



Hall Park Academy

NEWSLETTER

END OF YEAR EDITION- 2024

Read our summer 2024 newsletter which includes all the amazing things our students have been doing this term.



Scroll down or use the menu at the top





A MESSAGE FROM

Mr Crossley

“As the school year draws to a close, it has been another busy term at Hall Park Academy. There is much to celebrate this term, which you will find in the pages of this newsletter.

As you will know, we were inspected by Ofsted in June. The inspection went very well, and the school was judged to be good in all areas. It was very pleasing that the inspectors noted the progress we have made in recent years. The inspectors were impressed with the school environment, students’ good behaviour and teachers’ high expectations.

What was perhaps most gratifying about the inspection was to hear that students feel proud of their school and of the work that they do here. The inspectors also praised the many co-curricular activities on offer. You will find some of these in the pages of this newsletter.

There have been many successful trips including a another phenomenally successful residential trip to Belgium to visit an important site from the First World War, a visit to the Houses of Parliament and a trip to watch the tennis at Wimbledon.

We are tremendously proud of the Duke of Edinburgh programme at Hall Park. More students than ever have completed the award this year, and we are proud of their achievements. Students in Year 9 are eligible to start their Bronze awards and we encourage as many to do so as possible. Thank you to the many staff who have contributed to making the programme a success.

It has been a particularly busy term for the Expressive and Performing Arts Faculty who have hosted several events including the inter-house piano competition and the Expressive and Performing Arts Celebration Evening.

In sports, students represented their Houses in our in-school Sports Day during which over 400 students competed. In addition, students have competed at the Broxtowe Athletics competition and represented the school at the first Redhill Trust Handball Cup. We are particularly proud of our under 15 and under 16 girls football teams who have competed in a number of cup finals this year. They are yet to bring home silverware, but we know it is just a matter of time.

We have staff for whom 26 July will be their final day at Hall Park Academy. Mr Sisson (Head of English), Mr Martin (Teacher of Computing and Aspirational Programme Lead) and Mr Hayes (Second in Maths) are leaving us for pastures new. Miss Wilde (Cover Supervisor), Ms Moore (SENDCo) and Ms Stocks (Teaching Assistant) are also moving to take up positions in other establishments

In summer we will be joined by Ms Brooks, who will start with us in the role of Deputy Headteacher. Mr West, currently Deputy Headteacher, has decided to relinquish his leadership position but will remain teaching at the school. We are grateful to him for his years of excellent service in this role.

Finally, I want to wish all students, families and staff a great summer break and we look forward to seeing you rested and well in September”.

OFSTED - WE ARE GOOD!

Students and staff are celebrating at Hall Park Academy after Ofsted delivered a positive inspection report and rated the secondary school 'Good'.

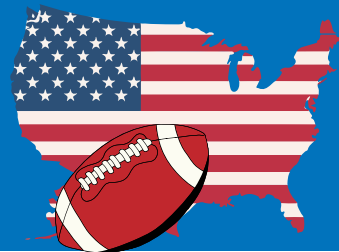
Inspectors visited lessons, looked at students' work and spoke to a wide range of stakeholders including students, parents, teachers, leaders and governors. Their resulting report says: "Lessons are calm and purposeful. Routines are well-understood".

Andrew Burns, Chief Executive of Redhill Academy Trust, commented "I'd like to congratulate all the staff and students at Hall Park on their well-deserved, excellent Ofsted report. The academy provides great opportunities for all its students and is a real asset to the local community."

To read the full report, [click here](#)



USA TOUCH RUGBY



The USA Touch Rugby Team were in Eastwood in July as part of their final preparations for the Touch Rugby World Cup. The team are currently using the wonderful facilities at Hall Park Academy as a base for their training camp.

Every four years the highest performing athletes in the sport from across the country are selected to represent USA. It is a great honour for these athletes to represent their country on an international stage and they are relishing in this opportunity. While at Hall Park, the team have been working with students as part of their PE lessons. The team have put on practice drills and motivating our students, inspiring our up-and-coming sports stars.

The team's head coaches have delivered high performance talks, strength and conditioning sessions and discussions relating to GCSE related topics such as overcoming injuries and gaining sponsorship. This has been a valuable and insightful experience for Hall Park students and also the USA Touch Rugby team.

As training drew to a close, they focussed their attention on this year's touch rugby World Cup which will be hosted at the University of Nottingham's Highfields Sports Complex between July 15th and 21st. Wishing the best of luck to the USA Touch Rugby Team from everyone at the Hall Park Academy.





PROM



Hall Park Academy school students celebrated the end of school with their prom night which was held at Goosedale. Many students arrived in style, arriving in sports cars, motorbikes and even a helicopter. This year's theme was Hollywood glam/ movie premier. Students lived up to the theme dressing sensationally. Following the student's grand entrance, students sat down to a meal, awards and then danced late into the night.

The HPA prom awards were given to –

Prom King - Regan Hewitt

Prom Queen - Sophie Hodgkinson

Prom Prince - Charlie Stevenson

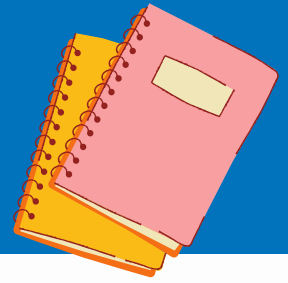
Prom Princess - Rita Ramos

At the end of the night emotional goodbyes were said by all and staff waved goodbye to another fantastic year group.

A big thank you to this year's prom committee for their help and dedication in organising a very successful prom.



ACTION TUTORING



At the beginning of this term, a group of our fantastic Year 7 students graduated from their 15 week program with Action Tutoring.

Students have completed additional sessions in either English or Maths with online tutors to develop key skills in these areas. The students were a credit to the school, and we received wonderful feedback each week from the online tutors.

Well done everyone! We are proud of you!



HPA ALUMNI ALERT!

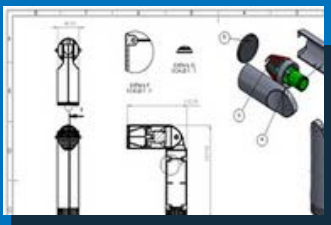
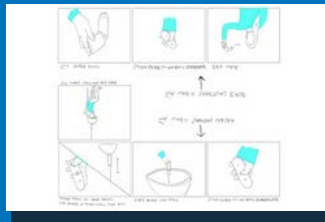
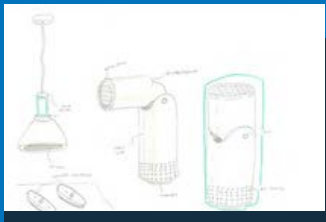


Hair Halo

Take back your independence today and dry your hair day or night, no matter how severe your symptoms are.



Fully flexible home hair drying system with integrated light



Hannah Nicholls

Hannah received a 1st class for her recent work on designing a hairdryer suitable for users with multiple sclerosis; more can be seen on Hannah's Instagram @hannah_margaret_design.

If you are alumni studying or working within the Design and Technology industry we would love to hear about your progress and celebrate your achievements with students in school - please email marriottb@hallparkacademy.org.uk.

Former student now at Loughborough University

Almost completed her first year at university in Industrial Design

**MEET OTHER
INSPIRING ALUMNI:**

WWW.HALLPARKACADEMY.ORG.UK/ALUMNI

CHARITY CLIMB

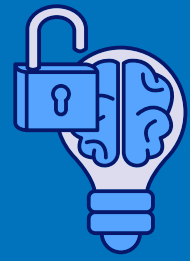
Superstar Year 9 student Ryan Bennett and his family climbed Scafell Pike, reaching the almost 1,000m peak in 1 hour and 53 minutes.

This is the third such hike completed over the last few years, raising a total just shy of £5000 for charity!

The money raised will be given to worthy charities such as Brinsley Animal Rescue, German Shepherd Rescue Elite and Drone to Home.

Well done Ryan and family, you should be immensely proud of your accomplishments! 🙌





ENRICHMENT DAY

Mr Martin has been working hard to arrange some great #aspiration opportunities for our students as part of our Aspirational Program. We recently had expert trainers from Talk the Talk visit Hall Park Academy to work with students in Year 8. The 'Talk About Communication' workshop was an exciting and engaging master class that developed speaking and listening skills within a creative learning environment.

The workshop provided numerous speaking opportunities and students were coached and supported throughout the day to deliver a structured two-minute presentation, on a topic for which they have a genuine passion, to their peers. A great day was had by all, and students showed real growth throughout the day. Well done Year 8!

Year 7 take part in Enrichment Day, supported by the wonderful people at Annie's Burger Shack Nottingham. Students had the opportunity to learn about the food industry as well as the careers that can be had within it.

Students also had the opportunity to design new burgers for different occasions as well as a promotional poster for an existing Annie's Burger Shack product. They also had the opportunity to watch Annie's Head Chef prepare one of their signature burgers, followed by a tasting session of some of their ingredients. We hope you enjoyed the day Year 7! A special thank you to our visitors. We hope to work with you again in the future.



PIANO COMPETITION



INTER-HOUSE PIANO COMPETITION STRIKES A CHORD OF EXCELLANCE!



In a harmonious display of musical prowess, students at Hall Park Academy showcased their talents in the highly anticipated Inter-House Piano Competition. Set against the backdrop of the main theatre, participants delivered performances that resonated with passion and precision on the school's grand piano. Captivating the audience of proud parents and supportive friends and family. Introduced by Mr Cardwell, the competition reached new heights with a high standard of performance throughout, with each participant demonstrating their dedication and skill.

Not only was the competition a showcase of musical talent, but it also served as a platform for houses to earn vital points and for students to earn their pledges. Every note played was a testament to the students' dedication but also a contribution to their house's success. As adjudicator Mrs. Talkes-Nichols remarked, "It was a very difficult decision this year to find an overall winner." The level of proficiency displayed by the contestants made the task of selecting a victor no easy feat". Yet, despite the challenge, she commended each participant, stating, "You should be very proud of what you have achieved."



HANDBALL CUP



On Wednesday 24th April, we took over 60 students to the Redhill Trusts first ever Handball Cup. This was an action-packed all-day event at the University of Nottingham that saw all 10 Trust schools competing with over 450 students involved.

Handball isn't a sport our students have played a lot of, but trained weekly during their dinner times to practice for the event. Upon arrival, all schools were allocated to their areas where they were met with a huge Hall Park Academy flag, friendly faces, music and photo opportunities. After the introduction, students found out which pools they were in and departed to their competition areas. KS3 girls and boys were based outside whilst KS4 boys and girls were on the indoor courts.

After 7 hours of non-stop handball, students progressed through the rounds and worked incredibly hard, displayed excellent sportsmanship and resilience.

Overall standings:

- Y8 BOY'S 2ND PLACE**
- Y10 GIRL'S 2ND PLACE**
- Y10 BOY'S 4TH PLACE**
- Y8 GIRL'S 8TH PLACE**

A huge thank you to our Year 12 Sports Leaders team who also gave up their time to come and help.



BRONZE EXPEDITION



WHAT A WEEKEND!



Year 9 students completed their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh training expedition in the Nottinghamshire countryside on the 28th April for the weekend. The students engaged with map reading, compass navigation, camp-craft and cooking their dinners on stoves, a challenge that they all took on and succeeded at.

We are incredibly proud of their achievements and really hope that they are proud of the skills and determination that they showed too. Students to reflected on what went well and what didn't quite go to plan, so they can show us how amazing and resilient they are. Well done all!



SILVER EXPEDITION



ANOTHER FABULOUS DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION!



Another fabulous Duke of Edinburgh expedition on the 2nd July. These 29 Silver students walked over 50km across the three day expedition. They started in the sunshine at Dovedale stepping stones on day 1 and walked through some lovely Peak District villages and up through Biggin Dale to their first campsite in Biggin.

Day 2 started with a short rain shower and students walked from Biggin, south through the village of Wetton and ended along the Manifold Valley into camp at Hulme End. The evening saw group activities and campfires where students were able to toast marshmallows and make s'mores.

The final day, Day 3, saw the four groups walk from Hulme End, through Hartington, along the Tissington trail and into Monyash where their Silver qualifying expedition ended.

All students worked incredibly hard within their teams and have showed immense progress with their navigational and communication skills across the expedition. They really should be very proud of their achievements, because we are!

The groups made some fantastic memories to last a life time, and we look forward to welcoming them back next year for GOLD!

Congratulations again to all students!



GOLD EXPEDITION



ANOTHER FABULOUS DUKE OF EDINBURGH EXPEDITION!



Another fabulous Duke of Edinburgh expedition with the Gold students up to the Lake District! These 11 students walked over 70km across the four day expedition from 16th - 20th.

Their four day expedition took in some magnificent places within the Lake District. Day 1 started at Air a Force waterfalls and students then quickly ascended the eastern side of Helvellyn (the 3rd tallest mountain in England). From here, students had breathtaking views across the Lake District in the sunshine. The descent was steep and students finished day 1 on the edge of Thirlmere.

Students showed resilience and determination throughout their expedition, with limited tears along the way! Students worked really well within their teams and showcased their skills that have developed over the award scheme since they started at Bronze in Year 9! We are so incredibly proud of their achievements and they should be to!

Unfortunately the weather turned and our last night in Penrith was cut short, with a late night return to school. Students were thrilled to stop at Scotch Corner on the way back for dinner, hence the group photo.

All students made some fantastic memories to last a lifetime and we hope they look back on this opportunity with happiness and pride!



CUP FINALISTS

★ FINALISTS AGAIN! ★

On 1st May HPA hosted Carlton Le Willows in the Nottinghamshire Cup semi-final.

Despite only having 10 players through injury, the girls came out ready. From the first whistle, HPA dominated play with back-to-back shots on CLW's goalkeeper. By the half time whistle, HPA were 6-0 up and showing no signs of slowing down.

In the second half CLW came out stronger and put our defence under a lot more pressure but thanks to a strong performance from the back four, it didn't impact our play. Our attacking players were constantly shooting and putting in excellent crosses which resulted in HPA scoring 8, but this should have been even higher! Full time 8-2.



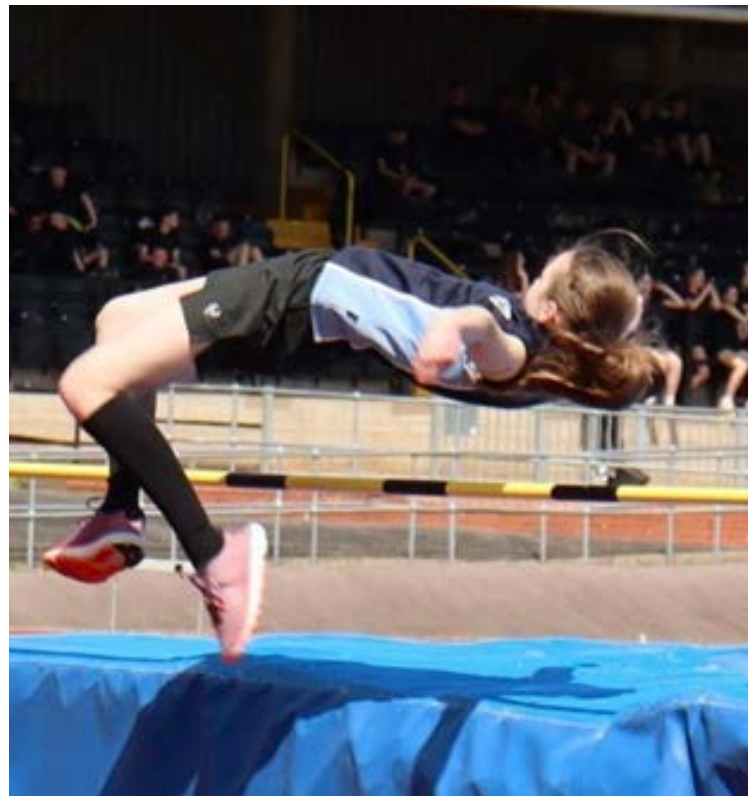
BROXTOWE ATHLETICS



DID SOMEBODY SAY ATHLETICS SUCCESS!

We are so proud of all the students who represented Hall Park Academy in the Broxtowe Athletics competition at Harvey Hadden Sports Village on 9th May.

We all had a brilliant day at the competition and overall, out of six schools, our KS3 students finished in 3rd place, our KS4 students finished in 2nd place and some of our students even qualified through to the County Schools Athletics Championships!





SUPERSTAR SWIMMER

Theo Gilham, one of our Y8 students here at Hall Park has been an absolute wonder in the swimming scene. Theo swims for Kimberley Swimming Club and Nova Centurion County Squad.

This season, he won 15 medals from 17 events in the Nott's County Championship. This included 10 GOLD MEDALS with new personal bests in every event, and the number 1 ranking in the county for his age group.

In the East Midland Regional Championships, he has earned 15 qualifying times and has entered 11 events. In the first weekend of the Regionals, he won four medals from four events, with PBs in all, two silver and two bronze. He has also swum the 50m freestyle event in under 30 seconds for the first time.

With his current times, he has four qualifying times for the English Nationals at the end of the season too.

A huge well done for Theo for what amazing achievements. We are excited to see what the future holds for the young man!



COOKING CLASSES

🎉 We'd like to announcing some exciting news that will nourish our young minds...

Hall Park Academy has been selected to be part of the prestigious @jamiesministryoffood School Programme 2024! 🍴

Get ready for a culinary journey filled with delicious recipes, cooking tips, and food education for our students.... Let's empower our future chefs and food enthusiasts with some of the best cooking knowledge out there!

This amazing programme will benefit our school by:

- Helping students to become independent with cooking, teach them where food comes from, and how it affects their body for good health later in life.
- Providing 10 fun, progressive practical lessons, including lesson plans, recipes, an invitation to a live online masterclass with the Jamie Oliver Cookery School and videos by Jamie and his son Buddy.

Miss Marriott attended an online meeting with the organisers to secure our place, which Initially started in 2023 in just 40 schools. We now look forward to being part of a wider roll-out in the second year as one of a further 100 schools across the country. Stay tuned for updates on what culinary delights our students produce! 🌟



OUR RISING STAR



Our very own Jessika attended the league presentation at the legendary Notts County ground!

What happened, you ask?

She and her formidable team clinched an award for an AMAZING achievement. They moved on up...to DIVISION 1 of the u12s girls league.

That's right! They were promoted all the way up the ranks...at Christmas no less!

This isn't just any old promotion. This is the HIGHEST division in their age group.

Well done, Jessika!



MOCK ELECTION

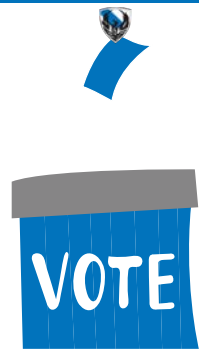
On Wednesday 3 July, everyone at school got the chance to cast their vote for a political party in our mock election, created by our Humanities department to help our students learn about democracy and how real election campaigns run.

A selection of peer-nominated students, pictured, were randomly assigned a party to represent. These are loosely based on the parties standing in our local constituency. The buzz around school increased each day as the campaigning takes place, which focussed on both local and national issues.

Well done to the students who are busy campaigning and representing the parties. The winner was Labour in landslide fashion.



ELECTIONS DAY





REMEMBERING D DAY



On 6th June 1944 more than 150,000 Allied troops landed on 5 beaches in Normandy, France. It was the largest seaborne invasion in history and marked a significant turning point in the second world war.

To commemorate D day 80 years on, Hall Park academy invited students, staff and the local community to share how they are connected to D Day or the war itself. We were able to get some insightful stories, artefacts and memories to huge bravery of the men and women that fought, which are on display in the humanities corridor.

We Will Remember Them.





BOOK DROP

Do you have any old children's books that are no longer used?

Would you like to see these books be loved by others?

We are collecting books in good condition to add to our growing school library!

**ALL CHILDREN'S
TITLES
WELCOME!**

Please drop donations into reception.





MING-AI INSTITUTE

Hall Park Academy were delighted to be visited by the Ming-Ai Institute from London to deliver a student and staff Chinese cookery workshop.

Students in year 9 who have picked Hospitality and Catering as one of their GCSE options, and Food Preparation and Nutrition students in year 10 attended the cookery masterclass. Students were taught about Chinese culture and had a live demonstration on how to de-bone a chicken thigh and then got to make chicken in black bean sauce.

Miss Marriott and Mrs Parker then attended a full-day Chinese cookery masterclass with 10 other food teachers where they watched the cooking of steamed fish, egg fried rice, and sticky pork.

Staff then made broccoli & beef and pleated their own dim sum!



CHEF IN THE MAKING



**WE HAVE A STORY OF SUCCESS TO SHARE
WITH YOU ALL!**



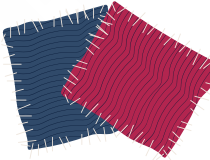
Jake Naylor, a former student at Hall Park Academy went on to study at West Notts College to study his Level 2 Hospitality and Catering qualification and is now starting his Level 3 award. Jake has just been honoured with the "Most passion for their subject" certificate and trophy at an award ceremony along with recognition for his positive attitude, 100% attendance and being the most improved. Jake looks forward to being a chef in the future and we look forward to hearing updates from his culinary journey!

If you have achieved in the field of Design and Technology or Food since leaving Hall Park Academy, please let us celebrate your success by emailing marriottb@hallparkacademy.org.uk



TEXTILES TALENTS

OUR YEAR 8 STUDENTS HAVE BEEN WORKING
HARD IN D&T: TEXTILES THIS TERM!



The students have been researching the artist Lucy Sparrow and the properties of fabrics, design their own felt food and have recently been constructing them. Students have used their hand embroidery skills, appliques, and embellishments to make their product. Here are some very proud year 8 students with their sausage roll, sushi, avocados, and fried egg!

Well done guys! They are amazing!



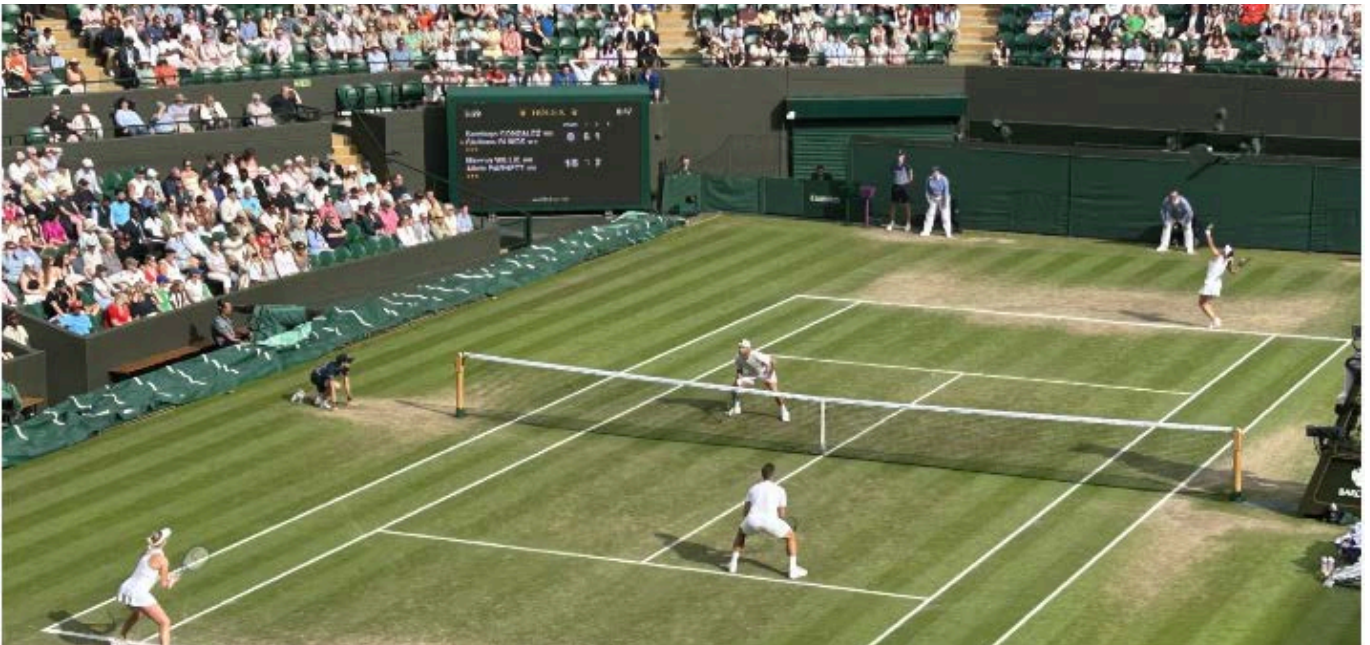


WIMBLEDON TRIP

🎉 This year, we hit the jackpot by winning the school's ballot for Wimbledon tickets! 🌟

Not only did we enjoy perfect weather, but we also had fantastic seats in Court 1 to watch the mens and mixed doubles semi-finals. Between matches, we explored the grounds, had lunch on the famous Henman Hill, caught some wheelchair tennis, and watched Jamie Murray and his partner on the outdoor courts.

And the best part? We even made it on TV! 📺👏





A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

On Tuesday, July 9th, the Expressing Performing Arts Celebration Evening and Art Exhibition lit up our school with an extraordinary showcase of talent, creativity, and academic achievement. The evening was a resounding success, filled with vibrant artwork, stirring performances, and well-deserved awards.

The night began with the Art Exhibition, where the art studios were transformed into a gallery displaying the exceptional work of our students. From intricate paintings to abstract concept work, the pieces reflected the dedication and imaginative spirit of our young artists.

Following the exhibition, everyone gathered in the auditorium for the awards ceremony, as the ceremony began with a heartfelt welcome from Mr Crossley, who commended the students for their hard work and passion.

Certificates of Merit: Certificates of Merit and Engagement/Co-Curricular medals were awarded to students who consistently demonstrated outstanding effort, excellence in their studies, and creativity. These students have set a high standard for their peers and have been exemplary representatives of our school values.

Awards for Progress: Several students were honored with awards for their remarkable progress throughout the year. These awards recognized the perseverance and determination of students who have shown significant improvement in their academic and extracurricular pursuits.

Congratulations to all the award winners and participants! Your hard work and creativity continue to inspire us all. Here's to another year of growth, creativity, and artistic expression!

A huge congratulations to the overall EPA winner - Lexie Adkin for her outstanding work playing the lead in Matilda and for her creativity in art extra curricular art.





BELGIUM TRIP

This year's History residential to World War 1 battlefields ran in July with 45 students and staff visiting historical sites connected with the Great War. Staying in the Peace Village near Mesen, the trip was organised by Mrs Matthews and guided by Mr Matthews. We visited sites in both France and Belgium, including the Somme battlefield, where we walked through the remains of the trenches and walked across "no man's land" where so many British soldiers lost their lives. We learnt about the military mistakes that caused such bloodshed and how over the years of the war, both military strategy and technology advanced to the final confrontation that ultimately won the war.

After sampling the local chocolate and visiting the "In Flanders Fields" Museum, which exhibits many of the artefacts left behind by the war, we heard The Last Post under the Menen Gate at Ypres, where the names of soldiers whose remains were never found are carved. Two of our students, Penny and Elvie, managed to find their Great great great uncle on the memorial to the missing at Arras. We learnt about how the town of Ypres was critical to allied success, how the town was almost completely destroyed in the war, and how it was rebuilt, which took 50 years to do. We visited the memorials at Tyne Cot and Theival and reflected on the scale of suffering and loss. We also visited a German cemetery and learnt about how different countries honoured their dead, and efforts for reconciliation after the war.





PARLIAMENT TRIP



Cultural Capital in the Capital City!

In July 60 Year 10 students and staff visited London on a full-loaded 20 hour day visit. We had a guided tour inside Parliament, including the Commons debating chamber, walking around the famous green seats where our MPs sit during debates. We saw how parliamentary democracy works and learnt about the history of the building.

We then went on a walking tour through lots of famous London landmarks, saw 10 Downing Street, Nelson's Column, Buckingham Palace and Leicester Square before stopping at the British Museum. There we managed to catch a glimpse of the Parthenon Marbles and the Rosetta Stone, before setting off on another walking odyssey through the streets of London, to see the Old Bailey, St Paul's Cathedral and the Tower of London. At the end of the day we climbed the stairs of the famous Tower Bridge and took in the panoramic views of the capital from the top level of the bridge which has a glass floor for the full effect.

Trips like this are important for our young people to see places for themselves, and to learn about them in more detail through the experience, but these trips have a bigger purpose in showing our students how our democracy works, and to encourage them to take pride in our great nation and its democratic institutions. It is important for our young people to see it in the flesh, to encourage them to take part in political life, but also to broaden their aspirations.



REMINDERS

CLASS CHARTS

Class Charts allows parents/carers access to their child's live behaviour and attendance information, as well as giving students a place to organise their homework.

The app also allows communication between school and home.

We have had lots of positive feedback from staff, students and parents.

We will be increasing our use of Class Charts for communications, information and updates about school. It is therefore useful that all parents sign up.

If you are yet to log in to Class Charts and would like help to do so, please contact our IT support team at itsupport@hallparkacademy.org.uk or ring the school reception.



THE SCHOOL DRIVE

There has been a noticeable increase to the number of cars accessing the school drive to drop off students in the morning. This increase of traffic is not only dangerous for students who are walking to school but also causes a build-up of traffic trying to access and egress the site which then results in students being late and causes disruption to learning.

We have an arrangement with Morrisons where students can be dropped off and collected.

Students who are late due to traffic congestion will be required to complete a break time detention in line with the school policy.

If your child has specific needs that requires them to be dropped off and collected on the school site, please contact the school using the contact form found [here](#). Those who already have arrangements in place please continue as normal.

Your co operation with this situation is greatly appreciated.



THANK YOU FOR READING

Do you have a suggestion for our next newsletter?

[Click here to submit your idea to Mr Adams](#)



Don't forget, you can catch up with all the latest Hall Park Academy news by following our social media pages.



Hall Park Academy