



**Hartshill
Academy**



ACADEMY NEWS

February

2024

Welcome to Spring Term at Hartshill Academy. We have introduced lots of new clubs this term and it has been great to see our pupils making the most of the opportunities available to them every day at lunch time and after school with these clubs. A full list of clubs and days is available on our website.



The top 10 Teams in the Year 11 Fantastic Five competition had a very energetic visit to LASER Quest recently. This was a reward for the Heart and Ambition they are showing with their studies. All Year 11 pupils are now busy revising for their next mocks exams after half term.

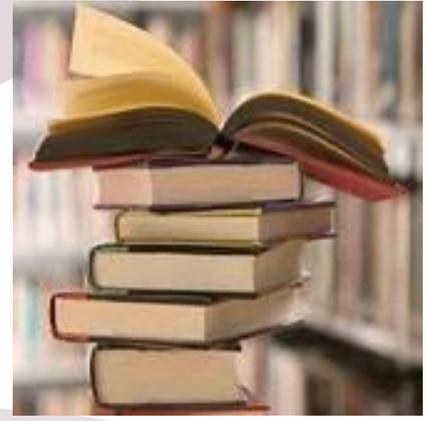
All pupils in Year 7-10 have recently taken their mid-year assessments and reports will be sent home later this month with the results of these assessments.

This month Year 9 pupils will have Progress Evening on 8th February on School Cloud and Pathways Evening on 22nd February, in the Theatre at Hartshill Academy, to begin choosing the subjects they will study in Year 10.

English and Languages Faculty

It has been a busy and exciting term so far for the English and Languages Faculty! In English, now we have completed our mid-year assessments, we are getting really stuck into studying our Shakespeare plays in Y7-10. Y11 are also working hard preparing for their mock exams - all papers will be tested this time around!

We are also really excited to launch our new homework platform, Sparx Reader; pupils have been completing their initial reading assessments over the last few weeks. This will open-up hundreds of wonderful books that are matched to our pupils' reading ability. Pupils will be expected to complete weekly reading using this platform and will receive points on Class Charts for this.



Mathematics Faculty

It has been a very busy and exciting time so far this term with the Maths Circle group meeting each Monday, Years 7 to 10 taking their mid-year exams and the set 1's in years 9 and 10 entering the national maths challenge with UKMT.

We have started a weekly competition, all pupils who have achieved 100% correct on their Sparx Maths homework are entered into a prize draw. In the first couple of weeks it was great to see the delight on the faces of the pupils who received a giant bar of chocolate! We then moved onto using Cadbury's Heroes Chocolate boxes for the prize as we feel this represented the "heroic" efforts many of the pupils have made in improving their maths skills using Sparx Maths (the chocolates are also easier to share with their friends, parents, carers and perhaps even their favourite teacher!)

**Sparx Maths
Winners will be announced
every week
(one per year group)**



Congratulations

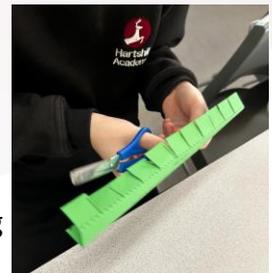
Science Faculty

In Botany club, pupils have been making unusual universal indicators using a range of vegetable waters. Universal indicators are used to determine whether a substance is an acid or an alkali. The successful indicators were made from red onion, turmeric and water cress.



In Lego engineering, pupils have been trying to make people out of the Lego, using a technique called 'greebling'. This is how far they got after one session, and they will continue to work on these next week.

This week in Science club, pupils have a longer project and are designing a theme park. They have begun with designing paper roller coasters for marbles. They are hoping to add loops da loops in the coming weeks.



Miss Taylor did a great demonstration with Year 7 to illustrate the difference between conduction and convection. The balloon went 'pop' and we all jumped!

Pastoral update

The start of 2024 has been a really exciting one, with the opening of the Hartshill Academy Rewards Store. Mr Wilkins has been incredibly busy processing orders for everything from Nike footballs, to gift cards, to all kinds of badges, stationery and equipment. As a reminder, if you haven't already, ensure to get login details for your child's account so that they can spend those hard-earned points!

In addition to the Rewards Store, we have also now started out HARTbeat 'runners' programme, with two of our best pupils each day selected to be the 'face' and 'heartbeat' of the school in greeting visitors and supporting staff in and around the school.

It is phenomenal to see so many pupils now wearing their Hartshill Academy badges with pride and it is great to see how many pupils have already earned these for showing Heart, Ambition, Respect and Tenacity.

730
Pending orders 
[VIEW PENDING ORDERS >](#)

143580
Points spent since August 
[VIEW ALL ORDERS >](#)

887824
Available balance 
[VIEW PUPILS'S BALANCES >](#)

Safeguarding update

Early Help is the term used in Warwickshire to describe all support offered to potentially vulnerable children, young people and their families. The purpose of early help is to put in the right support at the right time so that problems are less likely to escalate to a point where the child becomes vulnerable or in need. Early Help is sustainable so that problems are less likely to recur.

Why is Early Help important?

Early help can offer children the support needed to reach their full potential. It can improve the quality of a child's home and family life, enable them to perform better at school and support their mental health. More than 30,000 children go into care each year in the UK – that's one every 17 minutes. Many of these children might have stayed with their families had they accessed early help.

There is more information about Early Help on the link below

<https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/7-minute-briefings>

Laura Copson is the Early Help Leader at Hartshill Academy.
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House Update

Last half-term gave us Horrible Humanities, where our pupils took pride and joy in seeing our Hartshill teaching staff eat questionable foods. Delicacies from Haggis to banana turnip sandwiches were on the menu, yum!

This half-term, Hartshill presents: Test the Teacher! In this event, pupils from Year 7 all the way to Year 11 will be able to test their teacher's knowledge for house points.

Let the most knowledgeable house win!



Drayton Deers



Evans Eagles



Barber Bears



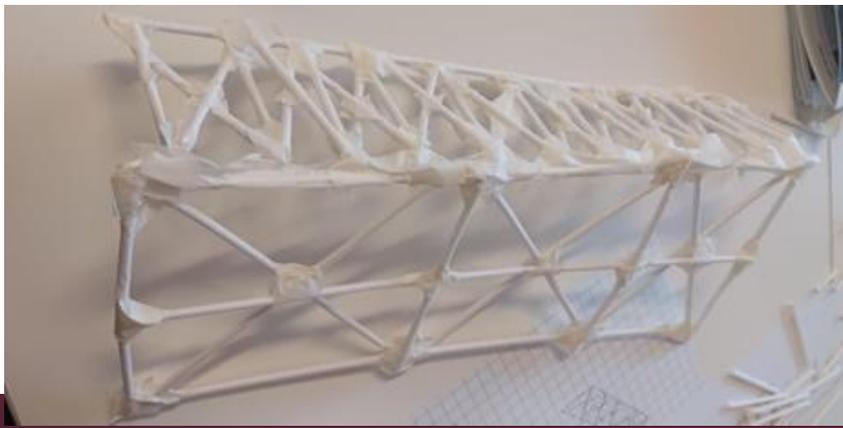
Newton Nighthawks

116 576

118813

118 307

122 045



Humanities Faculty

It has been another busy term in Humanities, with pupils working hard in History, Geography and RE. Pupils have been revising hard for the Mid-Year assessments across years 7-10.

Year 11 are now preparing for their final full set of mock exams just after half-term, when they will be taking a full set of GCSE exams for the first time.

Humanities homework continues to be set on Educake, with the new homework now being set using the knowledge organiser for Year 7-9, allowing all pupils to prepare for new topics and revisit old topics.

The Eco-council continue to work hard to make Hartshill Academy a greener and more sustainable school. The current focus is on recycling, with the aim to get paper and plastic recycling bins around the Academy.



Careers

In January, 24 Year 8 pupils took part in a HS2 STEM Day. This was a team-based design-and-present activity where pupils competed to design a futuristic train station considering future trends and the needs of all customers. Each team of four students produced a plan for their station, presented as a top-down map view, drawn on an A2 piece of paper. Each member of the team had a different real-life job role within the team and was responsible for the associated aspects of the design. At the end of the activity students presented their designs to the rest of the group



Creative and Vocational Faculty

The Food department have been busy this week. In Food Preparation & Nutrition and Hospitality & Catering pupils have learnt a vital skill to add to their practical bank. This week was filleting fish. They did a great job and are well on their way to be budding chefs!

We would also like to say well done to everyone who has signed up to a new enrichment club. There are lots of each day including singing, drums, basketball, art and dance.

