

much more than just a school

# Park Post

much  
**more** than  
just a **school**

newsletter

Issue 14

December 2017

## Catering Team Achieves Gold Award

Park Community School is delighted to announce that it has been awarded the prestigious Food for Life Gold award which recognises that a healthy climate for a friendly food culture has been established within the school.

Park is the only school in Hampshire with a valid Gold Award and, within the UK, one of only three secondary schools.

Since joining Food for Life, Park Community School has shown that it is possible to transform school food culture when a whole school approach is taken. This has been driven by our Head Chef, Steven Cross, our catering team and Student Food Ambassadors.

Students of Park Community School assist in the rearing of pigs, chickens, ducks and quails, and

in the growing of vegetables and fruit for the school kitchen. Meetings take place regularly to discuss forthcoming menus and to sample the food.

As a result, the school has seen a rise in the uptake of school meals proving that great school food combined with food education is best way to encourage children to eat more healthily.

*Continued overleaf...*



Park Community School - much more than just a school

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# Park Post

## Catering Team Achieves Gold Award

*Continued....*

James Cashmore, Director of Food for Life stated:

"I'm delighted to announce that Park Community School has achieved the Food for Life Gold Award for creating a healthy, sustainable and enjoyable food culture within the school and its community to the benefit of everybody involved. The school shows what real 21st century education is all about, which is using real life experiences to teach the curriculum and providing the next generation with solutions to what threatens their future, namely climate change and the obesity crisis. By empowering the young people to make informed food choices and giving them the skills to grow and cook food for themselves and their families, Park Community School leads the way for a more sustainable future."

Head Chef, Steven Cross said:

"The Restaurant has become the hub of the school and is well used by students, staff and our wider community every day. 'What's for lunch?' is a regular topic of conversation as is 'What else can we include in the daily menus?' Students enjoy visiting our farm, helping with our market garden and seeing the produce used in our school meals."

Christopher Anders, Headteacher, appreciates the value of outside validation in all that we do.

"We believe we are 'Much More Than Just a School' and this award further shows how much more. Within school the quality of our food reflects the passion we have to ensure our students have the best meals we can provide. We continually explore ways to expand our provision for students and their families. The small holding is a popular place for our students linking food to its source."

## Park Bites



As part of their Character Building lesson, two Year 7 students, Nicole Burchell and Jade Smith, held a cake sale during their lunchtimes to raise funds for two of their chosen charities, Cancer Research and RSPCA - they sold out within 2 days and raised just over £15.

Following on from the success of our sponsored rowing challenge to raise funds for the Literacy Box Fund, we are delighted to announce we managed to raise enough funds to send 24 literacy boxes to the Tondo School in Manilla.



# At the Theatre

## 'Bugsy Malone' review - Mrs Bowman

Students from Years 7-10 have been working super hard, some since before the summer break, to prepare for this year's Christmas performance of the musical 'Bugsy Malone'.

We are very proud to see so many new faces join us and to know that this has been a fantastic experience for all involved. Watching the students of all ages, work together, both on and off stage, as part of the cast and crew is a favourite part of the job for the Performing Arts Team, with rehearsals taking place almost every school night since September. Seeing the students perform to a public audience is the icing on the cake, or should that be custard pie?

Auditions for the next school show will take place in the summer term and we are always looking for budding performers. Please see a member of the Performing Arts team if you would like to get involved and look out for other opportunities throughout the year on the Performing Arts notice board in the Theatre Corridor.



# Park Post

## Park Community remembers...

We joined together at Park in remembering those who gave their lives during periods of war, through our Remembrance commemorations in November.

On Monday 6th November we were delighted to be joined by Chris Purcell and his wife Louise. Mr Purcell was a 22-year-old Able Seaman on HMS Sheffield when it sank during the Falklands War. Twenty crew were killed when an Argentine Exocet missile hit the 4,100-tonne destroyer, which had 300 people on board, on 4 May 1982. Mr Purcell visited Year 10 and 11 students in their assembly and also other year groups during their history lessons to describe what happened and how the Royal British Legion have been instrumental in supporting him personally.

Headteacher, Mr Anders, delivered a poignant assembly, in which our students made us so proud by listening in respectful silence. Our visiting dignitaries were impressed with their maturity. Students from all year groups at Park have worked tirelessly in selling poppies and memorabilia, raising funds for the Royal British Legion.



## RHS Horticulture Funding

Park Community School students are undertaking Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) qualifications. We are one of only five schools in England accredited to deliver the Level 2 RHS award. The detailed syllabus which requires some specific equipment and tools. The new Bulldog hoes and rakes purchased through the generosity of Postcode Publications are instrumental to their success on course.

Mr Bye, Horticulture Co-ordinator at Park, expressed his gratitude to Postcode Publications on behalf of students and said that the tools will be invaluable to student success in a time of reducing funding in schools. We look forward in anticipation to sampling the produce they have grown.



## Top Civil Servant visits Park

We were thrilled to welcome Clare Moriarty, Permanent Secretary for DEFRA, the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, on Friday 17th November. Clare visited Park to discover more about our innovative approach to education at both our farm, enterprise centre and industrial unit. She gave an informative talk to a group of students from Years 9, 10 and 11 about careers in the Civil Service through the Civil Service Fast Stream.

Following her visit, Clare Tweeted: *What a great day. Talking to @ParkSchSocial students about @UKCivilService @CSFastTrackApp @faststreamuk and @DefraGovUK. Meeting the school's quails, goats and pigs. Being inspired by the range of opportunities offered! cc @hantsfutures @CareerEnt @solentlep @GiantLeapVideo.*



## Year 12 Celebrate their time at Park

On Wednesday, 22nd November former students, who left Park Community School in June 2017, came back to Park for a celebration evening and to collect their GCSE certificates. Students enjoyed pizzas and dressed to impress. They enjoyed meeting up with their friends, teachers and mentors.

Fun and games were had on an inflatable sweeper and in a photo booth. Our sweetie trolley proved to be a huge hit too! Our ex-students had a wonderful time.



## Park Post

### Rotary Young Chef Competition Park student cooks her way into the next round

Park Community School hosted the 2017 group stage of the 'Rotary Young Chef' Competition on Saturday 11 November. This year there were ten competitors from four different schools and colleges: three from Park, three from Hayling College, three from Crookhorn College and one from Havant & South Downs College.

All competitors were required to cook two courses - a main and a dessert - and present their dishes within two hours. Park Community School competitors presented a variety of dishes, we had pasticcio and poached pears, filet steak and chocolate mousse, and chilli and baked apples.

After some real stiff competition including a stunning Chinese pizza and a fish dish, Park student, Izabella Darmanin, was placed third and will proceed to the next round at Havant & South Downs College in January. Good Luck Izabella.



### Enterprising Women's Conference - Mrs Norman

Year 11 students attended the Enterprising Women's Conference at Chichester University, to listen to many inspirational women who told their story of being ordinary students from working class backgrounds who have now amazing jobs or built their own businesses.

Particularly inspirational were: Professor Catherine Harper (Deputy Vice Chancellor University of Chichester), Asha Musoni (Human Resources Delivery Lead -Home Office), Jo Ellison (IT Consultant-Projects and Programmes HCC) and Venetia Bell (Deputy to the Chief Operating Officer Bank of England).

Our students included Billie Gilmour, who asked challenging and perceptive questions in front of 200 other students and delegates.



## Dance Students visit Rambert Ballet in London - Mrs Chuter



On Monday 6th November, eleven GCSE Dance students went to Ballet Rambert in London to take part in a practical dance workshop with one of the dancers from the GCSE Dance work 'A Linha Curva'. Students were extremely lucky as they had a one to one session as a school. This workshop gave students an insight into some of the key movement material and also the opportunity to find out about lighting and set. This was a great

opportunity for our students and will help them when it comes to their written paper next year.



## Care Home visit - Mrs Chuter

On Wednesday, 8th November, Music & Dance students from Park performed once again at Alexandra Rose Care Home in Farlington. This return visit was at the request of the residents who had thoroughly enjoyed our students' last visit.

The students performed a variety of class work and some pieces learnt outside of school. They made sure that the pieces were suitable for the residents and were ones that they could sing along to and enjoy. Our aim is to take some more students after Christmas and do a tour around other care homes in the community.



## Havant Town Mill - Mrs Parish

Park students were kindly invited to the opening ceremony of the Havant Mill by Councillor Guest from Postcode Publications. They were accompanied by Mrs Parish, our Business & Community Manager.



Students were given a book about the replica wheel, which replaced the original that was part of Havant's history. A mill was first recorded on this site in the Domesday book of 1086. PMC Construction and Development have refurbished the 30 year old replica mill waterwheel and our students had the opportunity to meet John Cameron from BBC One's 'Bargain Hunt'. They also met the Managing Director and Construction Manager of PMC Construction.

Our students learnt lots about the history of Havant and the importance of the Mill in our economic development.



# Park Post

## Christmas at Park... Park switches on...

On Monday, 4th December we were delighted to welcome members of our local community for our traditional switching on of our Christmas Lights. It was a fantastic festive evening, with local families joining in the choir singing around our beautiful Christmas Tree, whilst enjoying hot chocolate and hot dogs.

Christmas stalls were a success, with funds raised contributing towards our Munch project. Munch provides free holiday meals for any child attending a Leigh Park school and ensures our Munch Fridge in the Dickinson Centre is always stocked with food for emergency meals. Thank you to all staff and students who generously donated their time to this event.

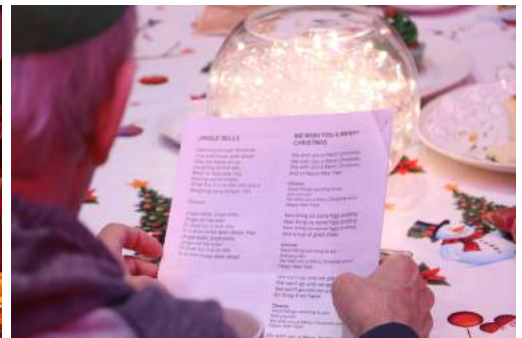


## Senior Citizens Christmas Party...

On Sunday, 10th December we were honoured that more than 60 elderly members of our community, from local residential homes, joined us for high tea and a sing along to some Christmas favourites. They were entertained by our school performers and by the local Spacerats Ukulele Band.

A wonderful afternoon was had by young and old alike. The afternoon climaxed with a surprise visit from Father Christmas. He had some special Christmas Pudding Truffles made by our in-house catering team.

Thanks once again to our supreme band of volunteers who make these events happen.





## Park students create memory making sleigh - Mr Seery

Park Community School, through its Apex Construction Skills Centre, has designed and built a Christmas sleigh for Leigh Park.

A group of Year 11 students studying at the Apex Centre were responsible for the majority of the sleigh construction. Specific design requirements that made the project more complicated. The sleigh needed to be flat-packed for easy transportation, building access and storage purposes, presenting a testing challenge but with the guidance of the teachers, the students realised this goal through good planning and design.



The main skills involved were carpentry, allowing students to develop their own practical ability, and problem-solving. Decoration of the sleigh, including painting it the iconic flame red colour, allowed students to learn techniques and about different types of paint. There was a lot of mathematics involved as accuracy was essential to ensure that all joints are square and to make sure that up to four adults could fit and sit comfortably and safely in the sleigh.

"When asked to complete this project, I happily agreed to help. Not only does it help our local community get into the festive spirit, but it is also a great learning opportunity for our students," explained Daniel Payne, Head of Design & Technology at Park.

The students are immensely proud of their achievement and saw it in situ at The Leigh Park Christmas Grotto where it is currently on display.

# Park Post

## Enrichment Mondays - Mrs Hamson

Students in our Inspired Learning and Key Stage 4 SEN base have been lucky enough to be involved in enrichment Monday sessions this term. The aim of these sessions is to develop the skills students need to be successful in the local community and wider world, in order to help our students become 'world ready' for life after school.

So far, the enrichment Monday programme has consisted of a number of real world challenges. One week our students had to find provisional driving licence and passport forms. Once found, students then had to complete these accurately using the instructions provided. Finding the forms was not too much of a challenge but completing them was a different thing altogether!

On another week students had to create CVs and then attend an interview wearing appropriate clothing for the occasion. Some clothing choices were not quite as they should have been but there were some great CVs and interview techniques.

Treasure hunts around the local areas have been completed, with photographic evidence, in order to collect points. Point building has also continued during our onsite activities during enrichment Mondays where real world expectations and skills have to be maintained to collect points rather than having them deducted!

The most recent experience was a visit to the Dockyard and the various museums there. Other planned experiences include a community project at Billy's Lake in order to 'give something back' to our local community and a possible driving experience for those students who complete the programme successfully. We will keep you posted with news on these...



## The Rucksack Project - Miss Holland

KS4 Provision students were given the opportunity to create a rucksack each filled with essentials to donate for the homeless using a donation we had received. A few of the students made a trip to some local stores to purchase items we needed after creating a list of essentials. In lesson time, students created some rucksacks each filled with lots of different goodies.

We got in contact with a charity called the Rucksack Appeal who do some amazing work in Portsmouth and recently finished a project revamping a double decker bus into accommodation for those who have nowhere to go. The Rucksack Appeal is linked with Hope House which is a hostel in Portsmouth and the students donated their ready-made bags to the residents there. We took the students to drop off their donations, 30 bags in total. Students gave them over and spoke with Hope House staff about the different programs they run and how they help and support adults by keeping them off the streets.

Hope House were so thankful to our students in making the donation and recently replied with a letter of thanks explaining it has helped their residents



# Park Post

## Children in Need - Mrs Norman

A HUGE thank you to staff and students who took part in the sponsored Arm Wrestling contest, the non-school uniform day and by purchasing the cute Pudsey biscuits. We managed to raise £322.

Thank you for everyone's donations.



## Unlocking Potential Program - Mrs Norman

Two amazing students, Cain Holmes and Chloe Robertson, have been selected for the Dame Kelly Holmes Unlocking Potential Programme. There are only 72 places in the whole of the UK. As part of this

programme Cain and Chloe get to work alongside Chris Weale, an ex professional football goalkeeper, who will act as their mentor.

The aim is to create a social impact project for 14 to 25 year olds linking sport to an awareness raising theme. Our students will start on this project in the new year. Our students are planning a Goalkeeping Workshop and Football Tournament for 14 year olds and will work to create a drop in centre for the elderly to combat loneliness and to create a networking scheme.

Planning will begin in January 2018 so watch this space for further details.





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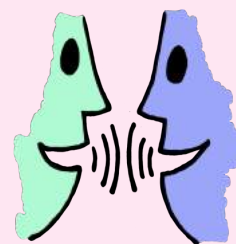
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# Park Post



## **Pastoral Support and Guidance Drop In on January 16th and 30th 2018 from 4.00 – 6.00**



Do you have any concerns about your child's well-being that you would like to discuss with someone but not sure who to talk to?



Twice every half term Ms Bannard and the pastoral team will be holding a "Drop In" on a Tuesday from 4.00 until 6.00 (we can extend this if due to work commitments you need to be a little later).

This is your opportunity to ask any questions or raise any issues that you have & if we can't answer your query immediately we will be able to point you in the right direction.



**Please do come and join us  
even if it is just for a cuppa & a chat**



## **Work Experience - Mrs Reynolds**

In June 2018, all Year 10 Students will undertake a two-week work experience placement. The work placement dates are 25th June to 6th July. This is an exciting opportunity for students to develop an understanding of the skills and knowledge that are required in a variety of careers. Students can find their work experience places by either doing a private placement form, or using the WEX online system which can be accessed on <https://ebpsouth.work-experience.co.uk/> with the log-in details they have all been given.

In previous years, the government provided funding for placements, however due to the reduction in such funding, this is now paid for by the school. The school is happy to do this however if a student chooses a placement, gets accepted and then decides they do not want to go, we will pass on the cost of changing the placement to the students. This is currently £35 but may change.

Please help us by supporting your child to choose their placement wisely. It should be one which interests them and would like to find out more about. Ideally, we would like all students to have placements arranged by the end of January.

If you have any queries or problems regarding this, please do not hesitate to contact Candice Reynolds, Careers Coordinator, at school.

## Park Sports

### Health related exercise in PE - Mrs Cavanagh

Within PE lessons students are able to select route ways dependent on their individual exercise preferences and interests. For example, students may complete highly competitive, traditional or, as pictured, health related exercises.

We look at a wide range of sports and activities in PE but and focus on health related exercise. An outstanding group of Year 8 students has completed two half terms of Insanity and Just dance. Through these disciplines they explored the short and long term effects of exercise on the musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory systems. Well done!

### Fitness Room - Mrs Bearpark



There has been a fantastic effort from the after-school regulars in the Fitness Suite. They have a great attitude to improving their physical fitness and are always asking for new exercises. Ben Turner has shown dedication and commitment to his personal fitness training programme for his BTEC Sport coursework by regularly coming to the Fitness Suite to complete different aspects of his programme. As a result of this Ben has already seen the physical benefits of his efforts.

If you would like to improve your fitness levels and relieve some of the stresses of everyday life then come on down to the fitness suite after school. If you need an extra bit of motivation or just want some company then bring a friend along. Opening times:

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3-4 pm	Years 7, 8 & 9	Years 7, 8 & 9	Years 7, 8 & 9	Years 10 & 11	All Years
4-5 pm	Years 10 & 11	Years 10 & 11	Years 10 & 11		

## Higher Education PE

As reported in the last addition of Park Post, two ex-students have secured university placements to study degrees with a sport and teaching focus. Shane Sellence is off to Bournemouth University and Megan Betteridge is at Chichester University.



We are pleased to confirm that another ex-student Bobbi Young, will be returning to work with the PE team as part of her placement unit of study within her degree at Chichester University in January.



# Park Post

## Park Sports

### Year 7 Football - Mr Cavanagh

Year 7 boys fought through the first round of the district football tournament returning unbeaten in their pool. The following week saw a second place finish for a strong (but cold) squad, finishing in second place within the district. Great commitment has been displayed by the boys who have trained every Monday since September. The team has been superbly well organised, even arranging to come in to play the first round on an inset day, and the squad self-organising formations and substitutions.



### Year 8 Football season overview by Mr Bryce

Park's Year 8 team look set to finish in second place, missing out on top place by only one point. It has been an impressive season with the team unbeaten throughout the campaign. They have come

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Pts	GD
Warblington	4	3		1	9	4
Crookhorn	2		1	1	1	-1
Park	4	2	2		8	6
Hayling	2		1	1	2	-1
Havant	2			2	0	-8

on in leaps and bounds and done themselves and Park proud, through their committed to training, as well as match days. A fantastic group of young men.



### Year 9 Football season overview - Mr Murphy

The team have worked hard throughout this season to develop their formations and set plays.

Date	Opposition	Result	Score
4 <sup>th</sup> October	Warblington	Win	1-0
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Havant Academy	Win	3-0
18 <sup>th</sup> October	Crookhorn	Loss	2-7

There has been a fantastic commitment to training and real sense of pride when they arrive to fixtures.

It has been excellent for the team to have several players now also training with the district team. Well done boys – it has been a pleasure to work with you this season.

### Year 10 Football season overview - Mr Cavanagh

A solid season was had by the Year 10 team on their return to school league football. A tough run of games in the top league saw games against strong opposition from TPS, Warblington and Horndean.



The final game was stopped short due to bad light and the boys were left chomping at the bit for a rematch. We will look forward to a return fixture in the new year.

Well done team!



## Year 10 v Year 11 Football - Mr Cavanagh

Year 10 took on the challenge of playing Year 11 in a football match this term. The game was played in good spirit with both teams exhibiting excellent attitudes and a high level of skill.

It was an brilliant afternoon with both teams displaying excellent sportsmanship without dropping the high level of competition amongst them all. Year 11 were victorious in the end. A rematch has been planned for the new year.

A superb group of young sports man. Well done to all involved.



## Year 7 and 8 Netball - Mrs Cavanagh

This year has seen Park successfully represented in both Year 7 and 8 girls Netball leagues each week at centrally held fixtures. The girls from each team have shown outstanding commitment to games and training, showing much promise for the future.

The games have all been fast paced and of very high standard, which has been a challenge to our teams, but they have impressed all PE staff by rising to the challenge at each game. Well done ladies you have been good fun this season.



## BTEC Stars by the PE Department

Students studying BTEC sport have continued to make outstanding progress on the course. We are extremely impressed with the positive attitude and effort shown within both theory and practical sessions. The course requires in depth research, application and analysis of body systems, personal performance and methods of training



# Park Post

## Park in the Community

### Anniversary Celebrations by some very happy hirers!

When planning our 35th anniversary party this year, the venue was always going to be a big part of this event, we needed a place away the usual pubs, social clubs etc, and really wanted something different.

Park Community School's main theatre was the perfect place; it was set up beautifully by the staff, even the tablecloths were being ironed as we arrived! Ample parking, directions around the school, facilities available to us to use which included kitchen, sound system, theatre screen and ambient lighting, the list is endless and all played a huge part in our day.



We received countless comments on what a great idea it was to hold our event at Park and we would like to thank the young, vibrant, helpful staff on the day especially Yazz and Jake and the overall organising by Flo.



## Food Bank Collection - Mrs Norman

Superb generosity from Park students and staff resulted in over 400 items of food being donated to the Havant Library Food Bank, which is supported by Sara Barron, PO9 Patron.

The food bank collection was given an extra boost by running it as an inter-Family competition to see which Family could donate the most. Nelson Family won the competition with Mr Crowley leading them and gaining points for the Family trophy.

Amazing generosity and kindness from Park students and staff as always!

Thank you! Thank you!!



## Porkie Christmas Treat by Steven Cross, Head Chef

### Park Porkies Sausage Cracker

So another year is almost done and its approaching that special time that we all love "It's Christmas!!"

Over the Christmas holidays we all love to indulge in our favourite food and drink while spending some quality time in our warm cozy houses with those that we love, so why not try this little cracker?

Park Porkies are the schools very own sausage brand and this recipe has come from using our beautiful hand reared pork. Enjoy these little crackers with a glass of Italian Prosecco or sparkling wine.



### Ingredients

- 150g Sausage meat (Park Porkies if possible)
- 1 white onion
- 1 Garlic clove
- 1 tsp mixed spice
- ½ tsp dried chilli flakes
- 2 springs of thyme
- Zest of 1 orange
- 40g dried cranberries
- 2 tsp cranberry sauce
- 6 cooked chestnuts
- 1 sheet of ready-made puff pastry
- 1 egg

### Method

1. Start of by finely slicing your white onion and finely chop your garlic.
2. Cook the onion and garlic very slowly in a frying pan and allowing them to sweat out and become golden brown - this will bring sweetness by releasing their natural sugars. Once golden allow to cool.
3. Place sausage meat into a large mixing bowl adding the cooked onions and garlic, mixed spice, dried chili flakes, thyme (which needs to be picked so just the leaves), zest of one orange, dried cranberries and chopped cooked chestnuts.
4. Mix thoroughly with your hands making sure that all ingredients are evenly distributed through the mix.
5. Roll out your puff pastry and spread the cranberry sauce over the pastry leaving a 1 ½ inch gap around the edge.
6. Now run a small line of your sausage meat down the length of your pastry and roll. Make sure to leave a large gap at each end to seal. Once rolled, seal the length with a beaten egg.
7. Cut the sausage roll away from the body of the puff pastry and crimp each end of the roll so it looks like a large sausage roll cracker.
8. Continue this process until pastry and sausage meat is used up.
9. Egg wash and decorate with either pastry off cuts, sesame seeds, poppy seeds, chilli flakes or dried cranberries.
10. Bake at 180 degrees for 30 – 40 mins on grease proof paper.
11. Allow to cool, serve whole and cut at table, serve with a nice cranberry and orange dip.



This year has seen the achievements of Park Community School recognised more widely than ever. In just the last few weeks, we have had Clare Moriarty, the Permanent Secretary and top civil servant in the Department for the Environment, Food and Regional Affairs, visit our school, print business and small holding. The Soil Association awarded us their Food for Life Gold Award - we believe we are one of only three schools in England to have this award. The Royal Horticultural Society told us we are one of only five schools in the country delivering their Level 2 RHS award. Thank you Mr Cross and Mr Bye for your hard work to win these awards.

Our visitors and their recognition of Park staff's focus on giving the very widest opportunities to our students is important. There is a lot of debate at the moment about education and many new initiatives, as well as financial pressures with smaller budgets and rising costs. However, we work hard to ensure that we provide a varied curriculum and innovative approaches to education. The school is now regularly sought out by people from other schools and outside education to see what we do and what makes us different. Another example of doing things differently is the significant number of past and present students who have jobs at the school, thank you Mrs Parish. We link with many colleges, universities and employers to further prepare students for their next steps in life after school.

Thank you for your support this year; this edition of Park Post celebrates all that is good and exciting about school and being young today. We look forward to 2018 and new opportunities to further develop the way we educate our young people.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

**Christopher Anders**  
Headteacher

## What's coming up...

Trip to Disneyland Paris for Year 9 students - Jan 2018

Trip to New York for Year 11 students - Feb 2018

Trip to SSE Women's FA Cup Final - May 2018

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