

much more than just a school

Park Post

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more than
just a **school**

newsletter

Issue 8

December 2016

'Tis the season for Park to shine - Amazing People Awards

Park Community School and Park Community Enterprises were both worthy winners of awards at the EBP Annual Amazing People Awards in November. Daisy-Mae Armstrong was nominated for the Amazing Work Experience category and was delighted to win. Daisy commented, "I enjoyed my work experience because everyone was really nice and friendly, they welcomed me and made me feel comfortable. My favourite part was learning a whole new experience, it has made me more confident and has encouraged me to embrace any opportunity that comes my way."



Sarah Coles, Park's Work Experience Co-ordinator said, "Daisy initially wasn't keen on the idea of work experience, however after a few conversations Daisy revealed she had an interest in cosmetics. With support from her mother we managed to get a placement at Boots, where she thrived. Daisy's whole attitude has improved since work experience, she has developed confidence and motivation to achieve."

Park Community Enterprises (PCE) won the Amazing Business who Promote Enterprise award. Gary Dickens, Enterprise Coordinator at Park said:

"Park Community Enterprises was set up by myself and two senior member's of staff and the Chair of the Governing Body at Park, we all believe that we can be much more than just a school, and together we continue to find new ways to show this to an ever increasing audience."

I am very proud of PCE as I am sure are my co-directors, and we will continue to provide further work-based opportunities, not just at our industrial unit but also at our construction centre, the Apex centre, and our market garden which provides food for our award-winning catering team."

Park Community School - much more than just a school

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Children in Need - by Mrs Coles

Park Community School raised £450 for Children in Need.

Students enjoyed the day with some great events at lunchtime. Lots of splatting activities, including splat the rat, a coconut shy, guess the teacher from the baby photo and the favorite - splat the teacher.

Ms Bannard demonstrated her knitting skills creating a fantastic Pudsey bear which was won in the raffle by Alfie Heslop in Year 9.

Our Head Chef, Steven Cross, and his team helped to raise funds by baking gingerbread Pudsey Bears, these were gratefully received by all!



At the Theatre

Beauty and The Beast Review



Our Annual School Christmas Production week was a wonderful experience. The dress rehearsal went without a hitch to a brilliant audience of over 200 pupils from our linked schools. They left in a flurry of snow! Comments poured in after their visit:

"Wonderful costumes, talented actors with fabulous props and stage setting. Overall, a very professional production. Definitely worth the two-mile walk to get there!" Year 5, Sharps Copse Primary School.

Year 6 pupils from Riders said:

"I loved your show it was amazing. I wish I could watch it over and over; thank you so much. My favourite bit was at the beginning when Belle was singing and the acting was AMAZING."

"We loved your scenery it was amazing; you are a very talented school."

"I left feeling stunned with how you could perform such an elegant show. Once again thank you for giving us the opportunity, we want to see it again."

The school sparkled with festive lights and Christmas singers welcomed the audience, along with mince pies and mulled wine, to an unforgettable evening.

The cast impressed everyone involved with their acting, clarity of speaking and humour, with some surprising comic geniuses amongst them, as well beautiful singing and fabulous dancing.

A truly magical week.



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Park Community Remembers...

On Armistice day, 11 November, Park Community School in Havant held their annual whole school special assembly. A thousand students, staff and guests came together to commemorate the signing of the Armistice between the Allies and Germany in 1918.

Christopher Anders, Head Teacher commented: "This was a special moment in the life of the school, as well as a good time for us all to remember the importance of peace. Many of the staff and students were touched by the atmosphere of the occasion."

Tony Watson, Teacher commented: "Our talented pupils created willow structures to commemorate the outbreak of the First World War which are on display at the front of the school. The soldier, horse, and battleships were designed by our Art department and built by our students as well as craftsmen from Portsmouth Naval Dockyard. Each year during the second week in November our students cover the structures in poppies to commemorate the falling of two World Wars and subsequent conflicts. We are proud that the soldier and the horse have already been on display at Staunton Country Park and the school has had requests from schools as far away as Southampton to build similar structures to display in their grounds."



Horticulture plants life next to stream

Students from Park, and visitors from Hampshire County Council, Friends of the Hermitage Stream, and Havant Tree Wardens were invited to spend time planting trees and shrubs to improve the environment and aesthetics of the school site. Working with Mr Bye, Horticulture Coordinator, this opportunity gave the students a long lasting sense of ownership and pride in their school.



Work Experience has launched for Year 10 Students

In June 2017 all Year 10 Students will have an opportunity to complete a two-week work experience placement. The work placement dates are 26th June to 7th July. This is an exciting opportunity for students to develop an understanding of the skills and knowledge that is required in a variety of careers. Students can find their work experience places by either doing a private placement form, or using the WEX online system.

In previous years the government have provided funding for these placements, however due to the reduction in government funding, this is now paid for by the school. The school is happy to do this however if a pupil chooses a placement and gets accepted, then decides they do not want to go, we will pass on the cost of changing the placement to the students.

Please support us by encouraging your child to choose a placement which they are interested in and would like to find out more about, but encourage them to choose wisely.

If you have any queries or problems regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Coles.

Havant Oxbridge School Conference

During an afternoon in November, students from five schools in the Havant area came together for an event to inspire students to consider going to university, especially Oxford and Cambridge and universities. Oxford Schools Liaison Officer Luke Maw and Terri-Leigh Riley Cambridge's Liaison Officer talked about the Russell group of universities and gave a candid talk about the doors that can open when you go to university. They described the experiences students may have and to allay any fears provided a wealth of information.

All the students found it very informative and Jake Reeve, Year 11 student said:

“At the start of the conference, Alan Mak introduced us to the representatives from both Oxford and Cambridge. The talk the representatives gave us was not only about Oxbridge, but about universities in general. This included what Russell Group universities are, the different types of university grounds, and the benefits university brings.

After the first talk, we broke for refreshments before the group was then split in two for a second talk about why one might want to go to university, more about its benefits, and the social side to university, including societies. It was very informative and useful.”



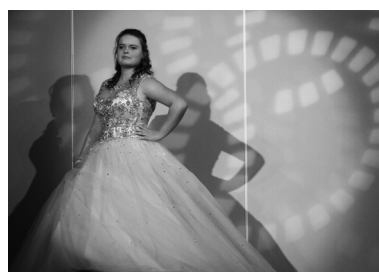
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Prom Fashion Show

Park Community School were delighted when we were asked to be the venue for the Havant Mayor's inaugural Prom Fashion Show in October.

During the evening, students provided the musical interludes and the evening finished with a well-supported raffle raising money for the charities the Mayor is supporting during the year.

We hope that this will become a regular feature at Park.





The fantastic outfits were provided by Mousetrap and Astares Menswear, both in Havant and the students looked incredible, as the photos show. The students modelling the outfits were allowed to choose what they would wear. One student said "This has provided me with a dress rehearsal for the Prom and I now know what suits me and what I feel comfortable wearing."

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Christmas double page spread - round up of year



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More Able Students

BAM Visit - by Miss Munoz

Year 7 and Year 8 students went to visit a German company based in the UK called BAM. They went to Dunsbury Hill Farm site to understand how a construction company works and to discover what is involved in building a building. They also found out what professions are involved in construction.

BAM is part of a great industry that can make a huge difference to the quality of people's lives and they wanted to share this value with Park Community Students.



Career Masterclass at Southampton University - by Miss Munoz



Year 9 students worked at the University of Southampton under the programme, 'Learn With Us'.

They learnt about transferable and soft skills and the specific qualifications they need to get in their GCSE to follow their chosen path.

In teams they presented their experience of the day through posters and role play, enjoying and learning about team work, communication, and organisation skills.

Miss Munoz commented that at the beginning of the session the students were asked to write their ambitions. One student stood out. At the beginning of the day this student had said, "I want to do hair and beauty", but by the end of the day, she said, "Miss I now realise that I can even have my own company, or I can work on a fashion show production, I do not need to work in a salon." She made my day.



Special congratulations go to...

Year 9 student, Lily Moore, who is now a fully qualified FA Level 1 Football referee!

Why Higher Education? Year 9 visit Portsmouth University - by Miss Munoz



Year 9 students were invited to attend a workshop on ambitions, at the University of Portsmouth. How you can fulfil them through university and what university life is all about.

The Students were given a tour of the university and and they now have a much better idea of the opportunities available to them.

A taste of France for Year 10 - by Miss Munoz

Year 10 French students were invited to Cafe Rouge to taste some traditional French food because this makes up a big part of their French GCSE exam.

French food is known globally for its finesse and flavour and Park wanted our students to experience it. They will be able to use this experience in their writing to express their feeling about French food.



An inspirational and dedicated champion in our midst...

Year 11 student, Morgan Fewings was overweight in 2014, but at the age of 13 she made the decision to lose weight and take up boxing. Supported by both her Grandads, who were fans of boxing, within two years she had lost a substantial amount of weight through strict dieting and boxing at her new club - Heart of Portsmouth. David Johnstone, Morgan's coach saw her potential and developed her skills, so that she now is a fully established member of the club.

This has taken massive effort and resilience and has increased her confidence, her sense of discipline, and she feels much much happier. What an amazing achievement.

Morgan now competes all over the country as a member of the England Squad, and has been entered for the 'Golden Girl of Sweden' competition in January 2017.



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Primary School Tea Party - by Miss Norman

Seven local Primary Schools attended a Cream Tea party in our restaurant. This was an opportunity for our current Year 7 pupils to showcase their work and to see their old teachers again. The teachers had a brief preview of Beauty and the Beast. Some had a tour of the school, looking at the animals, the delicious food on offer, the wide range of performing art facilities, and all the amazing sports facilities. The children then showed their teachers their work and chatted through their subjects.

"We had some delicious scones and chatted through our work with the teachers, it was brilliant." Nicole Baptise, Year 7.

Miss Binns and Ms Bannard, Head of Year 7 and Assistant Head attended and thoroughly enjoyed the lovely community feel that we have at Park. It really is much more than just a school; we are so lucky!



Rotary Young Chef - by Mr Payne

We hosted the Rotary Young Chef competition for the second year running. This year saw six candidates from various schools including Park, compete by creating two dishes. These dishes included a main course and a dessert. Rotary entry requirements stated that students must work to a set budget, within a set time and to present their dishes to a restaurant standard.

The Head Chef from The Langstone Hotel and Lead Lecturer from South Downs College said the students' dishes looked and tasted amazing.

Park students Toni Somes and Izabella Darmanin performed amazingly well. Izabella came a well-deserved 3rd place and has progressed into the next round of the competition at South Downs college in January.

Toni had a special mention for the taste of her sweet potato vegetarian curry. We look forward to the next round and hosting the competition again in 2017.

STOMP Workshop - by Miss Tuckwell

Music students at Park were fortunate enough to be offered workshops by the professional company STOMP.



The day began with the performers bringing dustbins, pipes, lids and beaters to the school theatre where our Year 9 students were eagerly waiting.

Clapping, stamping and body percussion were the warm up exercises before the students were creating pitches on long tubes and discovering counting to eight was a challenge!

The star of the day was Sian Wragg who led the class in a hilarious activity of running to a dustbin and improvising a rhythm for four beats. It was a day to remember.

PCS Literacy - Current focus

Horrid Homophones

They may sound the same,
but they're not!

There / they're / their

Bored / board

Know / no

Ceiling / sealing

Cereal / serial

Threw / through

Allowed / aloud

Knew / new

Weather / whether

Storey / story

Practice / practise

Coarse / course

Which / witch

Toad / towed

Hair / hare



Use them correctly to
become a homophone
master!

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Girls Network visit Chichester University - by Miss Norman

Fifteen amazing girls from the Girls Network attended the Enterprising Women conference day at Chichester University. The girls were "a pleasure to be around" Lesley Ann Neville tutor from Chichester said.

The girls heard a range of talks from solicitors, vets, the deputy chair of BAFTA, and people with senior positions in the police force. It was a truly inspirational day.

Emily Briggs, Year 11, said "Anne Morrison was brilliant she was the keynote speaker and works in a similar industry as I would like to when I'm older. She is the deputy chair of BAFTA."

Lauren Hollis, Year 11 explained, "My favourite speaker was Amanda Young. She works on the technical side of things and was really inspirational, especially as what she does is usually done by men. She was easy going and great to talk to."

Charlotte Howard, Year 11, said, "It was a really good day I thoroughly enjoyed it."



Girls Network visit QA Hospital - by Miss Norman



Once again the Girls Network did us proud on a recent visit and tour of QA Hospital.

A delightful group of students asked intelligent questions and were interested and animated as they were given a tour of all the career opportunities at QA hospital. Lovely girls!

Havant Rugby visit - by Miss Norman

On a very chilly November afternoon, students from Park were invited along to Havant Rugby Club, and they really got stuck in. They were awesome. They had two hours of rugby at the club with the senior coach Nigel Phillips and the students were enthusiastic and lively, it was fantastic!

Out of the thirty who attended Nigel has asked that the following join the club on Sunday mornings: Josiah Barron, Gary Handley, Harry Leaworthy, Camran Davies, Ethan Heads, Ben Bibby, Dylan Miller, Peter Blofield, Alfie Stevens Lily Moore and Lilli Bundi. I am happy to take them, as they were just so brilliant!



Pompey Training - by Mr Watson

Early in December, a group of our students were invited by Portsmouth Football Club to attend a training session and meet the Manager and players. They watched the players train, who then unexpectedly asked if we would like to join them for lunch.

It was a fantastic day, during which our students and the Pompey players and staff were a huge credit to the school and the club. It was an event which will last long in the memory, particularly as we were asked if photos could go in a future Pompey programme!

Year 10 student, Mason Crespin said, "It was an amazing experience and we'd love to do it again! The best part for me was getting a selfie with Gary Roberts!"

The icing on the cake will be if our team are promoted at the end of the season.



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Students inspirational day with Paralympian Aaron Phipps.



150 Sports Ambassadors from Park were fortunate enough to have a Sky Sports for Living Athlete Mentor carry out a two-hour practical workshop and then visit a variety of classes and take an assembly.

Part of a Youth Sport Trust initiative, the purpose of the visit was to inspire and motivate young people to achieve their best. This was demonstrated by promoting mental toughness, developing the hunger to achieve, using people skills, raising awareness of knowledge of sport, at the same time breaking down barriers and planning for success. Aaron Phipps talked about his journey to becoming a 2012 Paralympic, in which he had endured having his feet and fingers removed at the age of 15 due to meningitis. He was determined to be successful and trained hard to be a Paralympic. He went on to climb Kilimanjaro by crawling, for the Meningitis trust. The first ever disabled person to do this!

Aaron was impressed by our students and was overwhelmed by their empathy and maturity, during the workshops, "I am really impressed with how proactive the young people have been and how they have participated in a most mature and enthusiastic way. I hope they will use the messages of positive thinking, resilience and determination that we discussed in the session, now and in later life. They are a superb group of young people."

Cain Holmes said, "Today has been a real eye opener for me, the experience that Aaron has been through and the challenges that he has met have been outstanding. He shows that there is light at the end of the tunnel if you change your thoughts and see the best in awful situations." Yiannis Razzell said, "Aaron, through his experience and practical activities, taught us about being resilient, standing on our own two feet and realising problems can be overcome and not let them dominate your life."

Janice Norman, Sports Ambassador Coordinator, explained, "We had a most inspirational day and as usual our pupils responded accordingly and really participated in an enthusiastic, considerate way. I am so impressed with Aaron's frank delivery and how much empathy and respect came from our students to Aaron. Aaron's story is an example to us all. I will never forget this. We had an amazing day!"

The Sports Ambassadors organised and ran a mixed activity event with 120 Year 5 students from Warren Park School and Year 7 from Park Community School. They had a Wheelchair Rugby Tournament, Crab Football, Sitting Volleyball and Badminton. Havant Rugby Club came along to encourage us to join their club and as a result of the day we have been invited to do workshops at Havant Rugby Club. Aaron with fantastic enthusiasm and positive spirit, encouraged our students to never give up and be positive in their attitude at all times. He also talked about changing your thoughts to see your way around problems. It was an amazing afternoon with comments like, "We had such good fun and we are lucky to have an Olympic athlete with us." Keira Griggs. "It was so brilliant." Warren Park Student. "Loved every minute of it." Lily Moore, Park Community School.

Park Sports

Cross Country - by Miss Smith

Mrs Cavanagh and Miss Smith took Year 7 and Year 8 students to the Interschool Cross Country Competition, in Alton. The students worked extremely hard, in the freezing cold and all ran their socks off. It was an experience for many, they had a great day and represented Park in the best light possible.

All students should be congratulated, especially, Jorja Greenslade for an excellent run, coming 61st out of about 130 runners, and Max Burton and Gary Handley who, after their own race, ran around again with Joe Smith to encourage him and bring him to the finish line - it was lovely to see!



Earlier in the month, students were also taken to the Cross Country Championships at Horndean. They were up against many other schools in the area and some excellent runners. Each and every one of the students we took worked so hard and all achieved personal bests. Special mention goes to Brandon Miller in Year 11 who came an amazing 6th out of 46 competitors, fighting every inch for his position at the line.

Netball - by Miss Binns and Miss Smith

The Year 8 girl's netball team have made an excellent start in the local netball league that is held at Cowplain school. They have shown excellent teamwork and effort. Good luck for the rest of the league.

An amazing turn out and effort from Miss Smith's Year 7 netball team. We played four matches at Crookhorn. Although we just missed out on winning a few matches, the girls played amazingly for their first ever games playing together. Well done.

Crookhorn 2 - 0 Park
TPS 2 - 1 Park (Josie Simmons goal scorer)
Purbrook A 1 - 0 Park
Horndean 5 - 0 Park

If anyone would like to come and have a go, training is on Thursday nights and Year 7 matches are on Wednesdays.



Year 11 Students - raising the bar! - by Mrs Cavanagh

This term has seen a mature and focused attitude by the Year 11 examination PE students. They have worked extremely hard completing many pieces of course work with specific focused PE days. A large number have also volunteered to attend school on the INSET day to not only continue their work, but to raise their standards to distinction level. The students are sure to benefit in the summer with some excellent results.

The PE Department are very proud of what the students have already achieved and we are enjoying working with them.

Keep it up Year 11 and remember to attend the period 6 and drop in sessions to keep raising the standard of your work. Well done.



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Lee Nelson

On Friday 18th November laughter was heard coming from the Theatre when Lee Nelson came to Park.

A 150 strong crowd came to see Lee's show 'Work in Progress'. Lee spent the first half getting to know his audience and for those in the first few rows they certainly were the butt of lots of his jokes and scenarios.

During the second half Lee tried out a lot of new material on the audience to see if it was 'we cannot stop laughing' or 'this is for the bin'.

In 2017, Lee is on tour across more than 100 venues in UK, and the material he tried out at Park that passed the grade will become part of his new show.

This performance was able to take place because of the ongoing partnership working between Park Community School and The Spring Arts and Heritage Centre. This is enabling performers such as Lee Nelson and others to join us at Park.



Christmas Make and Natter - by Sara Barron

On a cold evening in November, as people wandered in from around the estate, adults and children gathered in a nice warm room at Park. The warmth of the room, the smell of the fresh coffee and the yummy festive cakes, kick started the evening with high expectations. Amanda Bell, seasoned crafter came laden with ready-made Christmas card ideas and plenty of creative resources for those more experienced.

As young and slightly older were inspired by fabulous creations, more and more cards were made. Everyone enjoyed the evening and many asked "when can we do this again?".

The evening was part of the festive activities being held at Park and there are still many more to get involved in, visit Park Community website for more information:

<http://pcs.hants.sch.uk/assets/FestiveEventsAtPark.pdf>

Christmas Cracker by Steve Cross, Head Chef

Brie, Cranberry & Thyme Tartlets Method

Christmas Canape or Starter

The flavours of winter have arrived and along with that comes that very special time of the year Christmas!

At this special time, we all seem to indulge just that little bit too much as the waist expands.

Try making this seasonal treat with friends and family then enjoy while watching the Queen's Speech, or make a little more and eat as a starter before your Christmas lunch.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from myself and all the Catering team here at Park Community School.

Ingredients

- Ready roll Puff pastry sheets
- 1 large egg
- 1 Jar cranberry sauce
- 200g Cornish Brie
- Fresh thyme
- Salt and Pepper
- 2tbsp Olive oil
- 100g Parmesan



1. Preheat the oven to 180 degrees and line a large baking sheet with grease proof paper.
2. Firstly, roll out the puff pastry sheet onto a large clear surface.
3. Cut 20 / 30 mouth sized squares and then score each square with a sharp knife making another smaller square inside the cut square try not to cut through the pastry. (Vol au vent)
4. Now separate the egg and use only the yolk to glaze the top of each puff pastry square.
5. Bake for 20 mins until golden brown.
6. Now use a sharp knife to remove the center of each square puff pastry shell.
7. Cut the brie into cm cubes
8. Pick the thyme leaves and put into large bowl along with the olive oil then mix, add the brie and coat well.
9. Spoon a large teaspoon of cranberry sauce into the puff pastry square and then add a large spoon of the brie mixture and season with salt and pepper. Finish by topping with grated parmesan.
10. Re-bake for 10 minutes to melt the cheese, be careful not to burn the pastry shells, then serve.



Christmas is a great time to celebrate and in school we have a wonderful chance to celebrate the festive season. Once again we have our ice rink and lights outside, and a large Christmas tree inside. This year we also have a grotto made by students and staff in the Apex Centre and at our industrial unit. For the first time we had an official switch on of our Christmas lights at the start of Advent and carols in our restaurant on a Saturday afternoon. The term ends with our traditional Christmas lunch for all students and staff on the last morning of term. In among this celebrating, dozens of students are involved in the annual school production, *Beauty and the Beast*, as performers, behind the scenes and front of house ensure that the show runs smoothly.

This year the progress of students was recognised in the new Progress 8 GCSE measures. We have won local and national awards for the building, our support for students, our chef and school meals and by the students themselves. At the end of November, 360 edible fruit bushes and trees were planted to create a new hedge along the new fence separating the school field from the new footpath at the side of the field. This was a joint project with the Tree Council, Friends of the Hermitage Stream, Havant Tree Wardens, and the school; our horticulture students helped to plant the shrubs. The fruit from the plants will be used in the school kitchen along with produce grown on our smallholding including our own pigs.

I am proud that we continue to find ways to make school exciting, and learning relevant and useful. We are looking forward to 2017 and all that it will bring to the community, young and old, of Park Community School.

Christopher Anders
Headteacher

What's coming up...

Disneyland Paris Trip
New York Trip
GCSE English & Drama Theatre Trips

Challenge Day
Trip to Teen Tech
Yr 8 trip to Houses of Parliament

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