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NEWSLETTER
AUTUMN 2016

EXCELLENT RESULTS FOR PARK VIEW STUDENTS...



Excellent GCSE results this year are a fitting testament to the talent and determination of Park View students and the professional dedication of staff. Year 11 continued the recent trend of improvement at GCSE with 75% of students achieving at least a grade C in each of the Core subjects and 40% achieving certification within the English Baccalaureate. The latter is an indication of how strong the school has become in Science, Humanities and Languages. The vast

majority of students will join the Sixth Form and those who are to fly the nest will have the qualifications and skills to be massive successes in their apprenticeships or vocational courses.

“ I could not be more pleased! This has been a very special year group, one who has thrown itself into life at Park View and achieved so much; it is fitting that they now have excellent qualifications to go alongside their other many strengths! ” Mr Veitch, Headteacher.

story continues inside ...



EXAM SUCCESS

story continued from front page...

Park View Sixth Form is also celebrating excellent results this year. The A-level students maintained the upward trend in the school's results, with students achieving on average points scores equivalent to AAA.

Mr Veitch said, "It was pleasing to see so many students find places at their first choice universities and all who wanted to go to Higher Education being placed quickly onto courses that they wanted. My heartfelt congratulations go to both the students who worked so hard, the parents and carers who were so supportive and the staff who were so committed to ensuring that they achieved their potential."

Just as important to the school are the students' achievements in music, drama, on the sports field and in their contributions to the local and global community; it is in these that students are seen to truly grow and mature, developing the skills and attributes which they will need in adult life. Mr Veitch continued, "Park View is not, and never will be, simply an examination factory. We have always been a school which has aimed to give our students roots as well as wings."



DRESSED TO IMPRESS!!

A vast array of vehicles formed a convoy from Chester-le-Street to Beamish Hall to bring Year 11 to Park View School's end of year Prom. Some travelled in luxury, arriving in a Lamborghini, whilst others chose pedal power to make their grand entrance; as well as the ubiquitous party bus and limousines, there was even a 45 motorcycle cavalcade to deliver one student in style.

FROM NO DOG TO SNOW DOG



Chester-le-Street Learning Alliance, a school company set up by Park View and 6 of its nursery and primary partners, continues to provide children with the most inspiring experiences possible, both in and out of the classroom.

Park View North Lodge students joined forces with the Alliance primary schools to enter the Great North Snowdog art exhibition. This fantastic exhibition supports St Oswald's Children's Hospice and 'Wild in Art' in staging Tyne and Wear's biggest ever mass-participation public art event. St Oswald's Hospice chose the lovable Snowdog character as the sculptural canvas for its public art trail and then sent out a huge white sculpture to all who were interested: it was literally a blank canvas in canine form. Our Snowdog has been created using designs by students from reception class right the way up to

Year 8, from schools in CLS Learning Alliance. A small group of Year 7 and 8 students had the enormous challenge of painting the designs onto the snow dog itself. Despite the complex nature of the task and short deadline, students rose to the challenge and produced the much loved 'Elton'.

He has now been collected and will join the pack of 50 compatriots to form an interactive trail which will feature more than 50 snow dog sculptures displayed in prominent sites around Newcastle, Gateshead, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland.



The trail starts in the Autumn and will raise thousands of pounds for its vital work, whilst attracting tens of thousands of visitors to the region. All who took part should be very proud as it was a truly cross-age educational project.



All who attended had earned the right to be there, both through their endeavour and services to the school, and were certainly dressed to impress: this year it was noticeable how sharp the suits had become on the young men and how many of the girls were elegance personified. As ever, the hotel did us proud, providing a quality meal and a DJ who knew all of the right ways to get the floor full. It was a superb night, brilliantly organised by the Prom Committee, Miss Keighley and Mrs Vaudrey; a fitting end to compulsory education for an absolutely fantastic year group.



“Impeccable in their dress, conduct and attitude, the students did us proud. This was no surprise given the absolute quality they have shown throughout their time with us. They are simply the best!”

Iain Veitch, Headteacher



ENRICHMENT WEEK HITS NEW HIGHS

Park View School regard Enrichment Week as possibly the most educationally rich experience of the academic year, as it gives students and staff the opportunity to let their hair down a little and to explore areas of genuine interest.

This year, all students in Year 9 were involved in highly interactive projects which saw them having fun, learning and also, in many cases, giving back to the community. A group of Year 9 students had the most amazing time visiting St Mary's Care Home and Picktree Lodge to see some elderly residents. Both staff and students were humbled to hear of Arthur's time as a prisoner of war during WWII and where his life took him from there; Mary told students some wonderful stories about her life as a midwife in Nigeria and what it was like to live there all those years ago. Ann, at 107, told of her days as a professional dancer and her secret to living a long life – laughter! The students then returned to school, wrote up the stories they had heard and then framed them and took them back to the residents.

“ The students did an outstanding job and one resident was so moved he even contacted the school to commend them. New relationships were made, beautiful pieces of writing created, and the opportunity relished to listen to elderly members of our communities and learn from their experiences. ”

Alison Moore, Organiser, Assistant Head

The majority of Year 7 and 8 were abroad, to either France and Germany. In France, students explored some of the WW1 battlefields of the Somme and the

war memorial at Thiepval which gave students an insight into the historical significance of the region. All enjoyed a fantastic day at the Nausicaa aquarium followed by a visit to a local snail farm where students learnt about this French delicacy and sampled some 'escargots'. Délicieux! In Germany, 86 Year 8 students spent the week in Gahlen to learn about German culture as well as to practise their language skills. Some students were on a trip nearer to home in Dalguise in Scotland which involved outward bounds activities such as High Wire, mountain biking, rafting, canoeing and tree climbing. Other North Lodge activities included performing arts with Razzmatazz, making and eating a range of European dishes and visiting the Life Centre. Whilst all of this was happening, the majority of Year 10 were engaged in highly successful work experience placements, with overwhelmingly positive feedback given by employers. Year 12 were preparing UCAS and employment applications, as well as working upon their Extended Projects. A very busy week to end the term!



With the charity in mind, the students wrote a beautiful song that focuses on the positives in life and determination to overcome challenges and to 'look for rainbows in the sky' and that 'every bad day comes to an end'. The students performed the song in school for other students and staff, spreading the message of the single. Jack Hetherington went on to create a music video for the song which can be seen at: www.youtube.com/watch?v=7gNdcPd2P7s&feature=youtu.be

“ We wanted the lyrics to be something to do with the charity, but we wanted it to be about the happy side of life, reminding people there are good things and giving some hope. If we could help even one person who was struggling by writing and selling this song, that would make me so happy. ”

Abigail Charles

SINGING TO RAISE AWARENESS



Students wrote and recorded a song to raise money for the suicide prevention charity, 'If You Care Share', a charity very close to the heart of Park View School as it was set up in memory of a former pupil who took his own life.

WORLD CHALLENGE

This summer saw World Challengers venture into the wilds of Madagascar. Far from a walk in the park or a lazy time on the beach, the 19 challengers spent 3 weeks pushing themselves to the limits and beyond.

That first week saw the group camp in Andasibe National Park, a rainforest with Madagascar's iconic wild animal (the lemur) as well as tree frogs and chameleons.

After a further three day trip the group arrived at their project village, where they helped the local community to build a nursery for the youngsters in the village. It was humbling for students to see how the Malagasy people lived: the relatively small amount of food they ate as part of their diet shocked the group and the lack of commodities that they take for granted back home in County Durham took some getting used to.



The afternoons provided time for the team to get to know

the local kids, play games and learn about each other's culture. It also provided a chance for a game of football. The leader said that in his 20+ expeditions a World Challenge team had never beaten a local team at a game...until now!

In the Southern Hemisphere it is winter in July, meaning the sun goes down at 6pm, and with no street lights or electricity, it's usually off to bed at 8pm. Never fear though, the boys' choir was formed while on project and blessed (cursed) the camp with renditions of classics like 'Angels' and 'Let It Go'.

After the project phase the group moved onto Isalo national park, and a chance to hike from campsite to campsite, taking in impressive views across the Malagasy plains. Some of the campsites even had regular visitors: more ring-tailed lemurs! Finally, the group arrived in Toliara, for three days R'n'R, where they enjoyed well-earned sunsets and games of volleyball.

All that was left was to start the long trip home...except Air Madagascar didn't have enough seats on the plane!

However, after the teachers refused to let the airline split up the group, an extra seat was found for Beth Amos...in the cockpit!



NO ROOM IN THE PLANE ...
Beth Amos, pictured in the cockpit.

A VERY WARM WELCOME TO SECONDARY EDUCATION

There was a record number of Year 5 children joining us for the Year 5 Enrichment Weeks during June. All of our traditional feeder primary schools were involved and this year we had the pleasure of welcoming Newbottle Primary, Dubmire Primary and Rickleton Primary in joining us. It was lovely to have young students at our Church Chare site taking part in full days of exciting lessons and activities. Students had the opportunity to be involved in a variety of activities ranging from mini explosions in Science and building erupting volcanos in Geography to creating felt artwork in Design and Robot Coding in ICT. Staff at Park View School were very impressed with childrens' attitudes to learning and confidence in being in a secondary school.

CONSIDER YOURSELF ONE OF US!

Students from both North Lodge and Church Chare performed in the school production 'Oliver!'.

Those lucky enough to attend, agreed that it put many West End adaptations to shame; such was the range of talent on display. Directed by Mrs Moore, the production moved at a brisk pace, with standout performances from Matthew Rayner (Fagan), Ethan Clift (Bill Sykes), Kate Smith (Nancy) and Flynn McQueen (Oliver), amongst many others.

The orchestra was a mix of current and ex students, as well as friends of the school. The Friday night show ended with a very emotional farewell to Mr and Mrs Woods, both of whom have now left the school after taking music to new heights - we wish them both well!

“The response to the show has been absolutely overwhelming. I cannot remember any school production which has had such strength of depth in a cast, particularly when it came to the singing. All should be very proud of themselves.”

Mr Veitch, Headteacher

The children had an amazing time and were full of excitement when they returned to school.

As well as enjoying the activities the opportunity provided an excellent transition towards the next stage of the children's education.

Lorraine Gowland, Headteacher
Cestria Primary School

INDIVIDUAL SHINING STARS

We continue to have a vast array of individual elite athletes within the school.

In the Summer Term alone:

Dean Slater (Year 10) went to Nottingham in July as he has been entered for the GB championships in a quad boat for rowing.

James Robinson (Year 12) added another Gold to his collection in the recent Judo National Championships in Nottingham. Incredible achievement from an incredible young man!

Rebecca Warwick (Year 10) earned a gold medal at the Whitley Bay U16 'Polar Club' Ice skating competition meaning she progresses to higher ranking competitions. Another superb performance!

Evie Gray (Year 7) competed at the Royal Highland Show and qualified for a Horse of the Year qualifier class-amazing!!

Bobbi Forster (Year 11) got on the J16 GB rowing team to race in France in July -absolute genius

We were also delighted that old boy, Will Fletcher, qualified to represent GB in rowing at the Rio Olympics.

ATHLETICS SUCCESS

A return to form for our Athletics Sides at this Year's District Championship as the Junior Girls, Junior Boys and Intermediate Boys all won their team events.

The following students became District Champions:

Year 8

(Competing a Year Young):

- Jack Percival - Javelin
- Philippa Ellis - Hurdles & Shot Putt
- Courtney Clark - 200m

Year 9

- Josh Bishop - 100m
- Aaron Trotter - 300m
- Matt Ward - Hurdles & Shot Putt
- Matthew Whiting - Triple Jump
- Eve Percival - 100m
- Eva Hardie - 800m
- Eve Southern - High Jump

Year 10

(Competing a Year Young)

- Ryan Emerson - Javelin & Discus
- Neve Jackson - 100m
- Hannah Watson - Javelin

Year 11

- Will Gibbon - 100m & Long Jump
- Jack Young - 200m (School Record time!)
- Adam Jefferson - Hurdles & High Jump

SPORTS DAY AT PARK VIEW

To celebrate the new House system, this year a Sports Day was held at both North Lodge and Church Chare. The events were fantastic, with students and staff competing fervently in an attempt to win the cups on offer. North Lodge again saw long-standing school records being smashed, with Molly Finley (Year 7) throwing 20.89 metres in the Javelin and Eve Southern (Year 9) running 400 meters in 68 seconds. This means that 20 school athletic records have been broken this year!

After two days of great competition, Newton won both the John Robison Cup for Year 7 and the John Cornish Cup for Year 8, Darwin were Year 9 winners and Franklin won Year 10. All points will be added to existing totals for the year to award the overall House Competition Shield in September.

Congratulations to all on events which showed the pure class of the Park View athletes!

PENTATHLON



The Boys' and Girls' teams both finished 2nd overall, in the County Pentathlon with Philippa Ellis winning the Girls' Individual Title and Kieran Jarvis named as the Boys' Champion!

A superb effort!



Park View Community Centre is situated within the grounds of Park View School in Church Chare, and is the perfect place to create FUN birthday memories for your children and their friends, with a range of parties they will love!



Party Guide

Cinema Party ~ Your child can watch their favourite film in our fantastic cinema.

Includes: Full cinema experience complete with popcorn for each child. Please note: DVD to be provided by you. Maximum 240 children.

Gymnastics Party ~ Party goers will tumble, bounce, swing and roll to a good time with our gymnastics party. *Includes: Gymnastics coach and use of the equipment Age: 3 years & older. Maximum 16 children.*

Football Party ~ Players will dribble, pass & score goals in a variety of football activities & games *Includes: Football Coach, equipment & photo opportunity with inflatable Champions League Trophy. Age: For 4 years & older. Maximum 30 children.*

Bouncy Castle and Traditional Games Party ~

Party goers will have fun on the bouncy castle and take part in a number of traditional party games including relays, parachute games and pass the parcel! *Includes: Coach to lead the games. Age: 3 years & older. Maximum 30 children.*

Fancy Dress Themed Party ~ Choose from Mini Military, Caped Crusaders, Wild West, Pirates or Firefighters see www.wazoomy.co.uk for details

Includes: Themed equipment and dressing up costumes. Age: 3 years & older. Max 30 children.

Trampoline Party ~ Party goers will jump, bounce & flip to an awesome party! *Includes: 2 trampolines and a trampolining coach. Age: 4 years & older. Maximum 16 children.*

Create your own Party ~ Rooms are available to hire to create and run your own party.

To book your party or to discuss your requirements contact us on 0191 3881043 or email - info@pvca.co.uk or visit our website www.pvcc.co.uk



Park View School - Lower Site
Lombard Drive, North lodge
Chester-le-Street, DH3 4BB



Park View School - Upper Site
Church Chare
Chester-le-Street, DH3 3QA