



# MARK HALL ACADEMY



## WEEKLY BULLETIN

SPRING TERM - FRIDAY 5 APRIL 2019

### Term Dates 2018-19

#### Spring Term 2019

Monday 7 January—Friday 5 April  
Half Term: 18 February - 22 February  
Staff Training Day—11 January 2019

#### Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23 April—Friday 19 July  
Half term: 27 May—31 May  
May Bank Holiday: 6 May

### Term Dates 2019-20

#### Autumn Term 2019

Tuesday 3 September—20 December  
Half Term: **21 October —1 November**

#### Spring Term 2020

6 January—3 April 2020  
Half Term: 17 February—21 February

#### Summer Term 2020

20 April—17 July  
Half term: 25 May—29 May  
May Bank Holiday: 4 May

**Please note the highlighted date for Autumn 1/2 term. This is a two week break due to moving into our new building**

### Dates for Your Diary

Tuesday 23 April 2019	First Day Back after Easter Break	Normal start time
Thursday 25 April	PTA Meeting	6 pm
Monday 13 May	Start of Exams	
Wednesday 15 May	Parent Council Meeting	5.30 pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

As another busy and successful term comes to a close and we approach the Easter holidays, we would like to take this opportunity to give you some updates and reminders. We would also like to thank all staff, students and parents/carers for their support and commitment throughout the year.

#### Reports

All students in Years 10 and 11 will have been given a copy of their Spring progress report, including mock exam results to bring home with them. Please use this opportunity to discuss your child's progress with them and set some targets. Years 7-9 will receive their progress reports during the first week back after Easter.

#### Easter Academy- 15-17<sup>th</sup> April

Students in Year 11 and 10 have been **invited** by their teachers to attend study sessions to support with their upcoming exams. Only those students who have been targeted should attend. The final version of the Easter timetabled study sessions will be available to view on the academy website. Please ensure that your child attends on time.

#### Options

Students in Years 9 and 10 next term will be discussing options. We will send information about the Options Evening and process after the Easter break.

#### Uniform

Many parents/carers buy new uniform over the Easter holidays, so **please ensure you check our uniform policy before doing so** to ensure that your purchases comply with our high standards and expectations. In particular, please note our policy on footwear as students wearing incorrect footwear will be required to wear Academy plimsolls or study in isolation until footwear that complies with our policy is worn. **Students should wear plain black shoes – no trainers or 'trainer-style' footwear.** May I also remind you that nose/tongue studs and other forms of body piercing or visible tattoos are not permitted. **Students are also expected to wear full Academy uniform both to and from the Academy – in the morning on their way in and after school on their way home.**

Details of our uniform policy can be found on our website at: <http://www.mha.attrust.org.uk/academy-life/uniform/>

#### Attendance and Punctuality

Students should arrive at the Academy by 08.35 and be in their Home Groups by 8.40 a.m. Students who arrive late will be issued a next day C3 (60 minute) detention after school unless there is a sound reason for their lateness. All students are expected to have a minimum of 98% attendance.

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## **Fixed Penalty Notices**

Any persistent absence may mean that a fixed penalty notice may be issued.

**The Academy does not support any holidays requested during term time.** A request for absence must be made giving at least two weeks' notice. If a request is not approved and the student does not attend during the stated period, then a fixed penalty notice will be issued upon the child's return.

Any student with less than 90% attendance with any unauthorised absence will be sent a warning letter and if no improvement is made then a fixed penalty notice will be issued.

## **Mobile Phones**

We allow students to have a mobile phone in the academy under clear conditions and in designated areas; many schools ban them as they can disrupt learning and be the cause of cyber-bullying.

However, if a mobile is the cause of a problem in a lesson or a problem between students (or any other type of problem has been caused by the use of a mobile phone – 24/7) then the mobile phone will be confiscated and will only be returned to a parent/carer. In serious or persistent cases, the student will have to hand their phone in at the start of the day and collect it at the end of the day. If parents and pupils do not want this to happen then we ask that mobiles are used responsibly by students and only for the good/positive.

If students are put on internal isolation, for whatever reason, they will also have to hand in their phone at the start of the day and collect it at the end of the day. This is non-negotiable.

Students are only allowed to use their mobiles at break or lunch in the West Hall, Café 54 or outside. They can only use them in lessons with the permission of their teacher.

We have a complete ban on students using their mobile to film or take photos of other students, even if a student has given permission.

If a student wants to make contact with a parent/carer during the school day, then this must be done by a member of staff.

## **Kooth**

By visiting the website Kooth.com young people can now have 24/7 access to a fully qualified counsellor. This may be something you wish to discuss with your son/daughter.

## **Keeping Safe over the Easter**

Sadly, every Easter, there seem to be news reports of tragedies involving young people because they take unnecessary risks and put themselves in danger. Please ensure you remind your children how to keep safe: safety around water; road and rail safety; on-line (e-safety); sun safety; keeping personal possessions safe, to name but a few. Essex Police provide a range of useful tips at the following link <https://www.essex.police.uk/advice/summer-safety/> and CEOP's ThinkUKnow is a really useful website for E-Safety advice for all ages <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

## **Summer Term 2019**

**We start back on Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019. This is a normal academy day and all students are expected to arrive in full academy uniform.**

We would like to take this opportunity to thank staff who will be leaving Mark Hall Academy at the end of this term and to wish them every success and happiness in the future:

### **Teaching Staff:**

Mr Archer (PE)  
Ms Rixson (English)  
Ms Patel (EAL/SEND)

**We look forward to welcoming the following new staff in the Summer Term:**

### **Teaching Staff:**

Mr Rayson (Humanities)  
Mr Hoole-Jackson (PE)  
Ms Forster-Heke (English)

We wish you and your family a very happy and restful Easter holiday.

## Notices / Letters Home / Information on Website

Please click on the links below to view letters that have been emailed or sent home:

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/SchoolMoney-letter-Jan-2019-1.doc>

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/Work-Experience-Form.pdf>

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/WE-Application.pdf>

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/WE-letter-for-parents.pdf>

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Mobile-Phones-Exam-Letter-2.pdf>

<http://www.mha.atrust.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Fire-Alarms.pdf>

## Exam Stress Guidance

As you are aware exams start after the Easter Break. Please encourage your child(ren) to look at this Student Guide to coping with Exam pressure.

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/781889/Student\\_guide.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/781889/Student_guide.pdf)

## Mark Hall Academy win top drama award

On Friday Mark Hall academy students won best production and best actor at the Rudolph Walker Inter school awards at Epping College. Rudolph Walker may not be well known in terms of his real name but everyone recognises the institution that he has become on East Enders as the much loved Patrick Truman.

An awards evening funded and set up by both the Rudolph Walker foundation and Essex county council. Giving these fabulous young people a platform to express themselves in a positive and rewarding way. See objectives below.

On winning the awards the students smiled and cheered (picture below) as well as bursting into tears along with their parents. A real feel good evening that has brought about a genuine sense of pride to both these students and the academy. (Video attached).

Three schools were involved in the evening- Mark Hall Academy, Burnt Mill Academy and Roding Valley High School.

Each had a group of 5 and had a maximum 10 minutes per performance, voted on by 3 judges.

Our performance was an exploration of what life is like for modern day students. Flashbacks to their home life that showed the challenges that they face and the reasons they may not fully perform well in school.

THE RUDOLPH WALKER FOUNDATION OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To provide young people with a sense of purpose.
2. To recognise that different people have different talent and skills, which need to be nurtured individually and sympathetically to help them fulfil those talents and skills.
3. To understand that self-esteem is crucial to the development of responsibility and ambition in young people; and to develop self-esteem through team work and common objectives and goals.

<http://www.yourharlow.com/2019/04/02/mark-hall-academy-win-top-drama-award/>



## DANCE STUDENTS PERFORMANCE

23 Mark Hall students performed beautifully at Springblast 2019 on the 25th March at Chelmsford Civic Centre.

Students have been rehearsing every Friday at Dance Club with Emily Lewis and Ms Butler and as always, our students were just fabulous, giving their absolute all.

Dance Club is open to all students and is on each and every Friday 3.10-5pm in West Hall.

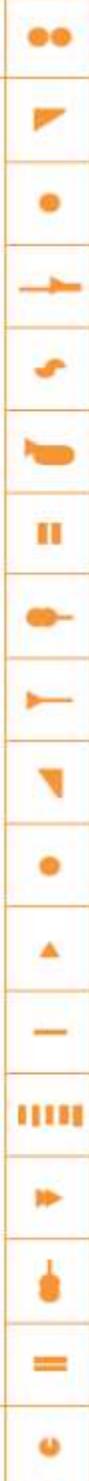
Next performance pieces will be for school production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' in July.



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futureDJs


## Your child's chance to learn to DJ

Dear parent/guardian,

DJ-ing is about to become available as a taught musical instrument at your child's school. We're excited to be offering our FutureDJs lessons in schools all over the country.

Now that exam boards have recognised DJ decks as an instrument, DJ-ing can be a part of Music GCSE too.

We have limited places for students, and there is sure to be plenty of demand. So if you'd like to enrol your child, do let us know soon.

**How it works and what it costs**

Weekly 30-minute lessons take place at school and in school time, like usual instrumental lessons. They are available as solo lessons, or for pairs of students. The cost is £22 for a 30-minute solo lesson, and £12 for each student in a pair.

The FutureDJs study programme teaches music through DJ-ing. We want to create versatile, knowledgeable DJs, with strong listening skills, musical awareness and a passion for music of any genre.

Our website can tell you much more about us. Want to take the next step?  
— [futuredjs.org/enrol/30](http://futuredjs.org/enrol/30)

The FutureDJs team

Suite 2, 9–11 Princess Street, Knutsford WA16 6BY  
+44 (0)20 8242 1674 [futuredjs.org](http://futuredjs.org)

Registered in England no. 10314154  
VAT no. 277330201

## Celebrating Year 8's English Project

Year 8 students were given a rather interesting English homework project to undertake. The theme was Gothic Horror Literature and they could choose from a number of tasks.

One option was to create their own Gothic interpretation which could be writing, artwork, customising an old t-shirt, designing a costume etc. As you can see, these students were very imaginative!

Well done Year 8s!



## Changing Lives welcomes visitor to Mark Hall Academy

On Thursday 28th March, 'Cally', an upcoming Grime artist in Essex was invited to the Academy by the Changing Lives Team. He performed an assembly to the Year 8 students and organised Grime workshops with students from Years 7 - 10.

Cally spoke to the students about mental health and encouraged them to talk to someone if they feel down. He spoke about his own personal battle with mental health and how music and friends helped him get through it.

Cally was truly inspiring for all Mark Hall students. He was very impressed with the talent at Mark Hall had the creative skills they showed, he even mentioned giving away free tickets to his upcoming tour! We will keep you posted!

Make sure to keep your eyes and ears peeled for the music video featuring Mark Hall students and 'Cally'.



## Meteor Club



Monday to Friday in the LRC  
3.10pm to 5.20pm

An opportunity for all year groups to get their homework done with support and resources to help.

Free activity of the week is offered once homework is complete, so you can get creative and socialise with students that are not normally in your friendship groups.

Friday - week 2, a film will be shown for you to relax with at the end of the week if you so wish, of course there is still the option to complete homework. Friday – week 1, is the opportunity to write reviews of the films watched to earn rewards scaled to the number of reviews written. Full details of which are displayed in the club.

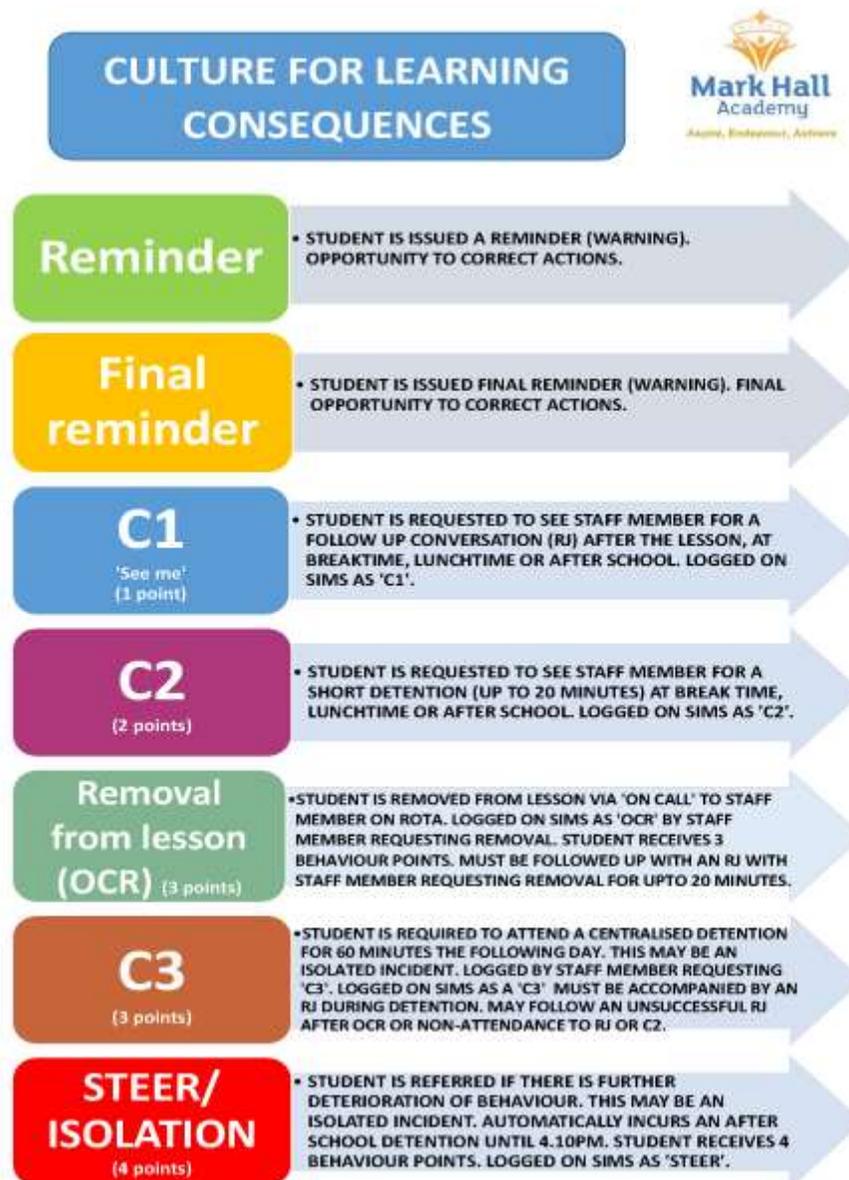


## Student Behaviour and Consequences (detentions)

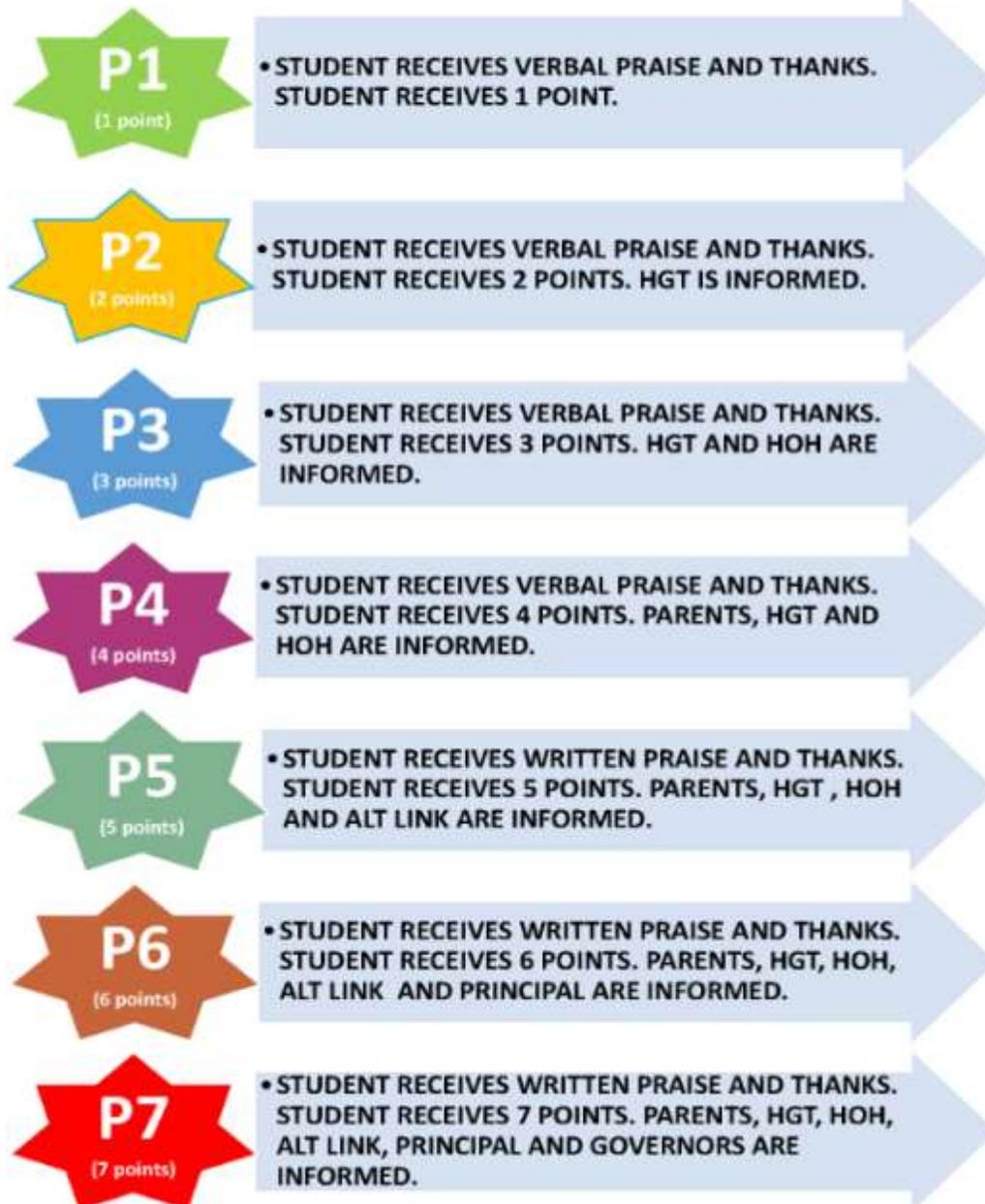
Dear Parents and Carers,

In order to support learning dialogue and conversations between students and staff we have been looking at ways in which we can further build relationships in the Academy. We have therefore tweaked the consequence system allowing opportunities for students to correct their actions in class before being sent to a more senior member of staff.

Thank you for your continued support, Ms Butler, Vice Principal



## CULTURE FOR LEARNING RAISE THE PRAISE





## ATTENDANCE = ATTAINMENT

Excellent attendance is important for a number of reasons. It has been proven that those pupils with excellent attendance are more likely to achieve more GCSE's at a higher grade, be less likely to be involved with anti-social behaviour and are generally more settled within school.

*Government Research has shown that where attendance levels fall below 95% a students' academic performance and achievement is badly affected. It is therefore our aim for all our students to have at least 96% attendance or above.*

Mark Hall Academy understands that for some students being in school every single day can be a challenge and we have various reward schemes and incentives to encourage and motivate pupils to achieve excellent attendance. The attendance figures for our Academy have been rising over the last few years and this is a trend we are keen to continue!

The school monitors every child's attendance daily, and the Education Welfare Service monitor our attendance weekly. If your child's attendance is below an acceptable level he/she will be referred to the Education Welfare Service who will contact you.

We are able to provide support or advice to any parent with regard to attendance. Feel free to contact the Attendance Officer at the Academy if you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's attendance.

We look forward to Mark Hall Academy achieving great success with their attendance each and every year and with your child's help we can continue to do so.

## PUNCTUALITY = ATTAINMENT

We value the importance of good punctuality as it also has a valuable impact on the education of children. There are some interesting facts published about punctuality which highlight how lateness can affect your child's learning.

Arriving 5 minutes late every day adds up to **3 days learning** lost in a school **year**

Arriving 15 minutes late every day is equal to **2 weeks learning** lost in a school **year**

Arriving 30 minutes late every day is equal to **19 days learning** lost in a school **year**

## FINALLY .....A REMINDER TO PARENTS/CARERS AND STUDENTS

Just a gentle reminder that all students must be on the school site by **08:40am** ready to make their way to their Home Group rooms for registration beginning at **08:45am**.

The London Road entrance is promptly locked at **08:40am**, therefore students arriving after this time will need to report to the Attendance Officer via the main Academy entrance. Students arriving by bike must allow time to put their bike away in the bike shed before the first bell sounds at **08:40am**. Persistent lateness of students using a bike may result in the Academy requesting an alternative method of travel be made. C3 detentions will be given to any student late in the mornings unless we have received a note or a phone call.

**MARK HALL ACADEMY REALLY VALUE YOUR SUPPORT, SO THANK YOU!**

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## Academy Menu For week beginning 23 April 2019

GLOBAL ADVENTURE WEEK 1					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>GLOBAL ADVENTURE</b>	<b>MEDITERRANEAN</b> Chicken Shawarma Flatbread 93162898  Paprika Potato Wedges (no oil) 93130895  House Slaw 93129626	<b>CHINESE</b> Five Spiced Beef 93159931  Beggars Noodles 93131282  Peas 93065563	<b>BRITISH</b> Roast Pork with Stuffing and Apple Sauce 93098927  Roast Potatoes (oil) 93162617  Seasonal Cabbage 93143359  Carrots 93065561  Gravy 93034775	<b>INDIAN</b> Chicken Tikka Masala 93128001  Rice 93135592  Cucumber Raita 93142255	<b>BRITISH</b> Home-made Batteried Fish Fill 93105116  Chips (oil) 93124814  Baked Beans 93162619 OR Peas 93065563
<b>HIGH STREET FAVES</b>	<b>DEEP SOUTH DINER</b> BBQ Pulled Beef Brisket 93162912	<b>WINGS &amp; THINGS</b> Special Marinated Roast Chicken Drumsticks with BBQ or Sticky Tabasco 93130941	<b>DEEP SOUTH DINER</b> Beef Burger 93129200	<b>WINGS &amp; THINGS</b> Texas BBQ Chicken 93131191	<b>DEEP SOUTH DINER</b> New York Hot Dog 93142777
	Feta and Potato Frittata 93162900	Mac 'N' Cheese 93127228	Sweet Potato & Squash Casserole 93101314	Boston Bean Pot 93130977	Veg & Bean Quesadilla 93086623
	New Orleans Red Bean Rice * 93159957	Garlic Bread* (no oil) 93154277	Chipotle Potato Wedges (no oil) 93163112	Layered Potato Bake 93162904	Chips (oil) 93124814
	Southern Greens 93154278	Chop Chop Salad 93153242	Corn on the Cob 93130897	House Slaw 93129626	Sweetcorn 93094208
<b>SPEEDY ITALIAN</b>	Veggie Supreme Pizza (v) 93135569	3 Cheese Sicilian Pizza (v) 93135631	Hawaiian Pizza 93128494	Bacon Pizza 93041401	Veggie Hot One Pizza (v) 93128498
	Veg Bolognese Pasta (v) 93102889	Arrabiata Pasta (v) 93147953	Chunky Vegetable Pasta 93137663	Beef Bolognese 93102799	Herby Tomato Pasta (v) 93147954
	Margherita Pizza (v) 93041388	Margherita Pizza (v) 93041388	Margherita Pizza (v) 93041388	Margherita Pizza (v) 93041388	Margherita Pizza (v) 93041388

  
**Mark Hall  
Academy**

**PREPARED**

**POTENTIAL AND PERSEVERANCE**  
Work hard in order to reach your potential.  
**ASPIRE, ENDEAVOUR, ACHIEVE.**

**RESPECT**  
Treat everyone with **RESPECT**. **STAND UP TO BULLYING**.  
**RESPECT** THE POSSESSIONS OF OTHERS.  
USE Appropriate language. **FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS FIRST TIME**

**EQUIPMENT** Is an essential **TOOL** for learning and life.  
**REMEMBER TO BRING IT TO EVERY LESSON.**

**PLANNERS** THESE NEED TO BE **UP TO DATE** WITH  
**SIGNATURES, HOMEWORK, NOTES, TARGETS AND POINTS.**

**ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY** **EXCELLENT**  
Ensure you have **EXCELLENT** attendance and punctuality every lesson and every day.

**READING BOOKS** Bring in a reading book **EVERY DAY**. Books should  
be placed on desks at the beginning of each lesson.

**ENGAGEMENT** Ensure you are focused during Home Group and lessons, complete all  
classwork and **HOMEWORK TO THE BEST OF YOUR ABILITY.**

**DRESS AND UNIFORM**  
This should be consistent and of a high standard adhering to the  
**ACADEMY UNIFORM CODE.**

w/b: Monday 22 April 2019



**oscillate (verb)**  
to swing or move to and fro, to vary  
When he is upset, he will **oscillate** between happiness and sadness.

**kooth**

**Struggling with self-esteem or bullying?**

Kooth is a free, confidential online counselling service for young people aged 11-26 in Essex

Chat to qualified counsellors who are waiting to support you with whatever you may be experiencing



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**Mark Hall Academy  
Football Club**

All students are welcome to join our Mark Hall Academy Football Club which runs every Wednesday after School. Girls and boys from year groups 5 to 10 are welcome to come and join in





MHA PRESENTS

## Digital Leaders Join now!

**WHEN**  
Thursday after school:  
3:10-4:10

**WHERE**  
WEST 1

**WHAT**  
Programming





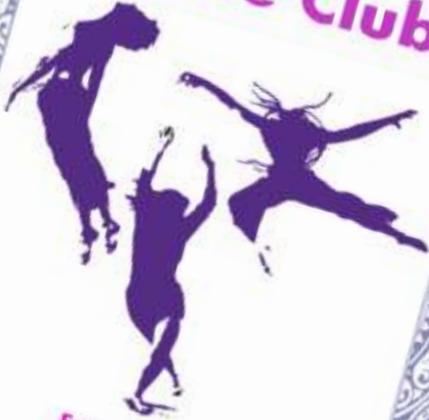
Dear Students

There will be a display of lost property in Learning Hub every day from 11.10am until 11.30am

You will be able to access this from the West Playground and there will be a sign on the door

As Mark Hall does not have room to keep Lost Property, it will only be held for 1 week before being disposed of.

## Dance Club!



Every Friday  
West Hall  
3.15-5 pm  
with Mrs. Butler