENT FINAL!



YOUR ACTS FOR 27TH MAY LUNCH TIME



SCARLETT
SCRIMSHAW

HARRISON
WOOD

DANIEL
WALKER

HOLLY
DERBYSHIRE

MILLIE
RICHARDS

MELANIE
JENKINS-
WELLER

ISOBEL
SPEIGHT

EMILY
CZACHOROWSKA

TOBY CARR

WILLIAM
WATT



KACEY
WARDLE

HOPE

FRIDAY 27TH MAY

During Lunch

Tickets on sale from the 16th May

£1 a ticket - All money raised Will be

donated to the **Theatres Trust**,

dedicated to bringing the Uk's theatres

& Music venues back to life!

Performing Arts

Drama club

This term drama club have been rehearsing and getting ready for their upcoming performance of TEN written by our very own Mrs. Wilde. The performance is going to take place on the 22 & 23rd of June at 7pm in the Hall Park Theatre with all proceeds going towards a trip to the theatre for the students. We hope to see you there!

Glee Club

This term glee club have been working on a new performance of Found/Tonight by Lin Manuel Miranda and Ben Platt from the musicals Hamilton and Dear Evan Hanson. The students have made a meaningful performance of this song that is sure to get a few tears when they perform it at this year's summer concert.

Hall Park's Got Talent

During this half term we have started a new talent show at Hall Park in which any student can audition for a chance to perform in front of the school on the last day of half term. We had a staggering 25 student's audition with a lucky 12 being selected as this year's finalists. If you know them then wish them luck as they take to the stage to impress the judges and the students that fill the theatre. Tickets will be on sale to students only, and all money raised will go to the Theatre Trust who work towards keeping our theatres and our music venues open and full of life.

DREM IT MAKE IT THEATRE
COMPANY PRESENT
A FIRST TIME PRODUCTION OF...

TEN

WEDNESDAY 22ND
THURSDAY 23RD
JUNE

7PM START

HALL PARK THEATRE

TICKETS THROUGH PARENT PAY

ADULTS £3

CONCESSIONS £2

ALL MONEY RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS A
THEATRE TRIP FOR THE STUDENTS.



Written by Mrs L Wilde

HPA Aspirational Programme – Year 8 Coffee Roasting Day

Year 8 HPA students took part in an exciting event learning all about the process of coffee roasting.



With the help of local business 200 Degrees Coffee and HPA staff, students learned a variety of skills which they then put into practice in order to create a completed coffee product!

The sessions included a coffee roasting session whereby students created instant coffee from raw coffee beans .

Students also created bespoke logos and packaging for their coffee, producing some excellent ideas and designs!



Broxtowe Athletics

HPA students descended on Harvey Hadden Sports Village to compete in the Broxtowe Schools Athletics Competition.



The students produced some outstanding efforts throughout the day, with impressive times and distances recorded in both track and field events. A huge well done to all of the students that took part, below are a few shoutouts from the day:

- Year 10 Boys Relay team secured 2nd place with a time of 50.97 seconds!
- Emily L secured 1st place in the shot put with a monumental throw!
- Millie R scored 1st place in the discus with her one and only attempt!
- Samuel P, Seb S and TJ all placed in the top 5 for the gruelling 1500m race!
- Not to mention a long long list of podium finishes across the day!

Some of our students have qualified to represent the county following their great efforts, another huge well done to the below students:

- Scarlet B Long Jump /100m
- Marley L Long Jump /100m
- Alex K Discus
- Niamh B 100m
- Emily L Shot Put
- Owen R 400m
- Finley G Javelin
- Millie R Discus



Netball

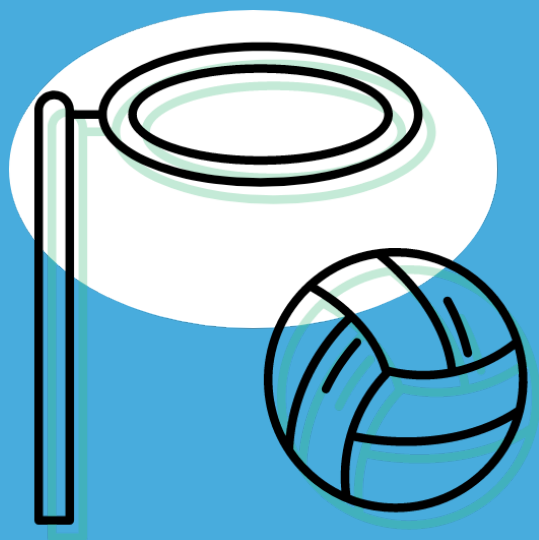
The netball club has continued to run longer than normal this year to allow us to catch up on some time lost due to COVID-19. This has meant we have been able to have some friendly fixtures with other schools in the trust during the more sunny weather!

Last Wednesday (11th May) saw the biggest Netball event Hall Park has ever hosted.

There were 3 matches all happening at the same time with players from years 7, 8, 9 and 10.

It was the first time this year the mixed year 9 team have played and the opposition (Red Hill) were astounded at the quality of the players. The Year 10 team (with some year 8!) managed to show dominance too in their fixture with the coach commenting on how much skill and sportsmanship our pupils had.

This week the year 7 and 8 girls travelled to Oakwood Academy. It was scorching hot but this did not put the girls off. We came away with one win and one loss - the girls were a credit to the school.



We look forward to our final fixture of the year next week - Year 9 and 10 vs Oakwood at home - I look forward to giving you an update on their success in the next Newsletter!

Gymnastics



A shout out to Miss Farmery's Year 8 PE class! This term we have been studying Gymnastics, we covered a range of skills from vaulting, headstands, cartwheels and handstands.

The girls have had to really push themselves out of their comfort zone to try and attempt these skills and it has been good to see so many of them succeed!

Check out this impressive handstand + balance duet from Ella & Abbie!

Year 9 Sports Leaders!

YourTime is an inspirational programme designed to encourage girls in schools to participate in competitive sport and sports leadership opportunities. Funded by the Department for Education, the Your Time programme aims to create opportunities for girls to participate in competitive sport. It is supported and implemented via a Sports Leadership learning and development programme for girls aged 14-16 in English secondary schools where learners are empowered to create competitive sport opportunities for their peers.

Year 9 students have been working with Year 7 for the past month, delivering a range of activities from Just Dance, Capture the Flag and Ninja Warrior Eastwood! Not only have the girls developed their confidence coaching younger year groups, but also have helped inspire and encourage girls to take part in activities they might not usually.

Well done to all Year 7 students involved & Year 9 leaders for passing their course!

- Ruby Sadeghi
- Sophie Hodgkinson
- Emma Eley
- Ella Bennett
- Emilia Bowler
- Jessica Kennedy
- Gracie Thompson
- Ruby Lee



British Schools Karting Championship 2022

Hall Parks Go Kart team recently took part in the British Schools Karting Championships.

Having qualified from the district finals, the team travelled to Stoke to compete in the regional finals to try and qualify for the national finals. Following practice, the team each had a qualifying race and a placed race. All three of the team Daniel W, Kacper R and Akela R-E. performed magnificently finishing in 4th place overall and just missing out on a place in the national finals. They all had moments on the track where they were blocked or spun by less experienced drivers which cost the team valuable points. Each one of our drivers should be really proud of their performance and are already planning their assault on the trophy in 2023.

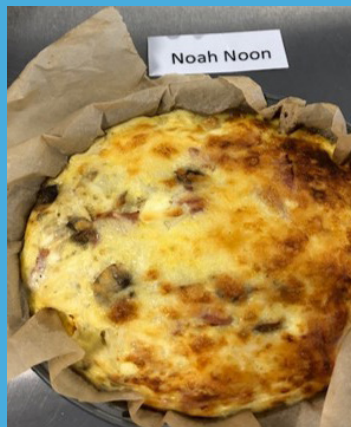
Massive thank-yous go to all of the students' parents who travelled over to Stoke to support the team, it turned out to be a late night. But well worth it!!



Food

Year 7 Have been putting their culinary skills to the test this week as they come to the end of their first term in the food rooms. These are some of the examples of their free choice lesson.

The emphasis of this project has been healthy eating. Well done to all students! - Mr Scales



Ms Wains Year 7 Group made cheese straws this week.
Well done to all students. Excellent shaping skills.



Year 7 Have showcased their skills this week as they come to the end of their first term in the food rooms. These are some of the examples of healthy snacks they have made.

Well done to all students. - Mrs Norridge



Duke of Edinburgh 2022

It has been an exciting year for the Duke of Edinburgh Award Programme at Hall Park Academy. Recently the Bronze Award was launched to the students of Years 9 and 10, with a staggering 63 students signed up to take part. This is the largest ever cohort of students to take part in the Bronze Award here at Hall Park Academy.

Students are currently in the process of choosing their groups, planning their routes and learning new skills such as basic first aid and suitable expedition food ready for their training expedition on Saturday 11th-Sunday 12th June. For lots of students this will be their first experience of camping and of walking up to 17km a day!



Mrs Kelly and Mr Dolman are really excited to be able to provide this opportunity to all these students. Further updates will be shared via the schools social media channels and in the next school newsletter.

Over the last half-term, the English faculty have launched a new Writer of the Week initiative. This has been fantastically received and has inspired the students to write some incredible pieces. The Writer of the Week has their work displayed in the L-Hall and on social media. This is a fantastic opportunity for budding authors to get involved in. Look out for next week's winning writer!

'Votes at 16?' - Writing Challenge

Dear People of Power,

I like our system of democracy. It allows us all to freely express our opinions on the leaders of our nation. However, there is a significant rule surrounding the voting system that needs to be addressed – the legal voting age.

Currently, the legal age to vote in England is 18. I argue this should be lowered to 16. At 16 and 17, young people are able to do so many things by law. They can get married, drive a car and get a job. Yet they are still not able to vote. How?

The rule is outdated. 16 year olds in Scotland and Wales are able to vote for *their* leaders. By lowering the voting age, you are giving the youth of today the right, the choice and the freedom to choose who they want to lead the nation they live in.

Yes, there might be counter-arguments. Maybe some young people 'have no interest in politics'? However, by lowering the voting age, the youth of today are able to choose *their* future! Thereby boosting their interest in politics.

So, please lower the voting age and give young people a voice.

Yours sincerely,

J, Scott.

J. Scott (Year 9)

Community links with the English Faculty:

Following a previous post on social media sharing some fantastic student poetry in response to the conflict in Ukraine, we were approached by the Nuthall Nugget (a local community newspaper). The Nugget was keen to forge links with us and to publish some student writing. The first couple of poems are due to be published in next month's Nugget so be sure to get yourself a copy so see our fantastic student work!

Nine for Nine:

The Nine for Nine group continues to be a fantastic success. The groups in Year 7 and Year 8 support students to read nine books to increase their chances of achieving a grade 9 at GCSE through accessing a wide range of literature. Students in year 7 are currently reading 'The Last Wild' and are thoroughly enjoying it. Zara in Year 7 commented, 'I am really enjoying the book and love having the opportunity to read different texts. I love being part of Nine for Nine'.

'Mock Trial' Group – New Extra-Curricular Opportunity!

The English faculty have launched a new extra-curricular opportunity. Students in KS3 are invited to take part in a 'mock-trial' group on Tuesday after school in L5. This group will enable students to develop a range of valuable skills as they partake in a mock court room experience. For more information, students can speak to their English teachers

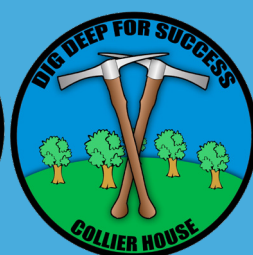
House Update

This half term has been a busy one and has flown by. We have had many sports fixtures, extra-curricular activities as well as Year 11 and Year 13 students preparing for their formal GCSE and A-Level exams.

The warmer weather has brought a really positive atmosphere to the school, with our students putting increasing effort into their lessons and extra-curricular activities.

Currently Erewash are leading the school with the most house points and the best attendance, however Astle are in a close second, with time for Lawrence and Collier to catch up!

Top house points this half term have been awarded to Chloe O (AKB), Reece M (CJF), Charlotte F (EJM) and Keira S (LFL).



Our Year 10 students have recently completed their first set of official GCSE mock exams, with students caught studying hard to achieve their potentials. Keep up the great work into the last half term.

The most recent Inter-House Event is the sunflower growing competition, which is happening between all the tutor groups. Students potted up the seeds themselves and are learning about the optimal conditions for their sunflowers to thrive. The sunflowers will be measured in the last half term to determine which tutor group from each house has won. Good luck all!

House Update

Outside of the classroom, students have taken part in sports fixtures, like the Broxtowe Athletics competition, where Hall Park Academy students provided a stand out performance against the other local schools. The Year 10 boys relay team put in massive efforts to secure second place with a staggering time of 50.97 seconds, while the Year 10 girls relay team came in second place which is incredible! Our students placed incredibly well in the individual events too and the Heads of Houses are all very proud of their house representatives.

Next half term brings many fantastic opportunities for our students to represent their house and make us all proud including:

Year 10 Parents Evening

Bronze Duke of Edinburgh for Year 9s and 10s

Year 7 and Year 8 Summer Games

History Battlefields Trip

Inter-House Rounders

Year 6 Induction Days

Year 10 Work Experience week

Year 7 Parents Evening

Sports Day

Celebration Evenings

Have a restful May Half Term break and we look forward to welcoming you all back in June for the last half term of the year.

Mrs K Paget (Head of Astle), Miss H Lockwood (Head of Collier), Mr L Simpson (Head of Erewash), Miss R Dickman (Head of Lawrence) and Mrs A Kelly (House Achievement Coordinator)

Post 16

Year 13 leaving

As Year 13 come to the end of their time at Hall park we are planning a leaving celebration on the 27th May with a final assembly and some fun activities. We are heading into the final few weeks of their time at Hall Park and wish them the very best of luck with their A-level exams. Year 13 students and their teachers will again celebrate completing their secondary education at their prom at the Mour Hotel on the 1st July. All staff are invited and are welcome!

Post-18 plans

The majority of our Year 13 cohort have secured a university place for next year in a variety of subjects at universities across the country. A smaller number are actively pursuing an apprenticeship and one student has already managed to secure one of those very rare and highly competitive degree apprenticeships. Several others are in the final stages of the interview process.

Exam preparation

The whole Year 12 and Year 13 cohorts took part in a psychology of exams session run by Becci Davis-Yates, a researcher at Nottingham Trent University. The session was designed to help students with motivation for revision and exams and was based on research conducted by NTU.



Year 12 careers planning

Year 12 students took part in 'Researching your Options' a session run by Nottingham Trent University to help them refine their search for courses to study after their time in the Sixth Form.



Following this they all took part in a visit to the UCAS Higher Education Exhibition at Derby Arena. Next month we are launching the UCAS process with students on an off-timetable day where students will be supported by colleagues from a range of universities and other higher education providers.

Year 12 internal exams

The final half term has Year 12 internal exams week – a key opportunity for Year 12 students to show the progress they have made over their first year in Sixth Form. This will also be a good chance to experience the revision and exam period which they sadly missed out on due to the cancellation of the GCSE examinations last summer.

Post-16 applications

Over 70 of our applicants have now accepted their offer to study in the Sixth Form next year. As Year 11 prepare for their exams and look ahead to their summer break we will be in touch about our Post-16 induction day in July and the A-level bridging work students will complete over the summer to get them prepared for September. Any Year 11 students still undecided about their plans for next year should get in touch with Mr Leach or Mrs Jane to discuss their options.

Post 16

Year 12 summer schools and HE+

A number of our top achieving students on the HE+ programme are looking forward to various experiences in the summer term including summer schools at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, including the very prestigious UNIQ summer school programme run by Oxford University. This is excellent preparation for students hoping to apply to Oxford, Cambridge or other top universities. The group completed the formal part of the HE+ programme with a graduation day at Redhill Academy.

