

The Midland Academies Trust



We had a very busy first half term at Hartshill Academy. As always, we are incredibly proud of the HART values our pupils show every day. They have shown great tenacity with all the changes as we make the move to the new building. Thank you to everyone who has supported our school and our pupils during this move.

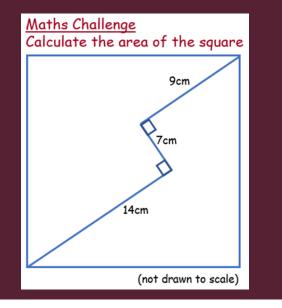
We had some wonderful trips during the last weeks of the half term We had two very busy weeks with trips to Cadburys World, the National Space Centre, the Sealife Centre, D of E hikes, University trips and GCSE Geography coursework trips to Birmingham.



# English and Languages Faculty

English and Languages have been busy packing up books and resources ready to move into our fabulous new building! Our Librarian, Miss Edney, has worked hard to sort out the library's stock and many books have been given away to pupils and parents for free at our Open Evening and Freshers' Fayre.





# Mathematics and Computing Faculty

This term it has been a delight to welcome two new members to the Maths teaching team – Miss Aftab and Miss Probert!

This month we are launching our new monthly "Maths Challenge" - (see picture to the left). This is open to all pupils and prizes will be awarded!

Please hand your answer to Mrs Sevellec in room 218 by Thursday 23rd November!

# **Science Faculty**

This term has been very exciting in the Science department with our new HART groups! Year 7 have certainly settled in well and have been gaining lots of positive points due to their fantastic uniform, equipment and showing their HART values at every given opportunity!

Botany Club is definitely back with a bang – literally Evliss Wicker and Mr Spiers have been studying the physics of coconuts – measuring the mass, volume, density, kinetic energy, velocity and momentum of falling coconuts!

They have been looking at the Giant Redwoods of California, modelling the process of transpiration (how plants get water from their roots to their leaves) using paper straws! They have created a 'tree' out of 4m of straws, beating their efforts from last year!





It's fair to say that a lot of packing has been happening this term and everyone is very excited to move into the new build! Just imagine all the fun we can have in brand new science labs! In the words of Emerson 'the more experiments you make, the better'.



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### Careers

Since returning to school in September, all pupils in years 7-9 have taken part in the Skills Builder programme as part of their HART time curriculum. Skills Builder is a programme that is exactly what it says it is! It is where pupils will develop the essential skills that they need for future jobs and careers, for their time in school but also to develop the skills that they will need to help them to develop into great human beings. Skills builder looks at 8 essential skills and have split them into 4 categories. The first category is communication which looks at listening and speaking. Creative problem solving looks at problem solving and creativity; Self-management looks at staying positive and aiming high, and Collaboration looks at leadership and teamwork.

Pupils are currently working on developing their Staying Positive skills and have already developed skill steps that include telling when they feel positive or negative, telling when others feel positive or negative, carrying on when something goes wrong and how to stay calm and adapt plans to make the best out of negative situations.

# **Humanities Faculty**

The History department were very disappointed to have to postpone the year 8 trip to the Black Country Living Museum due to bad weather last week. A revised date for June 2024 is being looked into and all pupils who had booked a place on the original trip are guaranteed a place on the revised date.

Year 11 Historians are preparing for their mock exam on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November. Thank you to all those who have been attending Lesson 6 on Tuesdays with Mrs Roche and Mr Whitehouse; teachers are really proud of all pupils who are taking every opportunity to succeed.

Finally, as we prepare to move into our new school, the History department has been putting together a subject library for both staff and pupils to further explore academic writing on the past. If pupils would like to know more, please speak to Mrs Roche.

### **Creative and Vocational Faculty**

#### Spotlight: Performing Arts

Before half term Performing Arts pupils in year 10 and 11 travelled to London to take part in workshops at Danceworks and then watch a performance of The Lion King on the West End!

It was a fantastic day and pupils were an asset to the school demonstrating their HART values throughout the day.



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## **Pastoral update**

It has been a positive start to the new academic year and we are consistently seeing days with 96-98% of points being awarded for the right things. We have been hugely impressed with how the vast majority of pupils are presenting themselves in the correct uniform everyday and are sporting their Hartshill Academy bags and equipment with pride. Our Year 7's have joined us and made an incredible start to life at Hartshill Academy and are consistently demonstrating our HART Values. We are also hugely grateful to parents, carers and family members for your continued support.

Hartshill Academy pupils have had a number of exciting opportunities to attend trips, including The National Space Centre, Cadbury's World, Birmingham city centre and various universities including Leicester and Newman.



# Safeguarding update

Steps you can take to help your child stay safe online Have an ongoing conversation: Continue to talk about apps, games, and sites they like to use, and what they like and don't like and any concerns about being online. Discuss with them when to unfollow, block or report. Make sure they know where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. Remind them that they won't be in trouble and that you are there to help. Make sure they know about NCA CEOP: Young people can report a concern about grooming or sexual abuse to NCA CEOP at <u>CEOP Safety Centre</u> and get support from a

#### Family Information Service (FIS)

specialist Child Protection Advisor.

If you aren't sure what support you and/or your family needs, the Family Information Service is a great starting point. They are a knowledgeable and friendly team who will listen to you and help you access the services that can support you. You can contact them at: 024 76344334

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## **Houses Update**

At Hartshill Academy every pupil and member of staff belongs to one of our four Houses; Barber Bears, Drayton Deer, Evans Eagles and Newton Nighthawks.

Throughout the academic year there are a range of competitions which are designed to promote healthy competition and help to establish a sense of belonging and community.

A brilliant start to the Year we kicked off with with House Music Quiz during HART time and Pumpkin competitions taking part during half term. All photo entries need to be sent into Dr S Khan. All entries win house points.

It is an exciting time ahead for the House system. With the new hall hosting the hall games, behaviour golden tickets guaranteeing entry. We have *Horrible Histories* and *I am a teacher get me out of here* competitions to look forward to too.



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