



# Park Community School

## NEWSLETTER

## Fortnightly Update 9 February 2024

### Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

On the final day of this half term, it was great to see so many of you in school for Student Review Day.

Attendance has been good and students have taken the opportunity to review their progress this year with tutors. Year 7 and 8 students read with parents or staff and selected a book from our Park canon. Year 9 had important conversations with tutors about initial option choices for GCSE and have brought home their Option booklets to discuss with parents and carers. Year 10 all selected a free revision guide and Year 11 collected those important mock examination results.

Over half term, MUNCH is available every lunch time for any members of the community who need it. Key staff will also be in school every day if any students need support.

We would also like to take this opportunity to remind parents, carers and students of the rules regarding mobile phones in school. They are not permitted at Park. Students who need to bring a phone to school can hand this into reception or have it switched off in their bags. However, if a student chooses to get a phone out in the school day, they will be expected to hand it into reception immediately. Please remind your children of this rule. We hope the sun shines over half term and look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 19th February .



**Mr Anders**



**Mrs Capaldi**

### AquaSplash Ambassadors!

Last week, five Sports Ambassadors went to Barncroft for AquaSplash 2. The aim of the event is to improve water confidence in young people. We worked with Year 4's from Cottage Grove and Craneswater. Our team was supportive and encouraged the young people from both schools. A special mention goes to Fletcher, Lilly Rose and Harry who clearly improved the water confidence of many of the students they worked with. Both schools have asked if we could bring a team to support their sports day on the back of their efforts.

I am very proud of the ambassadors and their commitment to helping others in our community.

### Mr Herriot



**£658.43 raised on non-uniform day**

A grand total of £658.43 was raised for The Little Princess Trust. A big thank you to Thomas in Year 11 for inspiring this event.



### Challenge Day: Staying Safe and Exploring Identity

On Thursday, all students participated in Challenge Day. Year 7 explored British identity. They explored politics and diversity before proposing their own political party to represent our community. Alongside this, they held their very own British tea party. Year 8 spent time thinking about staying safe and making good choices. This included work on social media and sexual health.

Year 9 reflected on mental health and mindfulness, whilst Year 10 focussed on future careers and CVs. Year 11 took time to think about their own mental health and selected activities to support this including problem solving and teamwork activities.

### Mrs Loake





# Park Community School



## Chinese Visitors at Park

This term we have been delighted to welcome 12 middle school students from China to Park. They spent a week fully immersed in life at Park with the help of their Year 8 buddies. Alongside attending all lessons, students also spent time at our farm, Apex centre, PDP and the media suite.

"I enjoyed spending time with all of the Chinese students because I have learnt what they do in their country and I have been able to tell them what we do in ours."

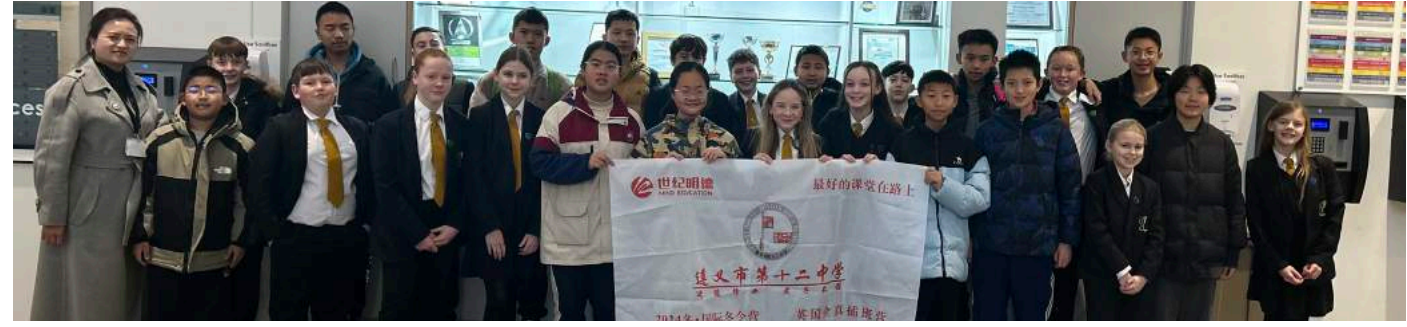
**Amita, Year 8**

It was an unforgettable experience for all involved. Jessica, one of the Year 8 buddies, wrote to me expressing her gratitude for the opportunity to buddy a student from China.

"I just wanted to say I have loved this week and have made a real connection with our visitors. I definitely have made some new friends for life and learnt so much from them. I will be really sad when they leave."

**Jess, Year 8**

**Mrs Capaldi**





# Park Community School

## Park in Paris

Students and staff had a fantastic time in Disneyland Paris, enjoying the rides, discovering French food and making memories with their friends. Students were a credit to our school around both Disney parks and many students were brave and got on rides they didn't think they could handle.

Special mention to Bethany and Mohammed who braved the Tower of Terror and loved every second of it! Thank you to all the students who have completed their online Maths and Science work - we will ensure that Merits are awarded for your hard work.

**Ms Dermey and Ms Bannard**



## Pizza Making

Mrs Challinor worked with two students in after school programme to make some delicious pizzas. Both students really enjoyed this and enjoyed trying out different pizza toppings!

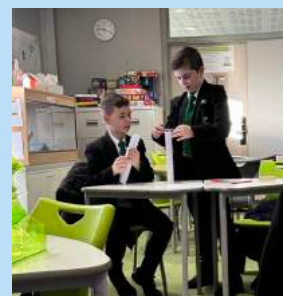
**Mrs Leach**



## Tower building in the KS3 Hub

KS3 students had a great time testing out their building skills, with who could make the tallest tower out of only paper and sticky tape! As well as building skills the students also got to work with others they may be would not usually work with, which supports with improving their communication skills.

**Mrs Leach**





# Park Community School

## Year 8 Portsmouth University Taster Day

Yesterday I joined seven of our students for a careers taster day at Portsmouth University.

Our Parkies were impeccably behaved all day. They were a credit to our school and I was extremely proud to be part of Park!

It was a great day where the students got to take part in workshops with lecturers from paramedic, marketing and international relations departments.

Firstly, the students learned about CPR and defibrillation followed by a practice with some resuscitation dummies. Next, they created "flipping great" marketing proposals for a new Ben & Jerry product. University staff were particularly impressed with their sustainability ideas of reusable tubs and most impressed by the Keeley's flip to illustrate their brand new Squashie flavoured ice-cream. After lunch the students attended a workshop looking at the stories of migration and examining why people leave their country of birth in particular learning about how this is impacted by modern day slavery and climate change.

### Ms Hucklebridge





# Park Community School

## PCS CANON CLOSE-UP:

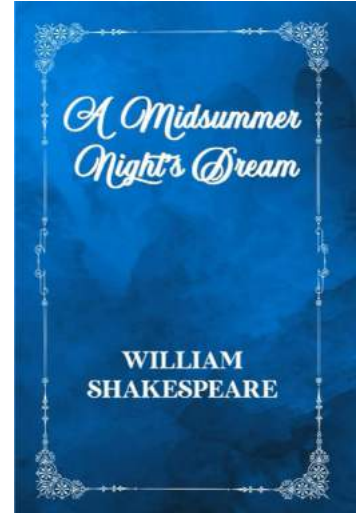
### A Midsummer Night's Dream by William Shakespeare

This Valentine's Day why not cosy up with a copy of Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream? It's the original RomCom. A magical tale of lovers Hermia, Helen, Demetrius and Lysander and the impish fairy Puck who meddles in their tangled web of love with hilarious consequences.

One of the most popular of Shakespeare's plays, A Midsummer Night's Dream is studied by our Year 8 students, serving as an introduction to England's most famous and influential writer, William Shakespeare, whose timeless works are still regularly performed and studied more than 400 years after his death.

**THE BLURB:** Shakespeare's a Midsummer Night's Dream is a play of enchantment and an insightful portrait of the predicaments of love.

When four young lovers flee from Athens and become lost in an enchanted wood, they stumble into a fairy world where King Oberon and Queen Titania, are feuding over ownership of a young Indian prince. Seeking his revenge on Titania, Oberon and his servant Puck begin a magical, yet farcical chain of events where all become interwoven in a comedic and mischievous play about the difficulties of love.



"I would recommend this book if you like fairies and mischief. Also, if you like things that go wrong and especially love that goes wrong. I particularly enjoyed the part when Puck gets the spell wrong and then Oberon finds out and must fix it. I learned that back in Shakespeare's time fairies were something to be scared of, but I was fascinated by them. My favourite character was Puck because he ended the book with a message to all saying not to be afraid and that the fairies meant no harm."

**Quinn (8ANU)**

**"Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind, And therefore is winged Cupid painted blind."**

**"The course of true love never did run smooth."**

"I enjoyed the fantastical elements and would recommend this to anybody who likes fantasy stories. It involves fairies and magic. I learned that you can still believe in fairies. I sympathised with Helena. I found her interesting because even though she was beautiful and graceful she was still always trying to impress somebody; she made me think of how we are often trying to impress somebody everyday of your life."

**Barbara (8HMA)**





# Park Community School

## Community Bowls Update

This week the club set up a game of 'Yardstick' for our students. Similar to a game of crazy golf, the students moved round each numbered jack trying to get within a yard of the tennis ball for a point. The students had a fantastic time and have asked to play this again after half term. They were really good at this scoring plenty of points during the competition! Well done Frazier, Ruby, Liam, Ryan and John.

We look forward to returning after half term when hopefully the sun might make an appearance.

**Mr Herriot**



## Trosnant and Sharps Copse at Park

We welcomed Trosnant and Sharps Copse to Park this week for a variety of invasion games. As always, our team of sports ambassadors delivered a highly energetic and fun session.

The ambassadors split both schools into two teams each. The focus changed from a competitive tournament to promoting high activity levels through games. This took place through games in endball, basketball and football. The team ran the whole event from start to finish taking it in turns to lead. They officiated and led the young people really confidently throughout.

We look forward to supporting Front Lawn next half term in their PE Curriculum and running our next competitive sports event.

### Heroes of Park

<b>Ruby</b>	<b>Joey</b>
<b>Fletcher</b>	<b>Leo</b>
<b>Ryan</b>	<b>Jensen</b>
<b>Alivia</b>	<b>Caitlin</b>

**Mr Herriot**



## Ambassadors at Riders

We spent a lovely sunny afternoon supporting the Year 5 Riders PE with Active 360. We supported their sessions in both basketball and dodgeball focussing on the bounce pass in basketball and teamwork in dodgeball.

Leading the way for our ambassadors were: Mckenzie, Darcie, Harry, Oli, Fletcher and Liam. The team were really supportive and officiated all of the competitive matches.

**Mr Herriot**





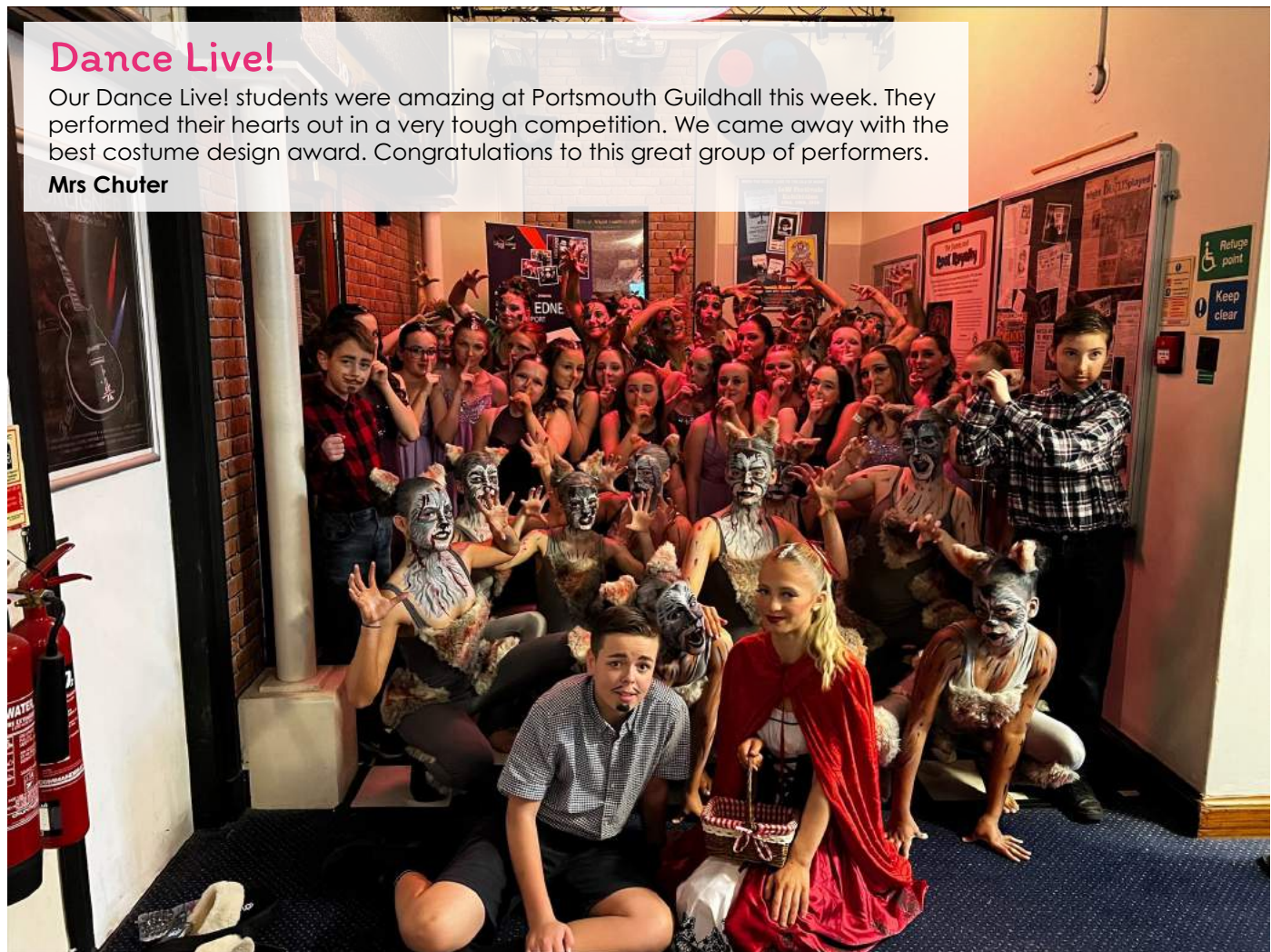
# Park Community School



## Dance Live!

Our Dance Live! students were amazing at Portsmouth Guildhall this week. They performed their hearts out in a very tough competition. We came away with the best costume design award. Congratulations to this great group of performers.

**Mrs Chuter**





# Park Community School



## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at Park

Welcome to the fifth edition of Park's SEN newsletter!

### MEET THE TEAM

#### Mrs Rundle

I started my life at Park Community School in May 2021 as a receptionist, then in October 2023 I decided to take the leap and join our amazing SEN team as a Teaching Assistant. I am currently working towards my Teaching Assistant Level 3 NVQ.



I absolutely love my new role, working closely with the students to help them to be best versions of themselves, it is an extremely rewarding role within the school.



### New addition to the SEN family!



Some of you may have heard of Draco, the bearded dragon who is based in the KS3 Hub (he is on the left!).

Last month, he was joined by Enzo, a Gecko, who is based in our KS4 Hub and pictured here with Mrs Challinor. The students really enjoy having a pet to look after and it gives them some responsibility as they have to feed them, bathe them, clean them out and Draco even goes for walks!

### SEND Homework Clubs

**When:** Monday, Wednesday and Thursday  
2.45pm - 3.15pm

**What and Where:**

- **KS3 Homework Club** (Year 7, 8 & 9) at the KS3 Hub (the room off the library).
- **Handwriting Club** (any year groups welcome) at the KS3 Hub (the room off the library).
- **KS4 Homework Club** (Year 10 & 11) in the library, until further notice.

This is an exciting opportunity for readers to find out what is happening in school to support our students with special educational needs; opportunities to be signposted and find out what is available in the local community and to be updated on any relevant information around SEND.

### Contacting the school

If you wish to speak to the SEND team about your child please contact:



**Mrs Leach**

Assistant Headteacher-SENDCo  
e.leach@pcs.hants.sch.uk



**Mrs Shuttle**

Assistant SENDCo  
j.shuttle@pcs.hants.sch.uk





# Park Community School



## Special Educational Needs and Disabilities at Park

Welcome to the fifth edition of Park's SEN newsletter!



# INclude

our neurodiversity schools team

## Parent Drop In

at Park Community School

- For parents of children with challenging behaviour, Autism, ADHD, Anxiety and Mental Health difficulties.
- Help and guidance in a group or 1:1 setting
- Meet other parents in similar situations
- Specialist parenting strategies to help at home and school

**10.30am -  
12pm**

Once a month - Third Tuesday of each month

16th January 20th February 19th March 16th April  
21st May 18th June 16th July

**2024**





# Park Community School



## Mobile dental clinic

Greywell Car Park, Leigh Park, PO9 5AH next clinic is 19 February 2024

Asda Havant, PO9 3QW starting there on 6 March 2024

Ring below for more details

### Appointments available for:

**New and expectant mothers**

**Children**

**People at risk of homelessness and social exclusion**

**People on low incomes and benefits**

To make an appointment call Dentaid The Dental Charity on 023 8001 4450

This is a free service for Hampshire and Isle of Wight residents experiencing health inequalities who have no other access to dental care. It is provided thanks to a partnership between Dentaid The Dental Charity and NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight ICB. Eligibility criteria apply.

