

much more than just a school

# Park Post

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newsletter

Issue 2

December 2015

## Winners!!!



### EBP South – Amazing People Awards

Park Community School was nominated for the secondary school award in the EBP South Amazing People Awards. EBP South promotes enterprise and employability and we are delighted to have won.

Sarah Coles, Head of Information Advice and Guidance, and Rights, Respect and Responsibility, said "young people need to be prepared for a world which is rapidly changing. Many of the jobs they will do when they leave school do not yet exist and they will probably have several jobs during their lifetime. It is therefore essential that schools and teachers are at the heart of careers education for young people, ensuring that they receive the guidance and motivation needed to lead them towards a successful career".

Tania Harding, Assistant Headteacher, was presented with our award, "Park Community School is delighted to receive this award. It is important to us that our students are ready for employment and we provide enterprise opportunities within the curriculum and through relevant work experience, including our Print Shop. Connecting with local businesses and offering mentoring from leaders has been key in students gaining skills to be successful in the workplace".

### The News 'We Can Do It Awards' Best School for Race At Our Place

Park Community School was nominated for the We Can Do It Award for Best School, following the Race At Our Place, whereby all staff and students ran 2.6 miles from the school to Leigh Park Gardens and back again. This is something the school has done for 4 years now, but this year Park raised a huge £2000.

The school was shortlisted down to 6 nominees and was invited to attend an awards ceremony at the Kings Theatre in October and WE WON!! Georgie Harris, Teacher from Park Community School received the award, "It was a genuine surprise as there were so many worthy nominees, but a credit to all staff and students at Park. It just proves that if all of us can work so well together to support each other, in turn we are raising awareness and much needed funding for a cause that touches so many people's lives".



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# Park Post

## Rotary Club of Havant Young Chef Competition



Park Community was host for the annual Rotary Young Chef of the Year Competition, which was a resounding success. All that were involved with the competition, commented on our amazing facilities, including the judges, one of whom, a Head Chef from The Brookfield Hotel said "the facilities are amazing, better than my own kitchen".

All students worked really hard and were a credit to themselves and the school. An amazing achievement, especially Izabella Darmanin, our youngest contestant who came first and now progresses to the next round which will be at South Downs College in January. Congratulations to Izabella and to the other contestants from Park: Emily Briggs, Tayla Chapman and Lauren Hollis.

## Year 12 Celebration Evening



Many thanks to all of the Year 12's who came along to a celebration evening to collect their certificates and generally get together. It was fantastic to watch them on the inflatables and in the photo booth as well as munching on burger and chips and making the most of the sweet truck! It was lovely to catch up on everything they are doing, now that they have left Park. Good luck & keep in touch.

Any students that could not make this event, please visit the school's main reception to arrange collection of your certificates.

## Children In Need

Park Community School embraced Children In Need, with a variety of fete style fundraising activities including space hopper racing, welly wanging, wet sponge throwing, baby photo competition, sweets in a jar and lucky dip. Whilst the students enjoyed a non-uniform day, the teachers made a fantastic effort in dressing up for the day and in total Park managed to raise £520.

Christopher Anders, Headteacher said "I think Children In Need is a very important charity for us as a school to support because it's a charity the children can relate to. All of the children want to get involved because they know, in turn, it is supporting other children".



## Horticulture Donation



Park Community School Horticulture Coordinator Gerard Bye, and Horticulture students Ashley Glendenning and Katie Roberts, were delighted to be presented with a donation from Andy Brocket, Liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London.

The purpose of this generous donation is to fund apparatus in horticulture where glass is instrumental in the mechanics of a growing project. The project will involve using Victorian style cloches that can artificially change the environment in which seeds, cuttings and plants will be grown under glass and compared to those propagated in a natural environment. Differences in growth and survival rate, the advantages and disadvantages of propagating each in both environments will then be recorded.

## Inspiring Girls Into Sport

Park Community School was invited to attend the Inspiring Girls into Sport event at the Ageas Bowl in Southampton. Eight Year 8 girls were selected as a reward for their excellent behaviour and interest in sport along with Paul Taylor and Victoria Smith, PE Teachers at Park.

It was a fantastic event, where the girls got the chance to meet inspirational women who work in sport, including Dani King (London 2012 track cycling gold medallist) and BBC breakfast presenter Louise Minchin. They had the opportunity to ask questions, hear stories and understand what it takes to be a successful woman in the sports world.



## Congratulations Go To.....

CONGRATULATIONS go to the following students who have been accepted on the Step Into Sport Inclusive Workshop (out of 60 pupils nominated!), Chloe Robertson, Ella Rothwell, Bailey Newbury, Cain Holmes, Yannis Razzell, Maisy Picton, Lily Moore and Callum Allen will teach them skills on how to cope with disabled children and students who are blind or deaf in sport. They will then cascade this knowledge to the other Sports Ambassadors.

CONGRATULATIONS to Abbie Robertson and Cameron Mitchell who every day in half term attended the Big World Impact Level 1 FA Coaching Award and passed. They were the youngest to attend and were "exceptional in their attitude, effort and ability. A real credit to Park."

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## Global Learning Conference



Park Community students enjoyed their visit to the HTC Global Conference which aimed to develop an awareness and appreciation of cultural diversity within Hampshire and beyond and the power of student voice on challenging perceptions and building resilience amongst young people.

The students worked hard with lots of other local schools, challenging and creating ways of developing awareness of diversity in our local area. The highlight for all the students was Chris Lubbe, a motivational speaker and coach who was born in Port St Johns, South Africa. At the age of six, Chris's family were forced to move to Durban where he grew up and became an activist in the struggle against apartheid. His talk about his life covered themes such as determination, fear, equality, humanity, justice, rights, respect, responsibility, courage and forgiveness to name but a few. Chris also shares important lessons that he learned from working with two of the greatest leaders in the world – Nelson Mandela and Desmond Tutu.

## Christmas Lunch



Warren Park Café Church has kindly volunteered to provide a traditional Christmas lunch at Park Community School, between 11am-4pm, FREE OF CHARGE. This will include Christmas lunch and entertainment including Laser Quest, inflatables and cinema.

BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL - please call or email Sara Barron on 07766 020524 or sarajb@hotmail.co.uk

## Unlocking Potential

Chloe Robertson and Samantha Poor have been accepted as part of the 2015-2016 Unlocking Potential Programme Dame Kelly Holmes project. This is a major achievement as there were hundreds of nominations across the UK!

This project is to develop skills and knowledge, increase confidence, self-belief and motivation, hopefully raising aspirations and expectations on future goals, whether from school to college, college to university or into training and employment.

The girls will run a community project which will make a positive impact locally, and we will work with Dilly Newton, Olympic England Hockey Player who will assist them to choose and then deliver their project in April 2016.

Please wish the girls luck with this major achievement.

## John Muir Award

In partnership with the Hampshire Outdoor Volunteer Service a group of Year 8 students will be working throughout the winter months on a number of projects in the local area.

The main focus will be the Billy Trail, which leads from Langstone Bridge to Hayling Island. Park students will be clearing the trail, replacing fencing, cutting down overgrown bushes and maintaining the general upkeep of the trail. In doing so, they will be working towards the John Muir Award, which is a qualification in Knowledge and Care of the Environment.

## Fascinating Facts

Did you know ... an elephant has over 100,000 muscles in its trunk? Or that you are more likely to be killed by a vending machine than bitten by a shark? These were just some of the fascinating facts discovered by Park students during Non-Fiction November. Every student who sent in a fact was entered in a prize draw to win the latest editions of The Guinness Book of World Records and Ripley's Believe It or Not. The winner was Shane Murray who informed us that an octopus has three hearts.

Miss Tonks' Year 7 mentor group won the class award for finding the most facts.

## Dickens Charity Skating Disco

Park's family Dickens held a Charity Skating Disco on Friday 4th December. Over 150 students came along, raising a total of £176.55 for Teenage Cancer Trust. It was a fantastic event and loads of fun was had by all. Thank you to all involved and especially to those Park Community staff that helped out on the night.



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## Family Challenge Day

October 21st was Challenge Day for students at Park Community School. All students were involved in a whole day spent with their year group, covering various areas to push them out of their comfort zones, exploring areas that enable them to make positive choices in life.

Year 7 spent the day discussing bullying in its various guises and how it could be addressed in school. At the end of the day the whole year group came together to share what they had produced to promote anti-bullying. Some sang songs, some recited poetry and others showed their fantastic posters.

Year 8's day consisted of a series of talks and demonstrations by potential employers which was coordinated by the Education Business Partnership. This gives them an idea of how life would be in the world of work and helps them to make decisions about their subject options for next year.

Year 9's had an informative day learning about drugs, alcohol and sex education. Their day started with speakers from the Samaritans talking to them about the work they do and how they can help themselves if feeling low. They also had speakers from our local drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre who shared their real life stories with them, students were greatly moved by their bravery in sharing their experiences with alcohol and drugs. They also had a talk from Southern Domestic Abuse service to enlighten them on the dangers of abusive relationships and how to keep themselves safe.

Year 10's worked all day on the aspects of positive choices as they reach adulthood. PC Janet Stone started their day off by talking about making positive choices and where bad choices could lead them. They also looked at body image and why people aspire to be like others and why sometimes they make the wrong choices. They also explored the responsibilities of parenthood and how this event can change your life. They had motivational speaker Ian Rose, Paralympian, in to talk to them about overcoming obstacles and how to achieve your goal.

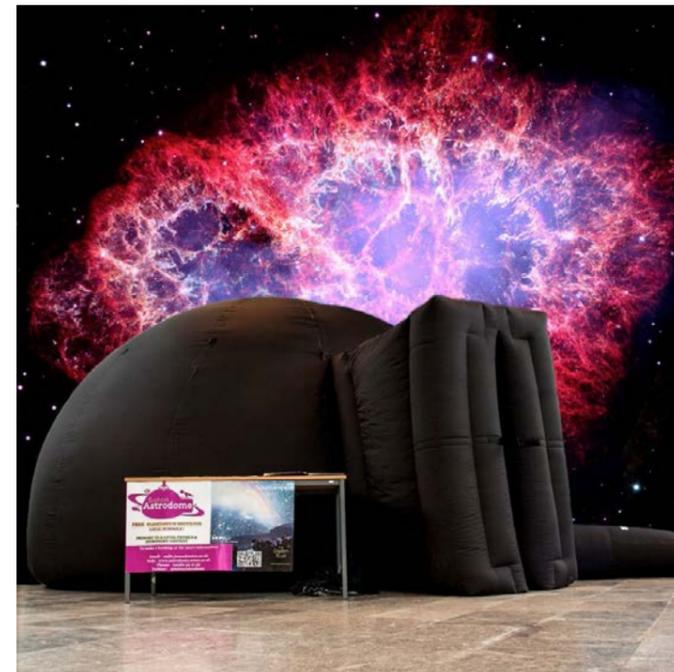
Year 11's had a day working on revision skills, with a memory skill workshop led by the Learning Performance Group. They also had Maths' revision sessions and learnt to apply their memory skills to their Maths education.



## Cosmology, Galaxy Evolution & Gravitation

Park Community School was given the opportunity to host ICG, a research institute at the University of Portsmouth that is devoted to topics in cosmology, galaxy evolution and gravitation, to give Year 7 students the chance to experience Space in 3D, within an Astrodome structure.

Ultimately Park wanted to inspire students to study and/or take an interest in Physics and Astronomy and exciting astronomy research subjects.



## Fuzzy Logic Dance Workshop



On Wednesday 25th November Park Community School organised a fantastic opportunity for boys to take part in a dance workshop with members of Fuzzy Logic Dance Company. Students from across years 7-9 were offered the chance to take part and it was a huge success. Laura Chuter, Head of Dance at Park Community School, is aiming to raise the profile of boys who opt for dance in year 9 and this was a great way of encouraging boys to get more involved and to experience new challenges. "Boys at Park were offered the chance to take part in the workshop and as a result we now have over 30 students who are keen to be part of our schools boys dance company".

## Hidden Talents

Harley Rogerson, a Year 10 student at Park, started playing pool when he was just 8 years old. By the age of 9 he had learnt to play properly and by 11 fully understood the sport. His dad recognised his ability and put him forward to enter a pub competition, which he ended up getting through to the semi-final, competing against adults! Harley continued to enter any competition he could find and has played for a pub league now for the past four years. Harley was entered into the Youth Trials of Hampshire County Pool Association and came 2nd, which in turn means he will now be entered into the England Trials! Good luck Harley from all at PCS.



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and that  
was 2015.....

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## Unlocking Potential Event

Year 10 Park students Cameron Mitchell, Emily Briggs, Lauren Hollis and Shauna Matkin attended an Unlocking Potential event at Millbank Tower in London, hosted by Dame Kelly Holmes.

They were each presented with their Graduation certificates and a £40.00 voucher by Dame Kelly Holmes herself, after working for the last six months on community projects with their athlete mentor Danny Aldridge the GB Champion Roller Blader. The projects included setting up sports mania club, football tournaments, staff v students basketball match, and running primary school sports days, to name but a few! They have been amazing as role models and Sports Ambassadors for the school. Janice Norman, Teacher from Park, who also attended the event with the students, came away immensely proud of the students.



## Congratulations Go To.....

CONGRATULATIONS go to the following Sports Ambassadors who did an excellent job in organizing a Year 2 Sports Event at Barncroft Junior School: Kieron Parslow, Charlie Hill, Lily Moore, Hannah Thompson, Faye Ayling, Brooke Keane, Jorja Greenslade, Emily Briggs, Molly Bringham, Summer Moxham and Samantha Poor. They had a total of 75 pupils and were just so amazing in how they were with them, they coped brilliantly with all range of ability, were so positive and had an excellent manner with some quite funny little souls.

## Primary School Tea Party



Beautiful tea and cakes and a short glimpse of Oliver! What could be better? The primary school heads and Year 6 Lead Teachers from Warren Park, Riders Junior, Bosmere and Barncroft Junior visited Park Community School to meet with their ex students to have a look at some of their work and to chat through their experiences since arriving at secondary school. Just a few of the comments from the primary teachers.

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"It's lovely to see how they matured"

"This feels like a really friendly school"

"Some of their work is amazing"

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"They all seem very settled"

## County Athletics Cross Country Championships

County Athletics Cross Country Championships were held in Basingstoke in which our students performed really well.

Park was the best represented state school at the event and the only school from the Havant/Waterlooville and Portsmouth (South East Hampshire) region to enter.

Many congratulations to all of our athletes, but in particular to our top performer in each category:

Year 9 Boy - Kai Gateshill.

Year 9 Girl - Iesha Cowlin.

Year 7 Boy - Bailey Kerridge.

Year 7 Girl - Jorga Greenslade.

Kai was particularly impressive in covering the three mile course, finishing in the chasing group and within the top 25.

## Enterprising Women Conference

Twelve amazing girls from Park Community School, representatives of the Girl's Network, attended the Enterprising Women 2015 Day.

The girls were Sandra Challinor, Tayla Shepherd, Jamila Sowe, Amy Olford, Tamara Mason, Danielle Skinner, Stephanie Addison, Shania Alderson, Hannah Fletcher Lucy Martin, Megan Hitchins and Shannon Atkins. The girls had a wonderful time listening to a variety of fantastic women including Sally Jones who is Team Leader for the Defence Marine Services.

They also took part in workshops to identify their skills and matched these to professions that they were interested in. The workshops were led by Anushika Bhana, Precious Metals Sales Manager for Western Hemisphere Anglo American Platinum, Suzi Ruffell, Stand Up Comedian and Linda Kabila, Consultant at Halebury. Park Teacher Janice Norman was told our girls were the most engaging and animated students they had met all day. The girls realised that with effort, resilience, a sense of humour and lots of hard work the sky really is the limit.

## What's coming up at Park...

- Ski trip to Claviere, Italy
- Year 9 trip to Disneyland Paris
- Year 11 English and Maths Residential
- Trip to see 'Wicked' in the West End, London
- Global Rock Challenge
- 80's Revolution night in partnership with The Spring
- School trip to the National Portrait Gallery



## Park Post

### Tate Modern Art



Year 10 art students are required to investigate work from a range of artists covering iconic moments throughout art history. To enrich students' experience in art and to encourage a deeper understanding of art genres we embarked on a trip to the Tate Modern in London where Year 10 experienced the exhibition "The World Goes Pop", a unique exhibition focusing on how the Pop Art genre affected artists and designers on an international level. The work students carried out during the day has become the basis for their personal projects.

### London Street Art Photography



Year 10 students had the opportunity to experience what it would be like to be a true 'street photographer' as they took to the streets of London one very chilly day! Students explored the South Bank in search of interesting people to capture. They were not disappointed, from the selfie taking tourists by the London eye to the urban graffiti covered skate park, there was plenty of visual material to capture and some fantastic photographs ready for editing back in the classroom.

### Blood Brothers at the Mayflower

Year 9 GCSE Drama students went to the Mayflower to watch the hugely successful 'Blood Brothers', direct from London's West End. The musical impressed students with its mix of comedy and sadness, as it charts the intertwined lives of twins, separated at birth and brought up in extremely different circumstances.

Students are now enjoying exploring the play and getting to grips with performing scripted work. A sharing of the work produced is likely to happen in the spring term so please do come along and show your support.



### Hampshire Book Award Event



Ten year 9 students enjoyed a spine-tingling talk from author Jonathan Stroud at Winchester Guildhall in November. Having helped judge the Hampshire Book Award earlier in the year, the students were there to see Jonathan collect the award for his winning book, *The Screaming Staircase*.

Along with other students across Hampshire, Park students read and reviewed six very different titles. Books on this year's shortlist ranged from a World War I story set in Gallipoli to a contemporary thriller about a murderous religious cult. However, it was a spooky tale of teenage ghost hunters that secured the most votes in the end.

As well as explaining his pathway to becoming a professional writer, Jonathan showed students how he used folklore and traditional tales in his stories. Katie Roberts, 9CSp, said "I was interested to hear how an author goes about starting a book and to learn that he began by writing just one scene instead of planning the whole plot in advance".

All six shortlisted titles can be borrowed from the school library. Why not read them and see if you agree with the judges' choice?

The students involved were Jack Compton, Iesha Cowlin, Tommy Dawson, Molly Hall, Frankie McMullan, Jessica Newman, Owen Read, Katie Roberts, Olivia Scott and Piper Willoughby.

### Y9 Royal Shakespeare Company Havant College

Eleven Year 9 students were taken to watch a live streaming of a performance of Shakespeare's *Henry V* at Havant College on Thursday 19th November. Students joined a number of other schools to watch the play live followed by a question and answer session with the main actors. This was a brilliant opportunity for students particularly interested in English and Drama to gain an insight into how and why characters are portrayed in certain ways and the methods actors use to do this. Park was represented brilliantly, with all of those who attended displaying brilliant manners and being fully engaged.

### Learning Performance Roadshow

We were invited to Chichester University specially designed workshop for Year 10 students. It was a fast paced and interactive brain training roadshow, 'hitting the mark', which focused entirely on practical memory techniques revolutionizing the way students learn and revise. The students then had the chance to put the theory in practice, with all students coming away knowing Pi to ten decimal places - 3.1415926535. The Roadshow showed us that a little bit of imagination and a pinch of creativity goes a long way, especially when it comes to revising key words and dates.

## Park Post

# At the theatre

## Oliver Review

This week has been an overwhelming experience for everyone. The dress rehearsal on Wednesday was to a brilliant audience of 220 students from our feeder schools, who left the school singing 'Food Glorious Food'! That evening was our first performance and the beginning of a fantastic week. The school sparkled with festive lights and Christmas singers welcomed the audience to an unforgettable evening.

Students shone in their roles as Fagin, Dodger and Nancy and many said 'it was as good as any West End show'. The singing, dancing and drama was superb and all the cast created a show that will be remembered for many years to come as 'one of the best the school has done'.

We finished the week performing a matinee on Saturday to residents from local care homes. This was a special occasion where tea and cakes were served during the performance and the audience was invited to participate in the well-known songs. A perfect end to an extraordinary week.



## The Snow Dragon

On a Saturday in November, Park Community School was delighted to welcome London based Tall Stories Theatre Company, to our new theatre to perform their original children's theatre production of the Snow Dragon.

The children were mesmerised by the imaginative staging and the very fast paced performance by this talented company. Throughout the performance it showed nice things happen to those who are good.

A near capacity crowd laughed, cheered, booed and hissed in all the right places and everyone went home with a big smile on their faces. Some children were left wondering what was in Billy's present but the answer will come another day.



## Armistice Day



On Armistice day, 11 November, Park held a special assembly for the whole school, 1000 students and staff. Many of the teachers and staff were touched by the atmosphere and the occasion.

It was a special moment in the life of the school as well as an important time in the year. Two willow structures have been built to commemorate the outbreak of the First World War and are placed at the front of the school. They are a soldier and a horse, and have been designed by our Art Department and built by Year 11 Princes Trust Group.

They have already been on display at Staunton Country Park, and each year on Armistice Day are covered with poppies to commemorate the fallen of all wars since 1914. So successful has the display been, that we have already been asked if we can build similar structures in schools as far away as Southampton.

## Special Congratulations Go To.....

Two of our students have received special awards for their exemplary attendance records. Hollie Fuller from year nine for 100% attendance and Thomas Millard from year seven for 95%+ attendance. Well done to both of you.



2015 has been an exciting year for Park Community School as the main building work completed and we have had our first term in the new facilities.

In the New Year there will be some further construction works on the school site as part of a project between ourselves, Havant Borough Council and Hampshire County Council to link our school site to the Hermitage Stream path and Park House Farm Way. Eventually this should connect the current Hermitage Stream path all the way up to Dunsbury Hill and the new development there.

Next term we will continue to look for further opportunities to provide the broadest range of education experience for our students through work with local employers and businesses, as well as inspiration through contact with elite sports men and women. We will start running courses through our new Apex construction centre as well as developing the existing opportunities on our small holding, in our industrial unit and on the main school site. I remain focussed not only on the need to ensure students do their best in exams, but also that they are well prepared for the next stage of their life and eventual employment.

With our best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

**Christopher Anders**  
Headteacher



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