

Autumn 2010

The official magazine for Park Community School: Issue 11

# ParkPost

Middle Park Way, Havant, PO9 4BU

[www.pcs.hants.sch.uk](http://www.pcs.hants.sch.uk)



**In this issue**

## **Our Winter Wonderland!**

## **New Community Build**

**Plus**

Exam Results • Olympic Excitement • International School Award • Arts Update



## Change - exciting and a little frightening

The last few months have started a process of change in education which is both exciting and a little frightening. Under the new government there are many exciting opportunities for schools. The challenge is to work out which of the possibilities offer the best way forward for our school. That means which of the alternatives on offer will bring the best teaching, learning and ultimately make for the best education for our students.

Over the last two years I have been struck by how strong a sense of identity there is in both Park Community School and in Leigh Park. There is a very strong desire to be the best and seize opportunities. Choosing the right opportunities and ignoring "dead ends" means knowing what is best for us here in Leigh Park. I think that is best done by talking with as many people as possible, those who work in this school, other schools and elsewhere in the community.

Under the new government, as an outstanding school, we can choose our future. We are well placed to ensure our outstanding school can do even more for our students and this community. Last month's Winter Wonderland was a great example of what can happen when many enthusiastic and talented people come together. We had our ice rink up for a week, visits from many primary, junior and



infant schools for daytime activities and an evening concert each night allowing many young people from the area to show what they can do. We were making school exciting and I want to find ways to do that more of the time.

*CA*

Christopher Anders, Headteacher

## Winter Wonderland

The Performing Arts and Community departments are celebrating the success of the first Winter Wonderland Week at Park Community School. This week was the result of the combined efforts of the Performing Arts Department, MADD Productions (Hampshire Ltd), the Park Community Team and PC Ventures.

Preparations for this exceptional event began at the beginning of the term with weekly meetings to plan and organise all aspects of Winter Wonderland; this proved to be a fantastic opportunity for students to learn how to put on an event for the whole community.



Fun for everyone on the Winter Wonderland icerink!

# Welcome to issue 11!

## Another great set of Exam Results

The school celebrated another outstanding year of success with 94% of students achieving five or more high grade passes and 43% gaining five or more including English and Maths.

We are expecting even greater results this year as over half of our Year 11 have already achieved a grade C or better in their English GCSE.

Winter Wonderland got off to a flying start (in suitably icy weather) with daytime activities, including junior schools taking part in a wide range of activities such as ice skating, dance, singing and crafts workshops, which were led by students. The Thursday of Winter Wonderland was a community day with separate events designed especially for the under fives and senior citizens. The culmination of the week was the Christmas Fayre on Friday afternoon. Every department of the school was represented at the Fayre, with the local community and junior schools also running Christmas-themed stalls. Year 7 students were particularly ■ ■ ■

## Community Build

You may have noticed building work has started on our school site. This is for our new community building which will open next September. The building will provide space for community groups, the NHS and adult and family learning.



Artist's impression of Community Build from Middle Park Way

■ ■ ■ enterprising with their stalls – a visitor to the fayre could purchase items ranging from calendars, homemade cakes, bookmarks to original pieces of art. Also available was time on a bouncy castle and hot chocolate with marshmallow topping. The Fayre and week-long activities were a fantastic achievement.

Evenings at Winter Wonderland were a roaring success, with concerts held in the marquee every night. On Monday there was a junior schools' performance of 'Mean Old Man' which was sold out and enjoyed by all. Other concerts included a talent show, a secondary schools' concert, a professional concert and,

on the Thursday, a concert to mark the life and legacy of Sean Dickinson. This was an all-singing, all-dancing extravaganza, celebrating all the work that Sean had done for the school and the local community. The concert ended with a fireworks display which outshone many a Guy Fawkes' night.

Winter Wonderland week was an amazing experience and involved over 2000 students and young people from the local community and the Havant Federation of schools. Students working with the MADD company have summed up the week as being 'fun, exciting, hard work, fantastic, a huge success and just brilliant!' The students

of MADD Productions are now looking forward to planning further events, such as "MADD at the Fort" in April. Winter Wonderland has been a unique and real learning opportunity for our students.

Our front cover photograph shows students from junior schools enjoying the Winter Wonderland craft workshops



## International School Award



In September, Park Community School was pleased to be awarded the International School Award by the British Council. The award is in recognition of all the work that goes on, in and out of school, to bring an international perspective into the lives of Park students.

The award also recognises the links that Mrs Hutchin, Head of Modern Foreign Languages, has established between students at Park and our French partner school in Valogne, near Cherbourg.

Over the past year students have experienced other nations through Food Technology lessons, where Year 8 students cooked food from different countries, and in ICT, where students learned about other countries through internet research.

In Art, students made African masks and explored the Mexican Dia de los Muertes (Day of the Dead) as a source of inspiration for their own painting. In Music

lessons, student groups found out about a range of global music through drumming workshops using instruments from all around the world.

In Geography, as you would expect, students found out about many other countries, including the heroin trail in Afghanistan. In Values lessons, students met a Buddhist monk, who demonstrated the gentle art of Tai-Chi. Whilst Personal Development lessons covered many hard-hitting international issues, such as slavery, genocide and racism.

Year 10 and 11 English students explored other cultures as a basis for their study of poetry and literature. Students from all year groups were involved in cross-curricular days, such as PeaceOneDay where war and the causes of war were considered. Through Difference Day prejudice and the need for tolerance were discussed. In Communication and Culture Day, Year 7 students were introduced to Chinese, Japanese, Hindi, Russian, German and Spanish languages.

And, of course, many students have been able to have first-hand international experiences through school trips to France, Italy and America.

## Army Cadets have a day to remember

Twelve members of the No 8 (Park Community) detachment of B Company, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Army Cadet Force had "the flight of their lives" in November when they took a trip to school in a Lynx helicopter.

The ACF detachment is based at Park Community School and affiliated to the Army Air Corps (AAC). The Commanding Officer of 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment AAC had kindly invited the cadets to an "experience day", which



included the helicopter flight, a visit to the Museum of Army Flying at Middle Wallop, a tour of 668 Squadron and an opportunity for the cadets to 'fly on their own' using the latest in technology where army pilots are trained – the helicopter simulator.

The cadets said it was a fantastic day and Lieutenant Spencer Drain, the commander of

the ACF detachment, said he hoped that our cadets would be inspired to become pilots in the future.

## Greenpower

At the Greenpower Electric Car final at Goodwood in October, Park's team "Team Spirit" came 39th out of 75 starters on the grid. "Team Spirit" completed 35 laps of the 2.4 mile circuit giving an overall total of 84 miles. This was an excellent result as the team were expecting to be around the 50<sup>th</sup> mark. All in all it was a very good end to the racing season for the team.



Thanks to the team, staff, parents and Rotary Club members who have supported Team Spirit throughout the season.

In July we surprised Fred Deeks and Tessa Short, our long-serving Chair and Vice-Chair of Governors, when we arranged for them to receive their certificates for Outstanding Service to Park Community School at our Years 8 and 9 Rewards Evening. Fred and Tessa have been Governors at Park throughout its transformational journey to an outstanding school. We were pleased to honour them alongside our students, and to thank them for their unstinting support for our school.



Fred Deeks and Tessa Short

## Governor Profile - Peter Woods

I joined the Governing Body of Park Community School as a Community Governor in 2009. Having spent my entire working life in education (30 years of teaching mathematics in my native North East and Hampshire, and the final 6 years with the Learning and Skills Council), I wanted to use the experience I have gained and some of the skills I have developed for the benefit of the local community.

My focus has been Leigh Park. I know from my own personal experiences the benefits that can be achieved by those from relatively modest backgrounds who leave school with a good level of

educational attainment. In particular, I would like to see as many local students as possible stay on in education and progress to college and university. To this end, I hope to work with my fellow governors, the Senior Leadership Team and staff at the school to help maintain and improve even further the excellent standards the school and its students have achieved in recent years.

If you are interested in becoming a governor we would love to hear from you. Please contact Jane Alder, Clerk to the Governors, at school.





## Pizza Pride for Year 9

In November our Year 9 students successfully completed a cross curricular day with the Maths, Media and Design Technology Departments.

During the day students not only made a pizza, but also designed and made a container, and costed all the materials and ingredients. Students discussed corporate identity, created a brand logo, considered fair-trade and the recyclability of the containers.

The year also worked out the cost of their pizza from the actual prices of the ingredients used and were somewhat surprised at how little they cost compared with a ready-made pizza. Students, who worked in groups of 10, enjoyed the experience of making

their own pizza, using 'mass production' techniques to achieve their end product. They coped very well despite the cramped conditions and managed to produce 160 pizzas throughout a very hectic day.



## Rotary Young Chef

Three of our students entered the Rotary Young Chef Competition in November in an attempt to make it through to the next round.

Sophie Stafford, Ashley Foote and Paige Roberts worked very hard to create their sumptuous meals for the judges, who were looking for both excellent cooking and presentation of the food. Sophie came second and has secured herself a place in the next round. We wish Sophie every success in January.



Sophie, Ashley and Paige



Sophie's meal has earned her a place in the next round



## Greenfinger Success



The tender care and devotion of Support students and staff paid off this September when they won a cheque for £50.00 from Waitrose for growing the tallest sunflower in the Support garden. Over the summer holidays regular visits to the garden to water the sunflower ensured that it did not wither and die (the fate of many rival sunflowers).

Mr Watson and students were proud to accept the cheque from managers at Waitrose in Havant, and will be using the money to support future gardening projects.



## Let's Get Cooking

Over the past few months we have been setting up a 'Let's Get Cooking' Club for students at school. This is a lottery funded initiative aimed at getting children and their families cooking at home. Ms Poore and Mrs Carter attended two courses held here at Park, involving 13 other schools (primary, secondary and special schools) to learn how to develop a club of their own.

The first of the clubs started this term with the children following a six week course at the end of which parents were invited to sample their efforts. The idea of the club is to involve families and the wider community so various events will be held during the year to promote this.

Our first Community event was at Winter Wonderland where we had a stall selling some of the food we have made as well as bags of ingredients with the recipe to make at home.





## Student Profile - Jessica Ellam - Year 11

In this edition we interview Jess Ellam. Jess is a Year 11 student with a passion for sport and her sights set on the 2012 London Olympics!

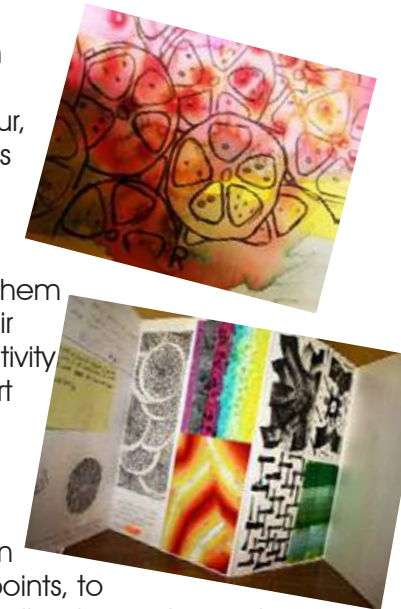
What junior school did you go to and what advice would you give to someone in Year 6 who will be joining Year 7 at Park Community School? Trosnant Junior School. My advice to the future students of Park is don't be scared, everyone looks much bigger than you but you are all there for the same reason - no one is better than you. You will all be treated as equals



## Art - Year 8 Media Experimentation

This term Year 8 Art & Design students focussed on the visual elements of line, colour, pattern and texture. Students explored mark-making techniques using different media and experimenting with a range of tools, using them in unconventional ways. Their exciting results showed creativity in their approach to using art materials.

Students constructed concertina sketchbooks showing a clear journey from their observational starting points, to linear pattern design and finally into media mark-making experiments. These are just a small taster of the excellent work by our Year 8 students.



## Art - Southampton Gallery Trip

BTEC Art & Design students had a rare treat when they visited the Southampton City Gallery. They were not only lucky enough to see art by Bridget Riley, one of the country's most revered and influential artists, but they were also led on an informative journey into the world of 20<sup>th</sup> century art.

Fronted by a practising artist, students were encouraged to realise their abilities to 'read' art in both intellectual and emotional ways. A skill they came to realise they already possessed and one they already used. One student commented on the day saying, "I really enjoyed this trip, the artist was really enthusiastic about the work he was talking about ... I was really inspired by Bridget Riley's paintings".



What are your favourite subjects at school and why?

PE - I enjoy sports and want to go into teaching PE to teenagers. It's a good way to relax from subjects such as English, Maths and Science as there is no coursework. It's a good way to channel your energy into something.

What advice would you give someone in Year 8 making their options?

Don't think too hard about it, go for something you enjoy and stick with it. Do what you want to do and not just to stick with your mates - it can influence your future. I chose BTEC Dance and GCSE PE - I really enjoyed both and got some useful qualifications.

What is best about Park Community School?

Lunchtime! The chatty atmosphere in the canteen is always nice as you see everyone in your year group and see people that aren't in your lessons.

What are you most excited about this year and what are you looking forward to in Year 11?

Getting my results and starting college.

What are your career ambitions?

I want to become a PE teacher and educate teenagers about sports and healthy lifestyles.

What moment are you proudest of?

Leading the warm up at the Superstar Sports event in front of 300 teenagers. The buzz was amazing!

Tell us about being a Sports Ambassador and what it means to you

Being a Sports Ambassador means I can express my enthusiasm and opinion about sports to students and staff in school. I also attend many meetings all over the place to tell people about the Havant and Waterlooville School Sports Partnership and am involved in plans for the local celebration of the 2012 London Olympics.

Can you tell us what the 2012 London Olympics means to you?

People my age are the ones who will benefit the most from the Olympics as we are at the perfect age to take part and help with the running of the games. Also it leaves us a good legacy for when we become adults and gives us more facilities.

## Art - Year 10 Oriental Fusion

This term Year 10 students have been researching and developing artwork based around the theme, 'Oriental Fusion'. Students have been looking at all countries that are influenced by traditional or contemporary oriental art, sculpture, ceramic and textile design.

From sketchbook pages to pattern printing here is just a small flavour of the work that's being created in the Art Department.





## Geography, History and Values join forces

Over two days the whole of Year 7 braved the weather to go on the annual Humanities trip to Gunwharf. Working on their fieldwork skills, students climbed the Spinnaker Tower, checked out the local shops and discovered why Garrison Church is missing its roof. The students took part in work and competitions based on geography fieldwork skills, the history of the area and the impact of faith and conflict on the development of Portsmouth. Some even risked a go on the glass floor of Spinnaker Tower!



# Our school, our news

## Havant Federation Enterprise Challenge

Yet again students from Park Community School rose to the challenge, coming second this year. The competition was strong with ten other teams participating. Our team hoped to keep up Park's winning streak (we have won for the past two years).

This year the challenge was to design and market a sustainable hotel for Sun Sail in the Seychelles. The five team members - Jake Allison, Jacob Barron, Jemma Carter, Harley Newitt-Beckett, and Kayleigh Waterfall shone above the rest of the schools when it came to presenting their ideas. With confidence in their ideas, our students were the only ones who presented without hiding behind notes and powerpoint slides.

Many teachers complimented them on their ability to present with such confidence and authority. So, well done to the fab five! We hope you spent your winnings on an entrepreneurial investment!



## Year 9 Travel & Tourism Trip

In November, the Year 9 Travel and Tourism groups explored the successful tourist attraction of Gunwharf and the Spinnaker Tower.

The students were full of excitement despite the rain and wind trying to dampen their spirits. They started the day by catching the train to Portsmouth from Havant. Whilst at Gunwharf the students had the opportunity to investigate the facilities available to tourists and explored how the Spinnaker Tower caters for varying types of customers. Whilst at the Tower the students also investigated how the Spinnaker's staff look after the Health and Safety of visitors.

The leaky glass front on the first level and the wet slippery floor gave the Spinnaker Tower staff an opportunity to shine, enabling the students to award the tower 5 out of 5 for its Health and Safety features.



The gale force winds gave the tower added excitement with the structure swaying beneath our feet, but as always the glass floor was the high point, with many students enjoying a 'relaxing' lie down!

## Education Business Partnership Humanities Breakfast

Fifteen Year 9 Geographers attended the Education Business Partnership (EBP) Humanities Breakfast held at the Royal Marines Museum in Southsea in November. The students had an opportunity to speak to a range of Business Ambassadors, to discuss career options and the broad field of employment involving the subjects of Humanities.

This really was a fabulous opportunity for the students to find out what it is really like working within various fields. Many students had their eyes opened to



options, careers and education that they never realised were available to them. After all the business chat the students devoured a light working breakfast, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.



# Hire a Synthetic Skating Rink



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For more information please call: 023 9248 9811

Visit our Website: [www.pcventures.org.uk](http://www.pcventures.org.uk)

Email us on: [info@pcventures.org.uk](mailto:info@pcventures.org.uk)



We raised £515.21 on Jeans for Genes non-uniform day and £409.87 for Motor Neurone Association at Winter Wonderland.

Thank you for your support!

## Courses starting January 2011

Healthy Eating  
English  
Maths  
Arts and Crafts

All free of charge for adults living in Leigh Park. Free crèche places available on request.  
For more information call 02392 489811 or email [l.redfern@pcs.hants.sch.uk](mailto:l.redfern@pcs.hants.sch.uk)

## Health and Fitness

Fitness Suite

Pay as you go – No joining fee – No monthly fee

Our community focused fitness centre has a range of equipment available for all. With friendly fitness staff we can help you to achieve your goals.

£5 Induction (must be booked in advance), £3 per session. £22 for a monthly pass (includes fitness classes)

Ask your G.P. about our exercise referral scheme!

Legs, Bums and Tums  
Mondays 6.30pm – 7.30pm  
Circuits  
Thursday 6.00pm – 7.00pm  
All classes only £2

Leigh Park Community Choir  
Every Thursday 7pm – 8.30pm  
All ages welcome  
£2 per person  
New members always welcome

## Children's Activities

Cookery Club 8yrs - 13yrs  
Saturdays 9.30am – 11.30am  
£2 per session includes all ingredients  
Please bring a container

Fun Dance Classes 8yrs - 13yrs  
Thursdays 5.00pm - 6.00pm  
£2 per session

A child registration form must be completed by an adult on the child's first session for all children's activities.

Birthday Parties

Bouncy Castle, Soft Play, Football, Cinema and Disco Parties from only £50!  
Parties available weekends and school holidays from 9.30am – 12.30pm or 1pm – 4pm

We have a range of facilities to hire midweek (5.00pm – 10.00pm) and weekends (8.00am – 4.00pm), including: Sports Hall, Multi Use Games Area, Football Pitches, Tennis Courts, Gymnasium, Dance Studio and Theatre. Contact us for a full price list and availability.

For more information visit us at:  
[www.pcventures.org.uk](http://www.pcventures.org.uk)  
or call the community office today on  
023 9248 9811

## Notices



Your chance to purchase the ultimate Christmas CD!

To get in the yuletide mood, Year 7

mentoring groups have each recorded a Christmas song for the must-have festive CD of 2010. "A Winter of Jingles" by "Santa's Starry Eyed 7s" includes classics such as "Jingle Bell Rock", "I Wish it Could Be Christmas Every Day", "Santa Claus Is Coming To Town" (with Leigh Park rap) and "Walking In A Winter Wonderland". Previously unheard masterpiece 'Mama Claus' is also featured as are 80s hits "Merry Christmas Everyone" and "Last Christmas". Sales at the Christmas Fayre were extremely healthy (over 30 copies sold!) with money raised going to a good cause. People wishing to purchase the CD will need to part with a paltry £2.99. A perfect stocking filler! Contact Mr Blay for your copy.





## Accelerated Reader

A new reading programme launched at Park this year has got off to a flying start with Year 7. Students have daily reading sessions in their mentor groups and when they have completed a book they take a computer quiz to test their knowledge of the book. They receive their result straightaway and students need to have achieved 60% to pass. They love taking quizzes and compete against one another to see how well they are doing.

Year 7 have embraced this reading intervention and particularly enjoy receiving the mentor group trophy prize each fortnight. They also receive personal certificates as they progress.

For the first time we can hear students discussing their favourite books and asking Mrs Dorrington, the school librarian, whether she has any more of a particular series or author.

Some amazing Park  
Accelerated Reader statistics:  
Books read so far 967  
Words read 5, 079, 125

Miss Shuttle reports that she can no longer walk down a corridor without a Year 7 student shouting "I got 100% Miss". She confesses "it's lovely to see them eagerly waiting with fingers crossed when I arrive in their assembly for the prize giving."

Accelerated Reader appears to be changing the attitudes of pupils towards reading and encouraging a culture of reading. Books are exciting!



Mrs Dorrington and one of Park's "Accelerated Readers" eagerly await the result of an on-line quiz

## Science and Engineering Challenge

In November fifteen Year 9 students took part in a science and engineering challenge day at HMS Sultan in Gosport. They successfully completed a range of testing challenges including making an electric motor, an electromagnet and designing and building devices to weigh bags of rice.

The students performed admirably beating nearly all the other schools at each task and narrowly missed out on winning a glider flight. They also had the memorable experience of attending a remembrance service at a military base.



## Step into Science and Healthcare

In November sixteen Year 9 students from the new Childcare and Development course visited St James' Hospital in Eastney for a Step into Science and Healthcare careers event organised by the National Health Service and Education Business Partnership. They took part in seven seminars run by healthcare professionals from various fields such as dietetics, radiography, clinical engineering, cardiology and catering. The students were praised for their active participation and the thoughtful questions they asked.



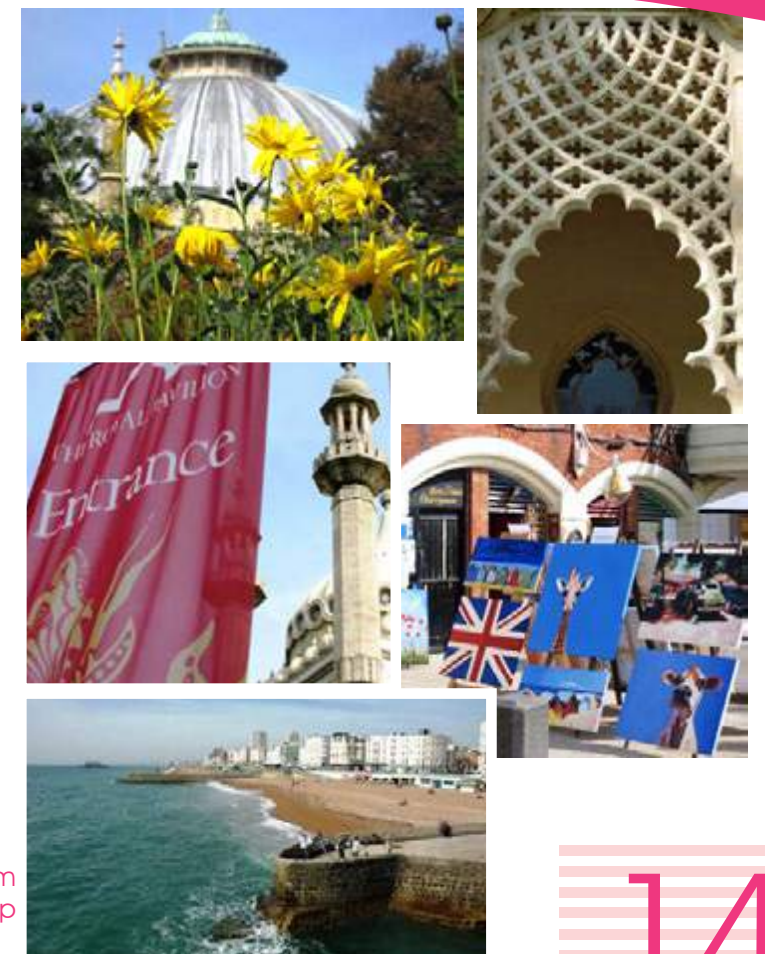
## Year 11 trip to Brighton

In September Y11 students who study photography, media or creative writing went to Brighton for inspiration.

Travelling on the train for an hour the group arrived ready to see what Brighton had to offer. The contrast between the wrecked ruins of the old pier and the brash vibrancy of the newer one sparked the creative talents of many. The Royal Pavilion drew gasps of amazement as students looked in wonder at the opulence of the pleasure palace. The shops in the Lanes were a new experience contrasting with the usual stores from national chains. The small independent retailers were very varied in their merchandise - vegetarian shoes (bet they don't taste too good!), guitar shops, classic comics, trendy T-shirts; the Lanes has them all.

Most frequently heard comment during the day: "When can we come back?"

Photos of Brighton from  
the Year 11 trip





## New York trip is Wicked!

Many exciting things have been going on in Performing Arts this term. Students had a hugely successful New York trip to work at Broadway dance studios where they took part in a wide variety of workshops. The highlight for all (apart from shopping) was seeing a performance of the musical "Wicked".

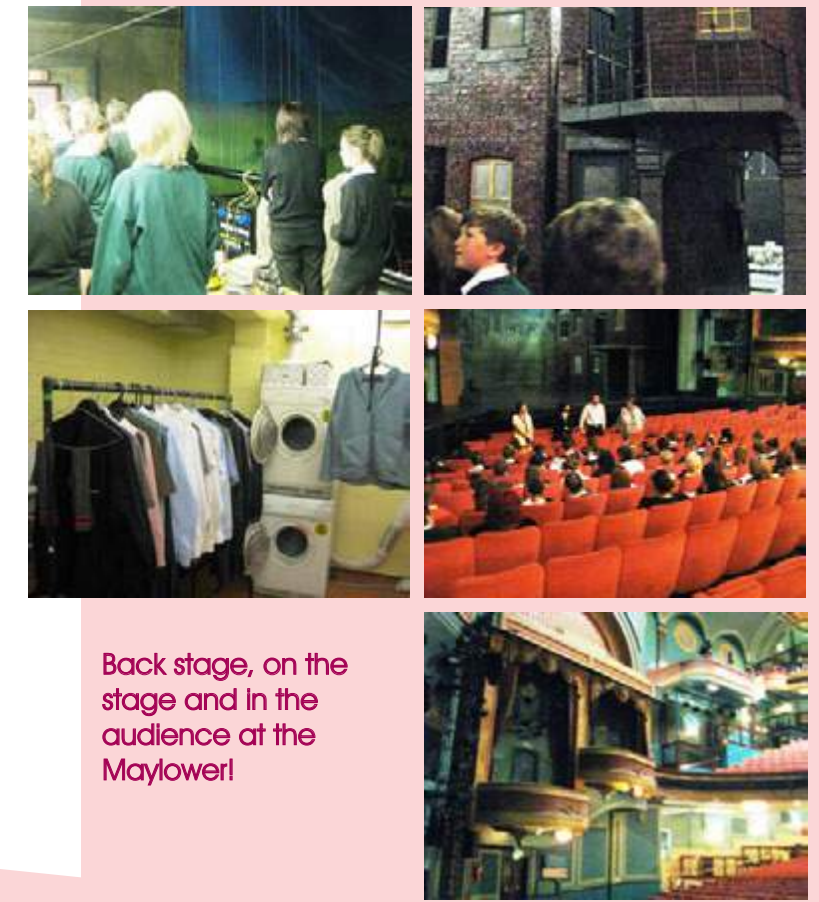


## Park Arts update

### Blood Brothers

In September our BTEC Performing Arts students went to the Mayflower Theatre, Southampton, to see a performance of Willy Russell's musical "Blood Brothers". Before the matinee performance, our students were also fortunate to have a back stage tour of the theatre, where they got to see the parts of a theatre that the public does not usually see, such as the flies, dressing rooms and laundry room. Our students even got to stand on the stage where that afternoon's performance was to take place.

The Mayflower staff held a question and answer session with our students and answered their many questions about the reality of life in the theatre. It was soon clear that all is not as glamorous as it seems in the performing arts world. However, this was all forgotten when the students took their seats and the lights dimmed for the performance of "Blood Brothers" which was a thoroughly entertaining and moving experience.



Back stage, on the stage and in the audience at the Mayflower!

## Fiesta Mexicana

In October, our Year 7 students enjoyed the Fiesta Mexicana parade at Gunwharf Quays for which they had made stunning skull lanterns during an art workshop at Park Community School.

The Day of the Dead Festival, which is traditionally celebrated in Mexico, is becoming a popular global event and is now celebrated in other countries around the world. Thousands of visitors at Gunwharf Quays joined in the celebrations in Portsmouth this year and they were entertained by the Mexican style procession which our students helped to animate. It was a spooky yet vibrant evening, which ended with a spectacular firework display. Thanks to all the students and parents who came with us, and especial thanks to Miss McIntosh and Mrs De Klerk.



## Bugsy Malone

We are now working towards our Christmas production of "Bugsy Malone" which is an exciting time for the Performing Arts department, following on from all their hard work with Winter Wonderland.

We are working with a young cast this year, for many of whom this is their first production and for some their first leading role. The theatre is a hive of activity and students are acting, singing, dancing, set building, prop hunting all over the place. The production takes place on 9, 10 and 11 December in the theatre.





## Run Success

This year saw the first Park Community BUPA Fun Run. All students took part in a personal running challenge of completing as many laps as they could of the 0.42 course around the school field. As a school we were able to run 269 miles with four students completing an outstanding 10 laps - Liam Newman, Amy Sheppard, Matt Luke and Kieran Manchip.



Congratulations to all staff and students who took part in the Great South Run. A great number of staff completed the 10 mile run around Southsea in October with impressive performances seen by Mr Fearon, Mr Bedford and Mr Anders. The students also

performed brilliantly in the Junior Great South Run with Conner Rothwell coming 16th, Jack Dray 21st and, Charlotte Downe 31st. A great achievement!

## Year 9 Healthy Lifestyles

Following a very successful Health Awareness Cross Curricular Day, the Year 9 students took part in one of our regular Healthy Lifestyles events. As part of this initiative students are asked to choose between taking part in a team competition, an individual competition or a recreational physical activity. The aim of this is to get students even more active and enjoying exercise outside of school timetabled lessons in preparation for when they move into adult life.

In the Inter Colour Team Basketball Competition held on the day, the Green Team won a very close match against the Blue Team with the equivalent of a penalty shoot out.



## Sports Leaders

This year a great many of our Year 9 students are working towards gaining their Sports Leader qualification. As evidence they have organised and held a skipping festival. This was a huge success with the Sports Leaders demonstrating excellent leadership skills. A multi skills and racket festival are also planned for this term. The Sports Leaders have also been involved in the Year 7 Inter Mentor Challenge, delivering a wide range of activities and events. Five of the leaders have gone on to develop their leadership skills in trampolining, and have held a club for Riders Junior School every Friday after school here at Park.

## Year 11 Badminton

Congratulations go to the Year 11 girls on finishing runners up in the Havant and Waterlooville Area Final. In the qualifying fixtures the Park girls performed exceptionally well in recording wins over Cowplain 4-1, Havant Academy 5-0 and Horndean 4-1. The silver winning girls were Danielle Sanders, Amy Sheppard, Whitney Downer and Jess Ellam.



## Year 11 Football

The Year 11 boys have completed the first part of the season as joint top of the Havant and Waterlooville Friendly League. The season started with a competitive draw with a strong Ditcham Park School side, Park levelling through Steve Robinson. In the second game the school enjoyed a comfortable 4-2 home win in the local derby with Havant Academy, Steve Robinson again on target and Louie Searle with a hat trick. In the third game Park travelled to Warblington, edging them out 4-3 thanks to goals from Marcus Oliver (two), Mike Mayhead and another from Louie Searle.



In the final game Park just lost out on the road at Bohunt going down 2-1 in the last minutes, with the consolation coming from Louie Searle again.

## Year 9 Boys Basketball

In December our Year 9 Boys Team took part in the Havant and Waterlooville School Sports Partnership Championships. The team, as always, performed in a very creditable manner and eventually finished in third place overall.



## Harlequins Rugby

Park students had a brilliant Saturday at the Harlequins rugby match in October. Harlequins won 55-15.

Ms Bannard and Mr Crowley entertained the students during the long traffic jam, encouraging them to join in all aspects of the day, including cleaning the coach! How fantastic that one of the parents, Mr Vernon (Havant Rugby Coach) got up and said thank you to all the students for a really great day. Here's to the next event!



## Get Set for the Olympics

Our application has been accepted by the Get Set committee, which enables us to apply for tickets to the 2012 Olympic Games. This will be a fantastic opportunity for students to be part of this huge event and witness some international Olympic athletes.

Jess Ellam was a brilliant Young Ambassador for Park when she spoke passionately and eloquently about her role as the Havant and Waterlooville School Sports ambassador at its own Olympic Torch Ceremony. The audience consisted of students, the Mayor, headteachers, Youth Sport Trust and BUPA representatives. She also led the warm up for over 200 students and gave out certificates to the runners as they came across the line.

## Girls' Football



Girls' football has started extremely well again this year with our Under 13 and Under 16 squads winning a number of their first league games. The girls have shown true commitment to training and have been excellent representatives for Park. The Under 16

team has developed further and now competes in 11-a-side fixtures, beating Crookhorn and Horndean in recent games.



## Young Ambassador Conference

Every School Sport Partnership has 1 Platinum and 2 Gold Young Ambassadors. The Young Ambassadors act as role models throughout the Partnership and strive to promote the Olympic/Paralympic values through their work. Jess Ellam is one of two Gold Young Ambassadors for the Havant and Waterlooville School Sport Partnership.

Jess, along with Miss Norman, attended the Young Ambassador Conference at The Oval in September. The conference was opened by many elite athletes including; Christine Ohuruogu (Olympic Gold 400m runner), Adam Whitehead (Olympic swimmer), Clare Strange (Paralympic wheelchair basketball player), Michelle Robinson (Olympic triple jumper), Miriam Batten (Olympic Gold rower), Nicola Minichiello (Winter Olympic bobsleigh team), Shirley Webb (Olympic hammer thrower) and Tim Prendergast (Paralympic Gold middle distance runner).

The Young Ambassadors were put into groups and each group had an elite athlete working with them for the day. Jess was with Nicola Minichiello (Winter Olympic bobsleigh team), her sporting hero. Jess said the conference was very inspiring and all the Young Ambassadors said their experience of the conference has equipped them with all they need to fulfil their roles.

## Students meet Olympic Gold Medal Winner



Twelve lucky students got the chance to meet James Cracknell, double Olympic Gold Medal winner in December. They watched a film of the various challenges James has undertaken throughout his life including walking to the South Pole, marathon running and, of course, those Olympic Gold medals for rowing. Students then had a question and answer session with James and asked him some searching questions, such as "What keeps you going?", "What motivates you to succeed?" and "How did you become so determined not to fail?". Students had their photo taken with James, saw his Olympic Gold medals and then completed a fun run around the field with him.

## Fencing Club

Jake Townsend, Year 8, thought he was just photographing the visit of Fencing Coach, Gordon Daniels, after volunteering to help with Park Post. Instead Jake ended up taking part in a fencing session, complete with fencing garb and a foil! Fencing is a fast and athletic sport, very different from swashbuckling action you see at the cinema or on television. Rather than swinging from chandeliers or jumping off balconies modern fencing takes place on a 14m by 2m strip called a "piste". The action is so fast that it is judged electronically rather than by eye.

Jake, along with Marley Long, Year 9, had a coaching session with Gordon. Gordon will be running a Fencing Club for staff and students which starts in March. The six week course starts on Wednesday 23 March 2011 (2.45-3.45) and runs for the three weeks before and after Easter, finishing on Wednesday 11 May. If you are interested in taking part in the club, please send your name to Miss Norman as soon as possible. Thanks to Miss Norman for pursuing the idea of a fencing club.

