

Summer 2011

The official magazine for Park Community School: Issue 13

ParkPost

Middle Park Way, Havant, PO9 4BU

www.pcs.hants.sch.uk



Congratulations on Record Results

Also in this issue

Winter Wonderland is back!

Plus

Trips • Student Profiles • Sports News and lots more

My challenge

The summer holidays always provide a time for rest and reflection. Through the summer break I have been thinking about the challenge of leading Park Community School to even higher levels. The school has an impressive reputation both locally and further afield. This creates opportunities to share what we know and to learn from others.

At Park we believe in education's power to transform. We know that transformation happens when students are ready and enthusiastic for learning and school, and the break from learning through the summer is an important part of this. For teachers it nourishes the energy to teach. For our school to continue achieving results that amaze others we all need to be fully rested and prepared. Once rested it is important that school and learning has our full attention. As a student it means arriving at school in good time with the right attitude and equipment, well-rested from a good night's sleep and enthusiastic about another day at school. For teachers and school staff it is also about being prepared for the working day ahead, and finding oneself in an environment where students want to learn. This is all summed up in the word 'ethos'. The ethos at Park is something that strikes every educational visitor to the school. Our ethos of hard work, enthusiasm and respect shines through.



On exams results day, with Perry James, who achieved 2 As, 5 Bs, a Distinction at AS Level and a Merit

This year my challenge is to develop that ethos further, that means increasing the commitment of everyone associated with the school to our shared mission of students and their learning and so ultimately having the best opportunities in their future lives. There are many factors which will be important in building the ethos of Park Community School and I think a shared sense of aspiration and ambition is most important.

Our exam results show yet again what is possible. The newspaper headline in August said 'Head couldn't believe his eyes at GCSE results'. I couldn't because it was even more than I expected and I already knew we would be celebrating record results. The students at Park can do better still with the right attitude, approach to learning and self-belief. Building aspiration and ambition is a job for families, the community and the school to undertake together.

Thank you for your past support and I look forward to another exciting school year ahead.

Christopher Anders, Headteacher

Best Ever Exam Results

Park Community School is proud to announce our best ever results - 5A*-C GCSEs or equivalent with English and Maths 55% and 5A*-C GCSEs or equivalent 95%. These results show that our students make progress at a rate which means they leave with grades that no other school in this area can match. The 'Gold Standard' figure of 55% is over twice what Park students would achieve at a good school.

Congratulations to our students and parents who worked so hard to achieve so much this summer. It is a tremendous achievement and the results will allow for courses of further study to be undertaken and jobs to be applied for that will open doors to exciting futures.

Joy, glee and delight on exams results day. Clockwise from top - Clare Wapshare, Rebecca Nunn, Charlotte Newell, Bernie McIver, Kirsten Stewart and Stephanie Wood. Our front cover image shows Callum Larkin, who achieved 3 A*s, 2 As, 2 Bs and a Distinction at AS Level.

Welcome to issue 13!

Double thanks!

Thank you to students and staff who made contributions towards the East Africa Food Crisis Appeal on non-uniform day in July. Together we raised nearly £800.

Thanks also to students and their parents who raised £156.78 for the Motor Neurone Disease Association at our awards evenings in July.

The addition of this latest sum means that, since 2008, we have raised £2,455 for this charity with which we have such meaningful ties.



All images courtesy of 'The News, Portsmouth'

Dickinson Centre

We are pleased to announce that, following an overwhelming vote, our new community building is to be known as the 'Dickinson Centre' as a tribute to Sean Dickinson, Headteacher of Park Community School from 1997 to 2008. It was Sean's vision that our school should be at the heart of the community, with facilities that could be shared by all community members.



Initially the Dickinson Centre will be open from 9 am to 5 pm Monday to Friday, but we expect to extend those hours. If you are passing by, do pop in and have a look around.

Our new school moves a step closer

Park Community School is Hampshire County Council's highest priority for replacement because of the building's condition. About 70% of the existing building is constructed from a 1950s pre-cast concrete system which is very close to the end of its useful life. £20 million has been identified within the County Council's capital programme to replace the defective buildings and refurbish the remainder of the school. The anticipated date for work to start on site is summer 2012. Two of the existing buildings, that are unaffected by structural problems, will be kept but refurbished so that they are significantly updated and fit in with the overall look of the new school.

The rebuilding/refurbishment will require a complex programme of demolition and construction. This will be done in different phases so that Park remains fully operational as an 'Outstanding' school. The process of designing the school has been taking place for the past year or so to ensure that it will continue to thrive as a centre of educational innovation and excellence; a dynamic and exciting place for the whole community.

We anticipate that a planning application will be made in early October. A community open evening will be held in September at Park Community School where preliminary proposals will be on display.

Year 10 trip to Sorrento

Twenty-two Year 10 students embarked on a fantastic five day adventure in June exploring the geography of Sorrento.

Despite the heat the group amazed staff by storming to the top of the Mount Vesuvius volcano, where they were excited to see hot steam escaping from inside, although they did not enjoy the strange sulphurous smell so much! Ice creams in Sorrento town centre that evening were much more refreshing. The group visited the famous ancient ruined city of Pompeii, which was destroyed by an eruption of Mount Vesuvius in AD 79. The highlight for many was the plaster casts of the victims. After sweltering in the hot sun and dust of Pompeii the students had the afternoon to relax in Magic World – Italy's largest water theme park.

Another highlight for many was the day trip to the exclusive island of Capri – a favourite holiday destination of many celebrities. They travelled to the island by boat, and then transferred to a smaller craft to travel around the beautiful coastline of the island. In the afternoon the students had the chance to explore the designer shops.

The students had a fantastic, but tiring, time exploring the mountainous topography of Sorrento.



Students enjoyed Capri, Pompeii, Vesuvius and Magic World waterpark

Winter Wonderland is back!

Following on from last year's highly successful Winter Wonderland, Winter Wonderland is returning and this time there will be even more fun to be had!

Winter Wonderland 2011 will be open every day of the week running from Friday, 25 November through to Wednesday, 14 December.

We have an exciting programme of events happening in our magical winter themed event marquee including;

- Corporate Christmas Social Events
- Concerts
- Prom Fair
- Fashion Show
- Christmas Fayre
- Family Pantomime
- a special appearance from Father Christmas!

Our school, our news

A fresh look

Students have been busy giving the Support bungalow a fresh look as the magnificent Dickinson Centre next door was making its near neighbour look positively shabby! Here are some of our students applying a fresh coat to the front wall.



ICEKapades back at Winter Wonderland 2011 by popular demand!

Once again the ICEKapades skating rink will be one of the major attractions. So look out for lots of public skating, disco nights and a few surprises!

This is just a small taster of what will be the fun filled, action packed, extravaganza that is Winter Wonderland 2011.



Cycle to school

In July we hosted a celebration of the completion of the new Links to Schools Cycle Routes in the Havant Borough Council area. Councillor Tony Briggs was joined by representatives from UK charity Sustrans, local schools, and the Rt Hon David Willetts MP who cut the ribbon at the opening event. Staff and students from Park, as well as



representatives from local schools and Havant college, then took part in an 'Action Day' with presentations and activities aimed at making cycling an essential part of the school day.

Governor Profile - Adrian Rowsell

I have lived in this area all of my life and, to be honest, living close to the countryside and to the seaside, why would you want to live anywhere else?

I spent four years as a governor at a local infant school and during this time I realised that it's possible to make a difference to our children's future. When this four year term was nearing its end I decided to move onto bigger things, from a school with less than 200 students to a school with nearly 1,000, so I volunteered to become a governor at Park.

I have a daughter just finishing her time at Park and a daughter at the beginning of her journey. I have seen

my eldest daughter grow and prepare to leave with fantastic grades, which has been, in no small part, due to the commitment and quality of all those involved with Park. I want to see my youngest daughter have the same opportunities in her school life, which also means that many other children can benefit from the Park experience. For me it's all about our children's future, and giving them the best chances and this is why I am proud to be a governor at Park Community School.



Interested in becoming a governor? We would like to hear from you. Please contact Jane Alder, Clerk to the Governors, at school.

Smiles at Oscars Evenings

For two evenings in July our sports hall was transformed into a traditional street party setting, complete with union flags and red, white and blue decorations. The barely recognisable sports hall was the venue for our Years 7, 8 and 9 'Oscars' Evenings where a great many of our students were rewarded for their hard work and achievements in areas such as community work, performing arts, sports and 100 per cent attendance.

Students were cheered by parents and teachers as they collected their certificates and vouchers. One particular Year 9 student had the surprise of his life when he was awarded a special trophy named after the former Mayor of Havant, Yvonne Weeks.

After recovering from the shock of hearing his name announced, a proud and beaming William Gemmell received his trophy from Mrs Weeks. William's teachers had nominated him for this award in recognition of his hard work, willingness to learn and unfailing politeness.



A fantastic time was had by all at the two evenings with parents and students alike leaving with smiles on their faces.

William Gemmell - proud recipient of the Yvonne Weeks' Trophy

Pompey Double Club

A group of twelve students have just completed the Pompey Double Club – a scheme to improve literacy skills through Portsmouth Football Club related resources. The Double Club culminated in a football tournament against other schools, with Park's team eventually coming third. A thrilled Tyler Downie commented "We pulled our socks up in our second match of the tournament and managed to win the game 7-0. I scored three goals!", whilst Ben Wheatley commented "it was really good and I really enjoyed it".

Reflecting on the impact of the Double Club, Steven



Jubilant members of the Double Club

Pearce, Steven Potts, Callum Cameron and Harry Cooper agreed that the scheme had been great fun and had helped them improve their English skills. Harry added that involvement in the scheme means he can now write more descriptive sentences. Lee Smith and Nathan New commented that the scheme had also helped them get better at football!

The other successful Pompey Double Club members are Jacob Danvers, Connor Wragg, Dylan Oppitz and Bradley McGlynn.

When asked what the worst aspect of the Double Club was Callum responded "the worst bit is leaving Double Club".

A Novel Experience

During the Easter holidays, instead of eating a mountain of chocolate, ten Park students were devouring books. They were taking part in the Hampshire Book Award (HBA), which involves Year 8 students from across the county voting for their favourite new novel.

Park's Librarian, Mrs Dorrington, was astounded by their enthusiasm. "Reading and reviewing six short-listed titles in a month is a lot to ask but our students rose to the challenge. The HBA is the only book award I know that is decided by the students alone. Our group all had different favourites which made for some lively debate!"

As well as discussing the books amongst themselves, the group also attended a regional event at Crookhorn College where they took

part in a book quiz. Our students, Ashley Haimes, Sam Lees and Alannah Nel were part of the winning team!

The HBA group really enjoyed the experience and felt it had made them better readers. "It introduced me to books I probably wouldn't have read," said Emily Bastow whilst Kayleigh Edwards told us she "Enjoyed chatting about books with students from other schools". Some, like Brandon Foulstone and Jake Lindemere, have used Butterfly Broadcasts to recommend their favourites whilst others are keen to set up a regular Book Group. "I just didn't want it to end," commented Kendal Pitman.



The HBA team and Mrs Dorrington

Students Rebecca Horne and Billy Mellish attended the awards ceremony in Winchester in June. The winning book was 'Time Riders' by Alex Scarrow – a gripping adventure which proved popular with Park's group.

Millionaire Harry

Our Accelerated Reader Scheme for all Year 7 students has made one particular student a 'millionaire'. Since joining Park Community School Harry Green has read more than one book a week during term time, meaning that this academic year he has read well over a million words! As a whole, Year 7 students have read 17 million words in 3,000 books, and two thirds of the year group have made above average reading progress this year.

Harry loves adventure and comic stories and counts Charlie Higson and Michael Lawrence among his favourite authors, although he is now reading lots of different writers.

Harry, who has made 24 months' reading progress in ten months, said: "I'm proud of what I've achieved, because I know how important reading is not just to improve my vocabulary and broaden my mind but also to help me succeed in exams and later in life."



Harry's leaning tower of titles!

Student Profile - Michael Envy, Gemma Hawkins, Abbie Stone

In this edition we interview Michael, Gemma and Abbie, who successfully completed Year 7 at Park Community School and are looking forward to Year 8. They reflect on their first year at Park and share their hopes for the future.

Which junior school did you go to?

Michael: Warren Park Primary

Gemma: Hart Plain Junior

Abbie: Riders Junior



Michael, Gemma and Abbie

Bienvenue à Park

In June, 26 visiting French children spent time at Park Community School and had a very busy day! They experienced 'speed-dating' with over 60 of our Year 7 students, a dance lesson with French and English partners working together, writing about their visit to England, a joint effort cooking an English dinner (bangers and mash and apple crumble) and a 3-legged football match with French and English students tied together - all to strengthen further our links with College Felix Buhot in Valognes, France.



Making Apple Crumble, Speed Dating and a Dance Class were all part of the busy day for our French visitors

Thanks to our Year 7 students who made our French visitors so welcome, and Mrs Hutchin, Mrs Martin, Mrs Dare, Miss Tonks, Mrs Carter and Mr Bedford for making sure that everyone had such a great time together.

What is your favourite subject at school and why?

M: PE, because I enjoy sports; Geography because I like to learn about the world and ICT because I enjoy working on computers.

G: Dance, because it is fun.

A: Art, because there are lots of different types of art.

What advice would you give a Year 6 student who is just about to join Park Community School?

M: Don't worry about a thing. Just keep out of trouble and you'll be fine!

G: Don't be afraid.

A: Not to be scared and to enjoy it.

What is best about Park Community School?

M: Teachers always push students to do the best they can!

G: Activities.

A: The wide range of activities.

What are you most excited about this year?

M: Sports Day - it is one of the best afternoons of the year!

G & A: Starting Year 8 and becoming more grown up.

What moments are you proudest of?

M: Winning awards at the Year 7 Oscars Evening - I didn't expect to get some of the rewards I got!

G & A: Taking part in Rock Challenge.

You were among the first group of students to study the STAR Curriculum - what do you think about it?

M: I thought it was amazing because we learned so much.

G & A: It helped us settle down into Year 7 and we got to know our teachers better.

What are your career ambitions and how do you plan to achieve them?

M: I would like to join the Navy and to achieve that I am trying my best in all my subjects so that I can get the exam results I need.

G: I would like to be a dancer, so I am going to try really hard in my Dance lessons.

A: I would like to be an infant school teacher.

My trip to France

By Chloe Louise Gee

The first day in France I was so happy because I had never been abroad before. The place that we stayed at was lovely. There was a massive tree which was called the magic tree, and my friends and I found some baby rabbits in it.

On the second day I did canoeing and it was really fast. I jumped out of the canoe into the water when I saw a massive spider right next to my leg! Later that day we went to a market and went to a cafe where we had to order a pancake and a drink on our own with no help. The pancakes were lovely.

On the third day we did the zip wire,

which turned out to be my biggest challenge of the whole weekend because I was scared of heights.

But then I thought I have never done it before so I had a go and then I wanted to go again! Then it was archery, where we played a game in teams. Unfortunately my team lost but it wasn't about winning it was about having fun. Later that day we went to a gigantic castle called Mont St Michel and had lots of fun exploring.

On the last day in France we all got up early so we had time to visit the French school. The French school

was really different to what it's like here. We had lunch and then we were introduced to some of the French students, who took us on a tour of their school. Sometimes we didn't understand each other so we had to try and act stuff out or use our hands to try and explain it to each other.



Challenge Days

For the last year students have been learning in new and exciting ways, especially on Cross Curricular Days. These days have given students the opportunity to work in classes with different year groups, explore themes, such as the Holocaust, and work on challenges for an entire day, such as the Enterprise competition. After gathering feedback from the students and staff we are relaunching them as Challenge Days in September.



Challenge Days are designed to be different to 'normal' classroom lessons and students will be using skills such as teamwork and problem solving in 'real life' situations.



Olympic Enterprise

The whole of Year Eight took part in an Enterprise activity in July. The focus was on the 2012 Olympics. The students had to plan to host a visit from a group of young people from a country participating in the London 2012 Paralympics Games. The students had to organise sporting and social activities within a set budget. Also, to add to the challenge, like all businesses, various aspects of the initial brief changed. The students then had to present their ideas to each other. The best groups went forward to



present their ideas to the Head of the Tourist Board in Havant and the Manager of the Langstone Hotel. Each team had to answer challenging questions from the judges. The team 'Paralympics of Park' were chosen as the winners. The students worked hard and enjoyed the opportunity of a different style of challenge.



Federation Teamwork Challenge



HAVANT FEDERATION
OF SCHOOLS

In May five courageous Year 8 students went to Fort Purbrook to represent Park in the annual Havant Federation of Schools teamwork challenge.

Callum Cunningham, Jake Ashby, Rebecca Tolhurst, Nuala Smith and Jade Robertson were split up into teams made up from all the seven schools taking part. They had to work together in order to complete various activities including an assault course, initiative tests, climbing wall and archery. It was particularly challenging walking down a pitch dark, cold tunnel deep inside the Fort to get to the initiative tests. Our students were successful in completing all activities and were a credit to the school.



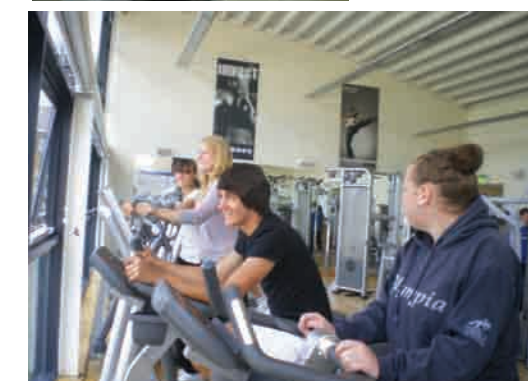
Despite nerves, our students took part in the challenge with gusto

College Taster Days

In June and July our Year 10 students spent time at the different colleges in the area. During their visits they threw themselves into a variety of activities, such as Hospitality, Sport & Public Services, Dance, Construction, Hair & Beauty, Computing and Performing Arts. At Havant and South Downs Colleges the students experienced the many different subjects they can study at A level.

Some of the students were surprised at Chichester College, commenting "it's really good to see another college in our area," and "there are so many different subjects to choose from, you are spoilt for choice".

Our students declared Highbury their top college this year, commenting "It's a really lovely college as it is so modern and friendly and has lots more to offer" and "Can we come again? I love the food!"



Students experienced a variety of activities at the colleges

Things to look out for this October Half Term

It's back!
Spooky play and learn day!

Holiday Club ★ Inflatables ★ Drop-in Club ★
Bushcraft ★ Wargaming

For more information call the
community office on 023 92 489811

Park's Winter Wonderland
back for its second year
25th November – 14th December
2011

- Corporate Christmas Social Events
- Concerts
- Prom Fair
- Fashion Show
- Christmas Fayre
- Family Pantomime
- Father Christmas will be visiting
- Skating discos
- Lots of public skating time

ICEkapades
Skating Rink

HIRE A SKATING RINK! Whatever your event "Icing on the Park" can make it a success!

Use it ...

- to fund raise for school or charity
- to provide a new physical activity
- to encourage families to get together
- just because it's fun!

Want more info? Call: 023 92 489811

Visit: www.pcventures.org.uk

Email: info@pcventures.org.uk

Farewell to Y7/8 Activities

Hello to Activities for All!

We are now able to offer ALL year groups
after-school clubs
Monday to Friday from 2 – 5pm

Take advantage of the following:
Bushcraft ★ Cookery ★ Arts & Crafts ★ Jewellery Making ★ Drama ★ Brazilian
Soccer ★ Hairdressing ★ Gymnastics ★ Dance ★ Games - Dressmaking ★
Portsmouth FC ★ Legacy Project ★ Park Radio ★ Drumming ★ Wargaming
★ Enterprise ★ Park Media Group ★ Badminton

The above activities are offered at little or no cost. If you would
like to enrol your child on any of the activities listed please come
to the Community office to pick up a booking form or call
023 92 489811

FREE Adult and Family Learning

Coffee Mornings 10am – 12noon

We welcome the chance to meet new people so
come drop by and visit our new centre and say hi.

Wednesday - 7, 14, 21, 28 September

Wednesday - 5, 12, 19 October

Coming Soon ...

Using IT for Families

14/9/2011 – 12/10/2011 Wednesday 1pm – 3pm

3/11/2011 – 1/12/2011 Thursday 9.30am – 11.30am

Family Gardening

23/9/2011 – 21/10/2011 Friday 9.30am – 11.30am

17/11/2011 – 15/12/2011 Thursday 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Healthy Eating

20/09/2011 – 18/10/2011 Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am

Using Craft in Family Learning

4/10/2011 – 8/11/2011 Tuesday 9.30am – 11.30am

Introduction to Money Management

16/11/2011 – 14/12/2011 Wednesday 9.30am –
11.30am

Employability

13/09/2011 – 18/10/2011 Tuesday 10am – 12noon

Safe Surfing

9/11/2011 – 7/12/2011 Wednesday 1pm – 3pm

Getting started with IT

12/09/2011 – 17/10/2011 Monday 10am – 12 noon

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, £3 per session. £22 for a monthly pass
Ask your G.P about our exercise referral scheme!

Legs, Bums and Tums Monday 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Zumba Thursday 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Yoga Thursday 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Leigh Park Community Choir

Every Thursday 7.00pm – 8.30pm

New members of all ages always welcome
£2 per person

Children's Activities (term time only)

Cookery Club 8 – 13 years

Saturday 9.30am – 11.30am

£2 per session includes all ingredients
Please bring a container

Fun Dance Classes 8 – 13 years

Thursday 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.

Drop In

Monday to Wednesday 6.00pm – 8.00pm

Pool, games, Wii, football table

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

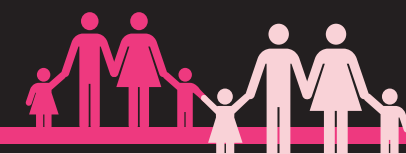
We have a range of facilities to hire midweek (5.00pm –
10.00pm) and weekends (8.00am – 4.00pm), including:
Sports Hall, Multi Use Games Area, Football Pitches, Tennis
Courts, Gymnasium, Dance Studio and Theatre. Contact us
for a full price list and availability.

For more information visit us at:

www.pcventures.org.uk

or call the community office today on

023 92 489811



Year 9 entertain Chernobyl visitors

A highlight in July was the Year 9 BTEC group performing samba to visiting children from the Chernobyl area of the Ukraine.

A wonderful afternoon was spent at Hollybank House, Emsworth, teaching the visitors the skills required in playing the complicated rhythms.

Despite the language barrier the communication was excellent and the whole experience was a huge success. A lasting memory will be watching the group play croquet on the lawn with a line of Harley-Davidsons as a backdrop!

Year 9 BTEC group played for, and shared their skills with, Chernobyl children



Singing in the Rain

In June, 50 students took part in workshops delivered in school by Chichester Festival Theatre professionals. The workshops were designed to develop performance techniques and skills currently being demonstrated by the cast of the classic musical 'Singing in the Rain'.

The following week these same students then enjoyed a matinee performance of the musical at the theatre. This was a reward for their great effort and hard work with Rock Challenge. The musical, with outstanding staging and choreography, is an amazing insight into the progression of silent to talking movies.

The students sat in awe as the performance unfolded in front of them and all agreed that this was a fantastic show well worth going to see.



Armed Forces Day

The Mayor of Havant sent a personal letter to Eloise Bryant (Year 9) to thank her for her beautiful and sensitive rendition of the solo hymn 'Make me a Channel of your Peace' at Armed Forces Day in June. Councillor Ken Smith said that Eloise's singing had made the ceremony a "memorable and meaningful occasion for all those in attendance". Eloise performed in front of veterans, cadets, school children and members of the Armed Forces at the flag hoisting ceremony in Emsworth Square.



Rock Challenge

In April over 70 students from Park Community School took part in the Rock Challenge showcase at Portsmouth Guildhall. Our students won six awards on the night.

A month later they competed in the Rock Challenge premiere division finals. This was a very tough competition which involved many colleges and sixth form schools. On this occasion they won four awards for 'Best Concept', 'Best Stage Crew', 'Best Lighting' and 'Best Entertainment'.

In the same month our Year 11 Dance Leaders also choreographed Front Lawn Junior School's Rock Challenge. This involved helping design the set, choreography and also operating the set on the actual night. Front Lawn came fifth out of twelve schools and was awarded 'Best Staging'. Both Front Lawn students and our Dance Leaders were very pleased and proud of the result.



Scenes from our award winning Rock Challenge Showcase

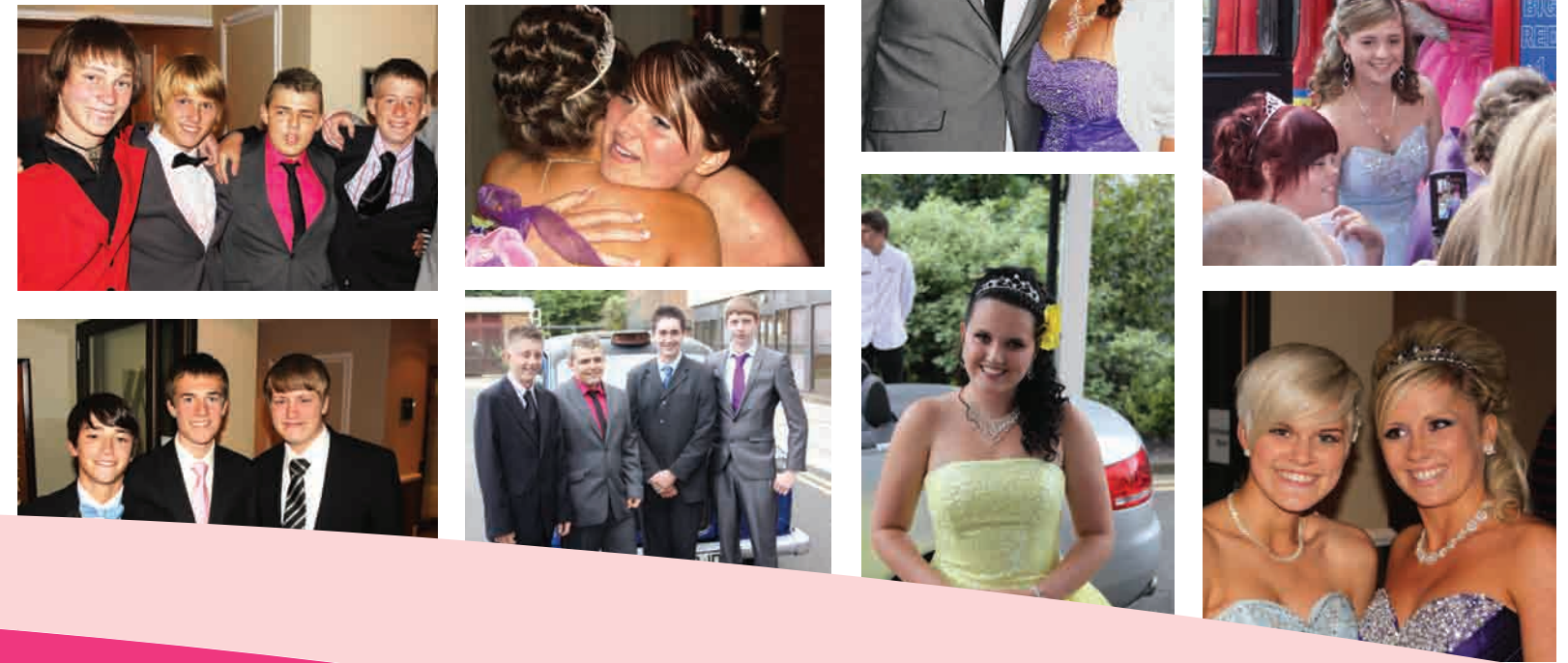
Year 11 Leavers' Day

There were tears and laughter when Year 11 officially said goodbye at the end of July. After an assembly with musical entertainment, there was the now traditional balloon launch and signing of shirts. We wish Year 11 all the very best for the future and look forward to seeing them at their Celebration Evening back at school in mid-October.



Year 11 Prom

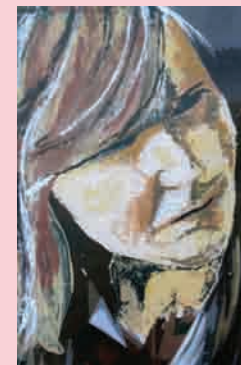
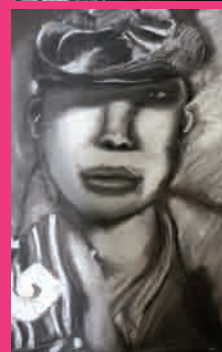
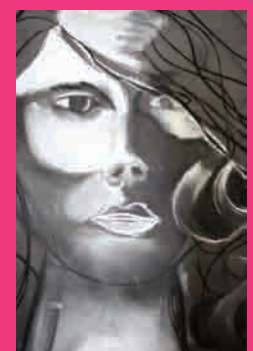
Congratulations to students and staff for another successful Park Community School Prom in July. The students had a night to remember at the Marriott Hotel, Portsmouth. The girls and boys alike looked stunning in their glitz and glamour. Memorable scenes include Coral Midgley arriving with her escort of motorbikes, Chris Blades on a tandem and John Butler in his red jacket and beetle crushers! A great time was had by all.



Art

Last term our Year 8 and 11 students produced a striking array of art based on self-portrait.

Their superb work clearly demonstrated their maturing skills.



Kew Gardens

Our Year 10 Photography students had a fantastic time at Kew Gardens capturing images of the amazing botanical forms found there.



Our Sports Leaders Shine

During the Summer term, our Sports Leaders have planned, delivered and reviewed a number of junior school sports days. The students have demonstrated excellent organisational skills and showed a positive and caring attitude towards the younger students they have been working with.

Our sports leaders have been fantastic representatives of Park with positive feedback from many local teachers, such as "the leaders that attended Riders Infants on Tuesday were the best we've ever had. They were polite to both the adults and the children and really got on with their role. I have now had a chance to speak to all of my staff and they were all complimentary of the young leaders saying that they joined in, modelled

the activities, supported the children without taking over and that they were definitely an asset to our sports day. They even tidied away at the end and helped to bring the chairs in despite the heavy rain".



Our Sports Leaders



Sports Leaders in action at Riders School Sports Day

Sports Day Success

Sports Day this year saw yet another convincing overall victory for the mighty Blue team, with the Blues triumphant in Years 7 and 8, Yellows in Year 10 and Greens in Year 9. The morning was filled with field events for all year groups and the afternoon saw the whole school come together in their colour groups to support and compete. The sun shone as both staff and students began to lose their voices through cheering on their team mates. A large number of records were broken throughout the day including, Year 8 200m record by Jessica Farren, Year 7 Javelin record by Harrison Chalk and the Year 9 Javelin record by Robbie Quarrington.

Athletics

At the partnership athletics championships held in July at the Mountbatten Centre, our students were placed in each event they entered with some achieving top three finishes: Lorna-May Anslow 3rd in shot put, Harrison Chalk 4th in Javelin and Jessica Farren 1st in 200m, and 3rd in 1500m. Well done to all students who took part.

Rounders

It has been fantastic to see so many students attending rounders club this year, with teams competing at area competitions for Years 8 and 9. The Year 8 team successfully beat Horndean, Purbrook Park, Cowplain, and Warblington to become overall winners of the tournament. There was some excellent teamwork and encouragement



Year 8 Rounders Team



Year 7 Rounders Team

from all the students resulting in many rounders scored and efficient fielding. We look forward to continuing these teams and competing in more competitions.

Gifted & Talented Day

A selection of Year 9 students attended Portsmouth University for an Aim Higher trip where they completed a variety of activities including boxercise, fitness challenge, hip hop dance and aeroball. They thoroughly enjoyed these activities and worked well with other schools from the local area. We hope to develop the links with the university to provide a variety of sporting opportunities for our students.



Boxercise at Portsmouth University

Trampolining

Our after-school trampolining club has continued to be a huge success with performers developing skills to a very high standard. We now have students performing complex routines that include skills such as front and back somersaults. All students have also developed their coaching skills and now show detailed knowledge and understanding of the movements, and can confidently coach each other. We hope to bring these performances to an amphitheatre in the coming year, and welcome any newcomers to the club from all years.



Developing Skills at Trampoline Club

Aim Higher

Twenty of our Year 9 students were selected to attend an Aim Higher trip to the Mountbatten Centre, where they gained an insight into careers in sport. They completed a range of practical and presentation tasks, demonstrating excellent teamwork and leadership skills, and were faced with a variety of problems to develop their communication skills within their group.

Students confidently asked questions about future opportunities at local colleges, universities and public services.



Problem solving through teamwork

Osmington Bay Bravehearts

At the end of the summer term 40 of our Year 9 students were packed onto a coach and whisked off to Weymouth for a three day residential at PGL's Osmington Bay. The students were outstanding, helping each other to complete a variety of team and personal goals through activities such as climbing, raft building, catwalk, Jacobs's ladder, rifle shooting, kayaking and zipwire. Students worked in four groups with their PGL instructor and a member of Park staff to take on these activities with the students demonstrating how brave they could be. The PGL instructors commented on how enthusiastic our students were and how lovely it was to have children with character to teach. Highlights have to include Jake Sewell doing press ups 30 feet up in the air on cat walk, Jack Bishop helping Miss Binns climb to the top of Jacobs Ladder and Taylor Tucker's singing throughout raft building! Thank you Year 9 for a really amazing trip.



Marvellous Marwell

Sixty of our Year 8 students went to a residential at Marwell Activity Centre this summer term to develop both teamwork and leadership skills. The overnight camping experience was fantastic fun, but wet to say the least. Surprisingly they managed to return without webbed feet! The students gave all the activities 100% effort, supporting each other through some very challenging situations. Activities included quad-biking, climbing, giant swing, kayaking, assault courses and low ropes (tree top challenge). The evening was finished off with a game of 'capture the flag' in the woods and a camp fire before students settled down to a night in their tents.



Students had a damp time at Marwell, but they were not down-hearted!