

Spring 2013

The official magazine for Park Community School: Issue 16

# ParkPost

Middle Park Way, Havant, PO9 4BU

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



**In this issue**

## **Rights, Respect & Responsibility**

### **Plus**

**A world tour with Year 7 • Movember • Britcar • Greenpower  
... and lots more**



# Respecting Rights with Responsibility

At Park we are interested in the development of young people as young adults who are good citizens, able to think for themselves and make good choices. For the last two years we have been developing rights respecting attitudes across the school, we call this RRR. For a year we have had a behaviour code based around RESPECT. You will see the code in classrooms around the school.

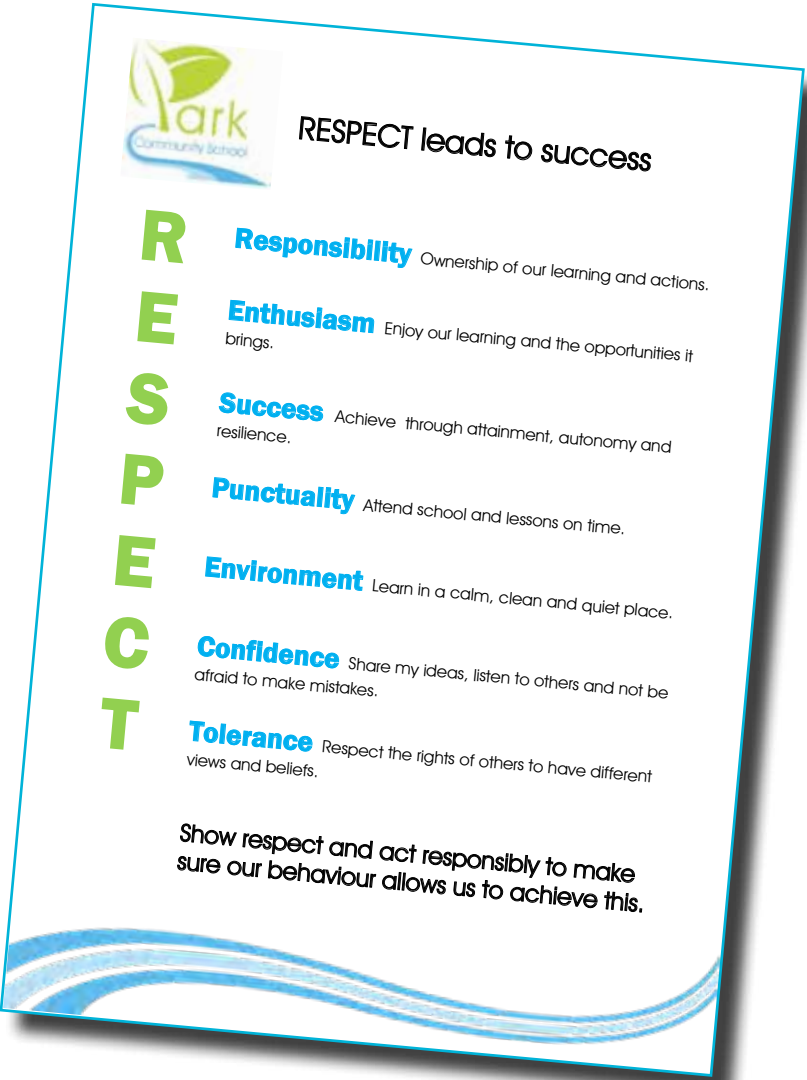
One impact of a focus on respect has been a reduction in the number of incidents of poor behaviour. We have also had a reduction in exclusions. The level of academic achievement has continued to increase and, not only are exam results at an all time high, but so are the reading skills of the students.

Most weeks we have an assembly which considers an aspect of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Topics have included the right to an education and the right to be listened to. What has also been considered is the need for rights to be met with responsibility. In the classroom this means children becoming independent learners who are able to take increasing responsibility for their own learning.

As a result, we are pleased to announce that Park is now the holder of UNICEF's Rights Respecting School Award (Level 1). The assessors recognised that at Park "everyone places a real importance on developing an ethos of respect and equality throughout the school". Well done and congratulations to all.

*Christopher Anders*

Christopher Anders, Headteacher



# Good will to all

To finish off a very successful term of activities, the four Park Families (Austen, Brunel, Dickens and Nelson) collaborated on a project to support actively Article 27 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - 'the right to a good enough standard of living - you should have food, clothes and a place to live'.

The Families chose to support the Beacon Food Bank, an organisation based in the centre of Havant which assists hundreds of families throughout the Havant and Leigh Park area with all year round donations of food and support. To build on the school's development of a rights, respect and responsibility ethos and following the festive theme of 'good will to all men', Austen Family, under the guidance of Mr Waters, led the whole school drive to collect donations for the Beacon appeal.

Staff and students' generosity, across all the Families,

# Welcome to issue 16!

resulted in over 400 items being collected for Christmas hampers. The last day of term saw the delivery of those items to the Beacon Food Bank at the Meridian Centre, where volunteer staff and students from each Family packed the hampers, selected and wrapped presents and generally immersed themselves in a morning of 'good will'.



Shania Singh, Chloe Turner, Rachel Bond, Kendal Pitman, Lorna May Anslow, Courtney Taylor, Britney Taylor with Mr Crowley, Ms Bannard and Ms Johnston

Park students were congratulated by the organisers on their enthusiasm and also thanked for their mature and responsible approach to a project which recognises that not everyone enjoys the basic right of a good standard of living, which can be particularly felt at Christmas. After their visit to the food bank,

the students explained how "it was an enjoyable yet humbling experience", and how "it was so good for both staff and students to take part in helping an outstanding organisation who help so many others".

# Art and identity

Year 7 students have been exploring identity through self-portraits inspired by the work of the contemporary British artist Julian Opie. Frances Raistrick (Year 7) assessed her own work, saying "My picture is brilliant because it looks bold like Julian Opie's portraits. It's simplistic, I



have made sure my facial features are not realistic, similar to Opie's style."

Left to right: the work of Ben Steere, Britney Taylor, Frances Raistrick, Georgia Wood, Kieran Bateman and Victoria Compton



## Take a tour of the world with Year 7

by Rosie Montague and Courtney Thomas

In January Year 7 took part in their latest Rich Challenge focusing on Global Identity, by sharing what they had been learning about the continents with their parents by giving them a 'tour around the world'.

Students created an exhibition that showed how their lives were different to a child living in another part of the world. Some groups had food, drinks, games and videos to give a taste of life in another continent. Cameron Brown (Year 7) said "I really enjoyed this experience, it's been really fun. I've learnt a lot and I would love to do it again."

Parent feedback was really positive with one parent saying "I was amazed with how well students have done today, I have had loads of fun!" Fun activities for parents included Bush Tucker trials, Pin the Camel and the chance to hold a lizard.

Staff and parents were impressed with how confidently Year 7 were able to discuss what they had learnt and demonstrate their learning with the interactive activities they had made.

Careful planning preceded the colourful Year 7 'tour around the world'



## The right to have fun!

Following last term's Family Challenge for students, which tested their independence skills through collecting information around the local area, the winning teams from each Family were invited to attend a reward trip to the local bowling alley with the Heads of Family. In doing so they were engaging in Article 31 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child - the right to play by doing things like sport, music and drama.

Students had great fun with friends across the range of year groups. The afternoon was enjoyed by all, even though there was a competitive edge developing between

Families! Brunel Family were the eventual overall winners of the bowling challenge.

The Heads of Family have committed to providing many more such reward trips as Park students continue to demonstrate that they understand and appreciate how Rights, Respect and Responsibility are an integral part of life at Park.



Fun for all at the bowling alley

## Thank You!

Thank you to staff, students, parents and community supporters for donating their Tesco for Schools vouchers. This year we were able to purchase a laptop, donate to Together for Trees and Mary's Meal charities and restock the teen literature section of the library.



Mr Seaney and students with books obtained with Tesco for Schools vouchers



Reading Records smashed

Last term saw our best ever Accelerated Reader results! Year 7 in particular put in a fantastic performance, taking 1,856 quizzes and borrowing a total of 3,871 books. Three students also joined the Millionaires' Club. A delighted Ms Shuttle said "Reading a million words in a year is quite

an achievement - reading a million in a term is astounding! It's great to have a millionaire from each year group too". Between them, Louise Ireson (Year 7), Chantelle Saunders (Year 8) and Paige Simmons (Year 9) have read a total of 4,872,252 words. Special mention must also go to Kieran Bateman (Year 7) who achieved 100% in twenty Accelerated Reader quizzes last term and to Daisy Oliver (Year 9) who won a laptop for all her hard work and enthusiasm for reading.

Mrs Dorrington, Librarian, thanked staff for encouraging and supporting students with their reading. An analysis of the record number of books loaned to students showed that as well as reading as part of the Accelerated Reader programme, they are reading for pleasure too. She was happy to declare Park "a reading school with a real reading culture".

Left to right: Louise, Chantelle and Paige are our latest 'millionaires'



## Digital Champions

Park is offering its students an exciting opportunity to engage in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and the RRR (Rights, Respect and Responsibility) agenda through information technology and the BT Digital Champions programme.

Students are exploring Article 29 of the UNCRC – 'the right to education which tries to develop your personality and abilities as much as possible and encourages you to respect other people's rights and values and to respect the environment' and Article 17 – 'the right to collect information from the media – radios, newspapers, television, etc – from all around the world. You should also be protected from information that could harm you'.

The O2 Arena - venue for the special 'Rock Assembly'

The idea behind the BT Digital Champions programme is that young people are digital natives; they have grown up with computers, laptops and smartphones and using the internet is second nature to them. So it makes sense that young people should be the ones to train family, friends and older members of the community by showing them the basics: how to switch a computer on, how to connect to the internet, how to find a website and information you need, how to send an email. Not only do students get to exercise their UNCRC rights, for every student who gives an hour of training, Park will qualify for a ticket to a special 'Rock Assembly' concert at the O2 Arena!



## Insect Hotel

by the Emerald Group

Our Emerald group started to make an Insect Hotel with a man from BAM Construction. We went to the woods at the bottom of the field where we started to collect dead wood. We chose an area where no-one can see it. It was horrible seeing bugs under the dead wood! Gary had brought wood, bricks and pipes with him. Josh enjoyed sawing the wood up. Jamie liked collecting the leaves with Katherine.



Hopefully all the bugs and small creatures enjoy their 'insect hotel'. It was lots of fun doing this and we all enjoyed it. We will be keeping an eye on this 'hotel'.

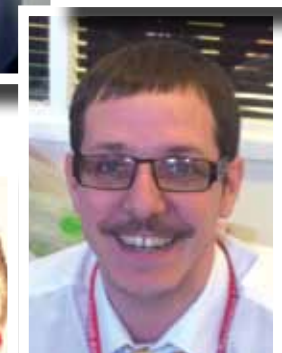


## November equals a Pink Movember

As part of working towards becoming a Rights Respecting School, members of Nelson Family held several cancer awareness campaigns, bringing Article 24 of the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child – 'You have a right to the best health possible and to medical care and to information that will help you to stay well' - to the attention of all students at Park

Throughout November male members of staff took on the Movember challenge and grew their facial hair to raise money and awareness for Cancer Research. Some of the results were quite alarming - as you can see from these photos!

Students and remaining members of staff had the opportunity to support the moustache growers by purchasing a Movember family badge. The last week of November gave everybody the chance



to vote off their least favourite moustache. The participant with the most votes every day was forced to shave their tash that evening.

To extend their awareness campaign even further, Nelson Family then declared Friday 7 December 'Wear it Pink' day, to remind all staff and students about breast cancer, a condition that affects both men and women. Students had the opportunity to swap an item of their uniform for something pink.

These events were organised expertly by the Nelson Family charity committee who would like to thank everybody for supporting the awareness campaign and fundraising activities.



Staff and students wore pink to raise awareness of breast cancer



## Student Profile - Tyler Paxton

In this edition we profile Tyler Paxton, a Year 10 student, who talks about making the most of opportunities at Park and his plans for the future.

What junior school did you go to?  
Highbury Primary School.

What advice would you give to someone in Year 6 who is just about to join Year 7 at Park Community School?

Don't be afraid, although it may seem scary it really isn't. You will make new friends just like that.



its new nice-looking building I think the students will learn better in a more comfortable environment. I am also part of a team that is filming all of the stages of the rebuild, which will give me experience in the film industry.

## Let's Get Cooking Club

In December the students who attend the Let's Get Cooking Club invited family and friends to join them for a meal cooked especially by them.

Six willing students cooked a two course meal of Cottage Pie or Vegetarian Pasta, followed by Apple/Pear Crumble and Custard or Muffins, for around 30

people. A good time was had by all and everyone went away full up and very satisfied.

The Let's Get Cooking Club is Government funded and runs most Thursdays from 2.45pm until approximately 4.30pm. There is no charge and everyone is welcome.



Satisfied guests at the Let's Get Cooking Club meal

What is your favourite subject at school and why?  
Creative and Media Diploma because you get to meet other people from schools around the area and it's just one big long lesson for the whole day, and you get to go out on trips to contribute towards the work you need to complete.

What Family are you in and what does being in this Family mean to you?  
Brunel; being in this family means being part of and contributing to a team.

What is best about Park Community School?  
The best thing about Park is that there are so many opportunities, after school activities and sports clubs and they help you decide what you want to go into as a job or hobby in later life.

What do you think about the school being rebuilt?  
I think the school being rebuilt is going to be a great thing as the existing building is falling apart and has so many leaks when it rains. When the school gets

If there is one thing you could change about Park Community School, what would it be?  
I think I would change the length of the break and lunch times as when there is a big queue in the canteen when you finally get your food you barely have time to eat it.

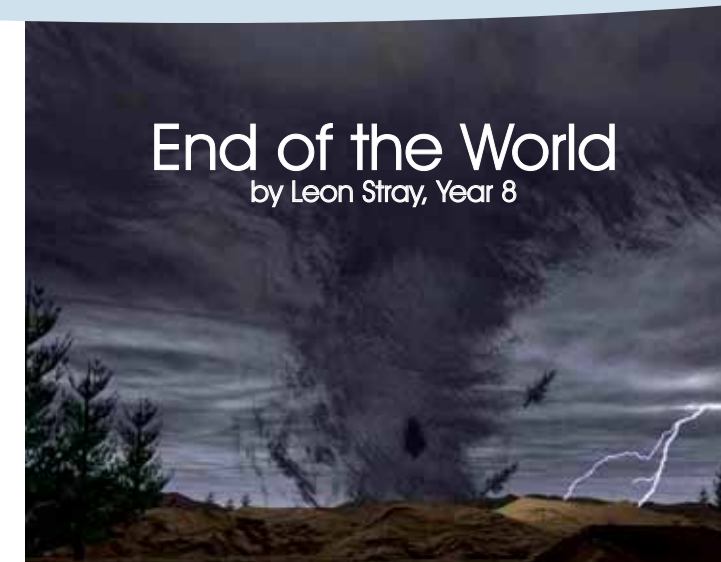
What are you most excited about this year?  
I think I'm most excited about doing even more technical support for shows as I am gaining more confidence to do bigger and better jobs.

What moment are you proudest of (inside school and outside of school)?  
I am proudest of gaining my experience as a sound technician as I am getting better and better at it.

What are your career ambitions and what are your plans for achieving them?  
I plan on joining the Navy, as quite a lot of my family have been in the Navy, but I also plan to carry on working with sound technology.

## End of the World

by Leon Stray, Year 8



Mrs Hamson set her Year 8 group the challenge of creating an unusual and original short story.

The winning entry in the Short Story Rich Challenge was written by Leon Stray and his chilling account of the end of the world is given here:

It was Friday the 21st of December 2012. There was a distant planet coming for us when in England there was an earthquake that affected the entire world.

Japan had a tsunami. But, we had taken the Japanese out of their country before it hit!

"Jack!" shouted Jon, as we hopped on to the plane.

"We are going to crash!" screamed the captain.

"There's a mountain..."

"Fly over it then!" ordered Kim Ji Jung.

In all, there were six twisters with six hurricanes. That's just over New York but it covers the world with clouds. And there was an explosion... that was the planet.



## Apple Pi @ BritCar 24

by the Apple Pi team

BritCar 24 is a 24 hour race challenge for saloon cars held every year at Silverstone. The Apple Pi team were given the opportunity to attend the weekend's events and film the proceedings.

We arrived at Silverstone by lunchtime on the Friday and set up our camp, and then set off to film. We had scripts prepared; the first was about the types of tyres used. As we began filming the race drivers and mechanics took over the explanation and the script



Top right: Ryan Price (Year 9) interviews driver Jimmy Gillborn; Bottom left and right: Sam Pearson (Year 9) reports from the track and with engineer Jonathan Loader,

## Our school, our news

There were many types of race during the weekend. The 24 hour race started on the afternoon of the Saturday, with almost 40 cars starting. Although some dropped out over the 24 hour period, most finished the race. The winners, MP Motorsport completed 564 laps, that's an average speed of over 90 mph over the 24 hour period.

Mission Motorsport is the motorsport charity for those with life-changing injuries from the armed forces. We were able to interview Major James Cameron, who heads the forces team, and Jimmy Gillborn one of their drivers. We interviewed Jimmy at various times during the 24 hour race and recorded the highs and lows of the team's race. Then they asked if we would like the footage of their car going around the track, filmed from inside the car!

Everyone we spoke to felt that mechanical engineering was not encouraged enough within schools these days. All said that we must be from a very forward looking school to be allowed to attend and film at the event. Isn't that the best description of Park?



### Fuzzylogic Dance

In September the Fuzzylogic Dance Company led dance workshops for all Year 7 and 8 boys alongside some Key Stage 4 boys who have chosen dance as an option.

The Fuzzylogic Dance Company is one of the leading male dance companies in the country. Founder Zoie Golding aims to promote male dance across the country, push boundaries and challenge perceptions of males in dance. Alongside their unique style of high tempo contact work fused with exciting contemporary dance, Fuzzylogic's work focuses on building positive relationships, a teamwork ethos, and communication and leadership skills.

The boys had a great time at the workshops with Wayd Harris (Year 8) commenting "It was epic!". Some of the boys have now chosen to take part in regular dance workshops led by Zoie Golding and Miss Rodaway, with the aim of building Park's own boys' dance company.

Within the first few weeks of the project, the boys were invited to watch ZoieLogic, the new professional strand of the dance company, at The Point in Eastleigh. The boys were amazed by the talent and hard work of the performers, who are fantastic role models for the project. Many of the boys also got involved in the post-show discussion in front of university students and arts professionals, discussing their interpretation of the dance piece and finding out more about how the company works.

Inspired by what they saw and heard, the boys created their own choreography, and performed at Portsmouth College's annual dance showcase. All the boys performed really well, remaining professional at all times and were excellent ambassadors for Park.

The boys are now working on their next dance piece to be premiered at South East Hampshire Dance Festival, and will then be working towards the region's male dance platform in the Spring.

## BAE Science Roadshow

Students had a great time at the BAE Science Roadshow exploring the different technologies developed by the company. Through hands-on workshops, they learned about Global Positioning Systems (GPS), with Kyisha Hansler (Year 8) having to act the part of one of the three satellites involved in GPS and Mitchell Hobbs (Year 8) taking on the role of a submarine so that other students could 'ping' him to guide him through the sea when he came near to them.

Students then chose one or more sensing technologies, e.g. GPS, radar, touch sensor, voice sensor, and came up with ideas about how they could be used in the home. The best ideas have been entered into a competition to win an iPod touch.

Other highlights of the trip to the technology roadshow were learning how to programme a robot to negotiate a maze as part of the Lego Mindstorm Challenge and visiting the Victory gallery at the National Museum of the Royal Navy.





## Greenpower

The Greenpower project is all about getting young people interested in engineering through the building, testing and driving of electric cars. The cars are built to a 'Formula', just like cars in the Grand Prix and tested in four hour endurance races which include pit stops for battery changes (each car can have two spare sets) and the changeover of drivers (at least five students are needed to drive over the four hour period of the race). The racetracks used for the Greenpower races include Goodwood near Chichester, Castle Combe in Wiltshire and Dunsfold, the Top Gear track!

Park's first car, named Team Spirit, is based on a Seagull kit bought from Greenpower for us a number of years ago by the Havant Rotary Club. Team Spirit has served Park's Greenpower team well over the years, but the rules that



govern the design of cars that may race have now changed. We need to modify our car, by lowering the bottom of the batteries and the driver to within 100mm of the ground, making sure that a triangular strut is in place between the roll bar and the chassis, ensuring that there is a gap of 25mm between the driver's head and the roll bar and, finally, installing larger rear view mirrors.

These are the challenges Park's Greenpower team are working to overcome before their first outing at Goodwood on 26 March. We wish the team well and a great first outing with the new and improved 'Team Spirit' in the Spring.

There are challenges ahead for 'Team Spirit'



## Adult and Family Learning at the Dickinson Centre

Enrol now on our courses (most offered free or at a subsidised rate)

- Getting started with IT
- Follow-on IT
- Employability drop-in
- Preparing for employment
- Dressmaking
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Cakemaking and decorating
- Sweet bakes and treats
- Semi-precious jewellery making
- Paediatric first aid
- Pottery
- Knitting
- Bushcraft

## Children's Activities

Cookery Club 8 – 13 years

Saturday 9.30am – 11.30am

£2.50 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 5.00pm – 7.00pm

Pool, games, Wii, football table

Birthday Parties

Bouncy Castle, Soft Play, Zorb Football, Cinema and Disco Parties from only £60!

Parties available weekends and school holidays from 9.30am – 12.30pm or 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Toddler Parties

Enquire about our Toddler Parties available during the week and at weekends at the Dickinson Centre

## Icing on the Cake

Year 9 Catering classes made and decorated their own Christmas cakes. They researched ideas then set to work to ice their cakes.

Mrs Carter was thrilled with her students' work commenting "If you have ever tried this yourself I think you will know that it is not as easy as it looks! However, I think you will agree that they all did a wonderful job".

Year 9 students baked and iced their own cakes



We welcome the chance to meet new people so drop by our centre and say "Hi".

Coffee Mornings - every Wednesday  
10.00am – 12.00 noon

## Health and Fitness

Fitness Suite - FREE Induction

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.

FREE Induction, £3 per session. £15 for a monthly pass

Ask your GP about our exercise referral scheme!

Vicki's Dance Fit Monday 6.30pm – 7.30pm

Zumba Thursday 6.00pm – 7.00pm

Yoga Thursday 6.00pm – 7.30pm

Circuits Thursday 6.00pm – 7.00pm

## Facilities to hire

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.

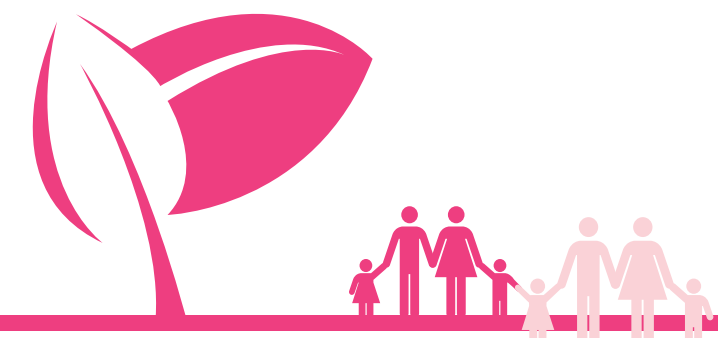
For more information visit us at:

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

or call **023 92 489836**

Find us on Facebook

[www.facebook.com/pc.ventures.3](https://www.facebook.com/pc.ventures.3)



Park Community Ventures Spring 2013



## Cross country

The Year 7 and 8 Cross Country teams travelled to Oaklands in January for the District Championships. Conditions were harsh with cold cross winds and boggy mud underfoot.



Top performers were Tyler Hallawell (Year 7) who finished fourth and Beth Sherrell (Year 8) who finished fifth in their races. There were 40 runners in each race so these results were marvellous.

Shauna Matkin (Year 7) and Leah Bramble (Year 8) were also top ten finishers, with a special mention to Brandon Powell (Year 7) who lost a shoe but finished without it. Well done all, great effort!

## Badminton



The Year 8 boys' badminton team came fourth in the finals of the district competition. Well done!

## Basketball



In January the Year 8 boys played their first basketball tournament at Oaklands School. The team had a great time and hopes were high after they won their first game, but unfortunately they lost the next two games despite trying their best.

The team ended up in a tense play off for fifth place with Crookhorn College which Park won 8-4.

Player of the night was Mitchell Hobbs for his speed of thought and incisive dribbling.

# Sports News

Thanks to Mr Rose for making it happen and well done to whole team for being such great ambassadors for the school!



Our Year 9 basketball team have been training regularly before and after school each week. So far they have played one game in the District League, losing narrowly to Warblington.



## Old Trafford trip

Park Community students were invited to the 'Theatre of Dreams' to experience the thrill and atmosphere of watching the 'Red Devils' in action at Old Trafford.

Students were selected and rewarded for their excellent commitment to PE lessons, extra curricular activities and teams. Students were very excited to be part of a large crowd to watch Manchester United FC

beat Newcastle United FC in the Carling Cup.

We are looking forward to rewarding more students by attending future Premier League fixtures.



## Staff and ex-students match

In September, a group of ex-Year 11 students came back to play the staff in the now traditional celebratory football match. The staff and students were evenly matched, with the game finishing 3-3. James Murdoch scored twice for the ex-students to crown a 'Man of the Match' performance.

Mr Crowley tried his best to secure the staff team a win, but his renowned speed and endurance were not enough on the day. Staff 'Player of the Match' was Mr Rogers who said "I'm delighted to accept this award but to be honest Mr Shearn deserved it for his selfless running and Messi-esque skills. It was like watching a super-charged boiled egg tearing up the pitch, I'm still in shock!"



Thanks to all who took part, especially Ryan Livett (current Year 11) for refereeing.

Good luck in your life after Park to all the old Year 11 students!



## We will, we will rock you ... and we did!

In December, students at Park rocked the foundations of their school building. The production team worked hard to find Scaramouche (played by Eloise Bryant, Year 11) "Somebody to love", and she fell for Gaillileo (played by Ryan Livett, Year 11) who felt "Under Pressure" to save the Bohemians from an evil Killer Queen (played by Kelly Allison, Year 11) who was dynamite with a laser beam. But she couldn't work without her sidekick Kashoggi, and when you put them together you get ... WE WILL ROCK YOU!

Students and staff worked hard together to create an outstanding show, involving a variety of staff from around the school who said the following when

watching in the audience: "A rock sensation", "An amazing experience, kids were amazing and should be proud of their achievement" and finally "who needs the West End when you have Park Community School's 'We Will Rock You'?"

This year the cast was massive, with students of all ages and experience levels. After the string of successful performances, the tired but exhilarated cast members described the production as "a

rock and roll experience", "Worth all the hours" and "It was funny and I was able to learn how to develop as a performer". Mr Foyle thanked all those involved, adding "We are the Champions"!



## Pixel Art

Artist Kendal James joined the Thursday after-school Art Club students in November and introduced them to pixel art. A great time was had by all and, even better, the students got to take great gifts home.

