

Sports News



LET'S DANCE

Students in Year 10, as part of the EP programme, have been taking part in different kinds of dance. They have been learning about street dance, the tango, hip hop dancing and Bollywood. Students have worked in pairs, in small groups and as a class to put together dance performances with lots of moves that they have choreographed themselves. These students have worked extremely hard and have shown great teamwork and confidence with their performances in front of each other.

'In EP with Miss Tuck we have been learning about dancing. We did some different styles of dancing, we danced to jazzy music and to pop music. I knew some of the music and dances already, like Gangnam Style. We worked by ourselves and in pairs. I enjoyed working in pairs but it was sometimes a bit tricky to choose dance moves and music that we all liked.'-Brandon,10CA



'Let's waltz'
Callum and Mandy



'Doing the twist'
Brandon and Nathan

NEWCASTLE UNITED COACHING

We have had Phil from the Newcastle United Foundation Football coming into school on Thursday mornings to coach us in football skills. I have really enjoyed taking part and learning new skills and I think Phil is very funny. I have learnt how to dribble the ball and shoot on target and to pass the ball to my team mates by using the correct side of my foot. - Dylan, 8B



'Here I am practicing dribbling the ball and shooting on target'



'Phil and Dean working together'

After School Clubs

Our after school clubs continue to be very popular with an average 30 students staying for a club each night. We have now added an extra swimming club on Tuesday nights. There are some spaces in most clubs for students who are picked up from school and some limited spaces for our students who require transport to Westgate Sports Centre (£3 per night), If you would like your son or daughter to access any clubs or additional clubs, please get in touch with Helen or Jo via the school office or home school diary to request a form.

Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Let's get Cooking	Bikes, trikes & Boccia	Swimming
Hydrotherapy	ICT	Rebound Therapy
Swimming		
Football & Sports		



School News

Winter 2015



Contact us on — Tel: 0191 2952280 email: admin@scp.newcastle.sch.uk

Farewell from the Head...



Dear Parents and Carers,

This is my last contribution to the school newsletter as I will be retiring from my position as head teacher this Christmas. As the time I have spent at Sir Charles Parsons School has been the happiest and most fulfilling of my whole professional life, I would like to use this final opportunity to express some personal thanks.

I am enormously grateful to my colleagues for the support they have given me over the last sixteen years. It has been a genuine pleasure and privilege to have had the opportunity to work alongside such a talented and committed group of colleagues. I will miss their company and humour. Unfortunately, I know it is highly unlikely they will miss me, my 'grumpiness', obsession with the staff dress code or my assemblies. Such is life.

I would also like to thank all past and present members of the Governing Body for their support, both to the school generally and to me personally. Governors freely give up their own time and take on very significant responsibilities for no gain, other than satisfaction of doing their best for the students. They have always been generous with their time, guidance and support during the years I have been head teacher.

My penultimate thanks go to parents and carers. As a school we are trusted to look after what are your most precious possessions, your children. This is both a privilege and a very serious level of responsibility. I would like to thank you for your support to the school and for your tolerance at those times when I may not have got things right, or managed things as well as I should.

My final thanks have to go to the students. It is very easy to appear overly sentimental when writing a final 'goodbye' note. I am very clear however, that I am not being nostalgic or unduly emotional when I say that the students, past and present, have blessed and enriched my life. That is a simple statement of fact. I will always be grateful for the many, many happy memories they have given me over the years.

I am very confident the school will continue to develop and improve the provision it offers the students over the years to come, and I wish the whole community; colleagues, parents and carers, governors and the students; all the very best for the future.

A happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year to you all,
Nick Sharing.



Jack and Keirian from 8P asked Mr Sharing some nosy questions about his personal life.....

Jack: What is your full name?

Mr Sharing: Nicholas Timothy Sharing, after St Nicholas.

Keirian: How old are you?

Mr Sharing: I am 59 years old and will be 60 on the 19th December.

Jack: Do you have any pets?

Mr Sharing: Yes, I have a Black Labrador named Bertie.

Jack: Which football team do you support?

Mr Sharing: Middlesbrough Football Club - the best football club in the world!

Keirian: What are your hobbies?

Mr Sharing: Watching Middlesbrough, taking Bertie for a walk and bird watching.

Jack: Do you have any annoying habits?

Mr Sharing: My wife Laura says that I keep hold of the TV remote and wont let anyone else have it and that I wander out of the bathroom when brushing my teeth - spilling toothpaste on the carpet. But worse than that she tells me I always say a big hello to the dog when I get home before her!

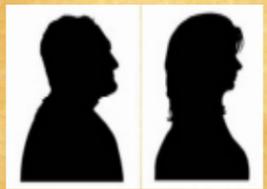


Jack & Keirian get nosy!

Sir Charles Parsons School



WANTED! PTA VOLUNTEERS



Our school secretary Wendy Robson, with support from a small team of school staff, has recently begun the process of setting up 'Sir Charles Parsons P.T.A.' The team would like to involve parents, carers and other friends of our school to join them in this exciting new project. Megan, from 10A went along to interview Wendy to find out what it's all about and this is what she found out...

What does PTA stand for? Parent Teachers Association

What does a PTA do? They aim to raise money to help the school provide extra resources for the students, run social events for our families as well as providing support for school visits, residential experiences and other special events.

How will a PTA help our school? The equipment, resources and experiences the PTA will fund will make learning even more engaging and help create lasting memories for our students.

Why do you need parents, carers and friends of our school to be involved? Any involvement would be greatly appreciated and received to help in the organisation of events and to raise the profile of our school. Those who volunteer help to ensure the success of fundraising events by spreading the word and being actively involved in decision making.

What would they need to do? They would help out at events, contribute to meetings and help to decide which fund raising activities to proceed with as well as providing input into any new fun ways to raise money. Attendance to meetings is not essential but welcomed as any ideas can also be submitted by email or telephone.

What about if any parents, carers or friends of our school don't have much time to give but still want to help? There are a variety of ways people could still help out and be involved, from designing a poster, helping to run a stall at our coffee mornings, helping out at sports days and other whole school events.

Your voice counts!



During the October half term holidays ten students took part in music and dance workshops held by 'The Lawnmowers Independent Theatre Company' as part of the Gateshead Juice Festival. Whilst there they enjoyed watching performances by 'Beat This' drum band and The Lawnmowers Street Dance group. They then had the chance to work alongside Lawnmower club members learning how to play different instruments in the band - culminating in a *one-off* 'Sir Charles Parsons Juice Band' performance, as well as this they also had the opportunity to try some street dance moves and designed their very own set with the coach and team.

It was great to see former SCP school students. Adam, there as a 'Beat This' member and who was able to share his skills with our younger students and Andrew and Ryan who were there taking part in the workshops. We had such a great time we decided it would be good if The Lawnmowers could come along to school so that many more of our students could have the chance to try some new music and dance ideas. "Everybody had a great time learning how to break dance, the coach had the same name as me. We played in the drumming band and made our own tune up." Connor 8B



Tracy-Ann and Adam playing alongside 'Beat -This' In a one off performance!

Based in Gateshead, The Lawnmowers Independent Theatre is a unique organisation run by and for people with learning difficulties. They offer a range of drama and music based clubs on Saturdays which are suitable for young people such as ours. To find out more visit their website www.lawnmowerstheatre.com contact: info@thelawnmowers



At Last, Charlie is Here!

Charlie is a Guide Dog sponsored by Sir Charles Parsons School.

Charlie was born on the 27th of June this year. His Dad is named Bart and his Mum is named Chris. He is from a litter of seven which means he has six brothers and sisters.



Their names are; Brier, Oakley, Oliver, Orchid, Oscar and Thunder. Thunder will be joining him in training to become a potential Guide Dog for the future. Charlie is a Golden Retriever cross Labrador and is nearly six months old.

Students in the Guide Dog group last year raised £2,500 to sponsor a Guide Dog puppy. Charlie visited the school with his puppy trainer and to meet all students and staff. Everyone thought he was lovely.
- Rebecca 10CA

Guide Dog puppy Charlie

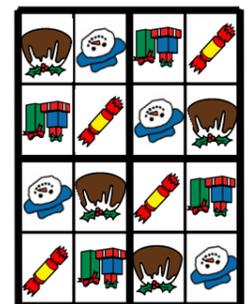


Competition Winners!

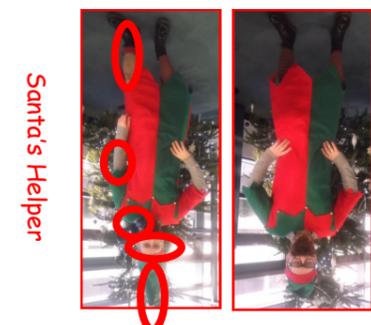


Well done to Letalia, 9W and Amy, 7M for designing the winning Christmas Card and Christmas Pudding wrapper!

Puzzle Time Answers



Christmas Sudoku

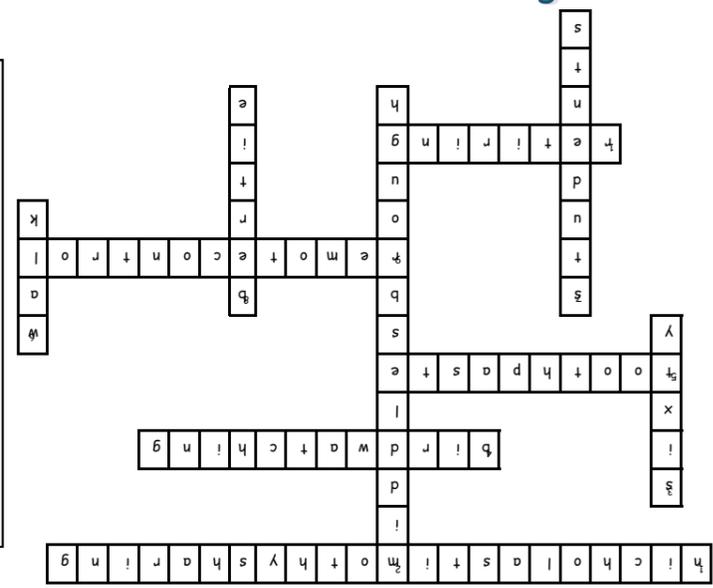


Santa's Helper



Binary coding: Christmas Cake!

All About Mr. Sharing



Make it

Let's get cooking Festive Bread & Butter Pudding

Our new 'Let's get Cooking' team made this traditional family favourite and gave it a 'festive' twist by using panettone bread.

- Ingredients:**
 25g unsaturated spread
 4 slices of panettone
 50g currants
 25g sugar
 1tsp spoon grated nutmeg
 300ml semi-skimmed milk
 2 medium eggs



Method:
 Preheat the oven to 160C or Gas mark 3.
 Use a little of the spread to grease an oven proof dish and spread the rest onto one side of each slice of bread.



Cut the slices into quarters diagonally (to make triangles).
 Arrange half of the bread across the base of the prepared dish.



Sprinkle the currants, half the sugar and nutmeg over the bread.
 Arrange the rest of the bread over the fruit.



Beat together the eggs and bread and pour over the bread.
 Sprinkle the remaining sugar over the pudding and leave to stand for 10 minutes.



Bake in the oven for 30mins or until set and golden.



Serve with warm custard! **Delicious!**

Christmas Luminaire Jars

Students in the Thrive room have been busy this half term making these pretty Christmas luminaire lights. Here's how they made them...



- You will need:**
 Glass jars, rinsed out
 Paint/glue brush
 Tissue paper - assorted colours
 PVA glue mixed with water 2:1

- Pipe cleaners
 Googly eyes
 Buttons
 Fabric/felt scraps
 Battery operated tea light



Here's how:
 Decide on a design for your jar.
 Rip up the chosen coloured tissue paper into small pieces.
 Cover the jar in the PVA glue mix with the brush.

Glue on the tissue so that there are no gaps and then paint another layer of the mix over the tissue to make it smooth.



Once dry, glue on the eyes and other accessories.

Place the battery operated tea light inside the jar. So Pretty!



SURVIVAL

In 'My World' lessons my class have been learning some basic survival skills including how you stay safe at sea. Geoff is an expert because he is a qualified diving instructor. We were shown all the things we would need if we went out on the water and practised skills to keep safe. First of all we had to inflate a dinghy, this took ages but we all took turns and it was worth it because it was fun playing in it! Next we had a go at how you row with the oars. I would like to go out to sea in one. We had the chance to try on the wetsuits and flippers you need to wear if you wanted to swim in the sea. I didn't fancy the wetsuit because it looked very tight but I know they are very important because the sea is freezing cold and they keep you warm. But the most important thing is you always have to wear a lifejacket on any boat because it could save your life and stop you from drowning. If you are going out to sea you need to



Jordan has a go at rowing the dinghy

have all of your equipment ready in case of an emergency. The things you need in your emergency bag are; torches- to see in the dark, sea sickness tablets - in case you or one of your crew are ill, fishing line for food- fish, crabs and lobsters, a rope (we also practised how to coil the rope safely because it is easy to get tangled up in it) and water- if you got into trouble and were waiting to be rescued you can live without food for 30 days but only 3 days without water. The most important thing is having a way of contacting the coast guard, so you must have a mobile phone with a signal or a special VHF radio. You should always check with them before you leave the harbour to check the traffic on the water, in case there is bad weather or big ships in the area. This is very important because your boat is small and could be a shipping hazard and you also need to be able to call for help if you got into difficulties and needed to be rescued. - **Anthony 11B**



Students were given a special 'kippah hat' to wear during a visit to the synagogue

Year 8 Visit a Synagogue



As part of our RE lessons, we went to have a look around a synagogue to help us learn more about Judaism. We wore a kippah hat when we first got there. A man and a lady welcomed us and showed us around and talked to us about things that happen in the synagogue. They had a PowerPoint about their different holy objects. They talked in a different language called Hebrew. We saw the special candlesticks called the Menorah, there were different sizes of them. They told us about the story of creation and how God made the sun, the animals and people. I enjoyed the trip, my favourite bit was when they got the big Torah out and we looked at the different bits of writing on it. The Torah is a special book that Jewish people have, like Christian people have the Bible. The writing was in a different language and the Torah had a special cover over it. I liked visiting the synagogue with all of my friends in Year 8, it was a nice visit. - **Kierian 8P**



Good Food Good Life

— Thank you for the donations for our coffee morning

My Future Plans

Sir Charles Parsons sixth form recently held their second 'My Future' event. The event is designed to give students an idea of things they might like to do in their leisure time after leaving Sir Charles Parsons School. Students were able to experience the social benefits of taking part in practical activities, including painting and decorating, bowling, car maintenance, hair and beauty and taking responsibility for looking after a house. As well as Sir Charles Parsons students, we welcomed guests from sixth form at our trust partner school Thomas Bewick.

Jordan, from SCP sixth form told us "At the moving on event I went bowling first. I used the ramp to aim the ball. The classroom looked really different from normal. I thought this activity was good and I will probably choose to



Our guests from Thomas Bewick enjoyed 'shots at the bar!'

go bowling in the future. Next I went to the bar, it was amazing! Loud music, cocktails and shots, pool, darts, air hockey and a big screen to watch. I will definitely go to the pub when I leave school to watch football and to play pool. Over in the vocational room two things were happening: students could choose to have their hair done in the salon and have a foot spa or to do some painting and decorating. I had a go at some wallpaper stripping. I think I would do this in my own home when I am older but I didn't enjoy it very much. Next door was set up as a home where we did everyday jobs like Hoovering, polishing, dusting and ironing, then setting the table for a nice cuppa and a jam scone.

The last activity was mini bus maintenance and we had to identify different parts of the engine and what you needed to do to check the oil and water. My favourite thing was definitely the bar area but I also liked the bowling."



And this is what our friends from Thomas Bewick thought about the event. "We were invited by Sir Charles Parsons Post 16 students, to join in their Future Plans Event. We had a great morning and enjoyed all the activities. Their bar was brilliant; we enjoyed some shots and a game of pool. The classroom looked brilliant how it had been all decorated for Halloween. We did some painting and decorating and car mechanics. We enjoyed a game of bowling; Thomas Bewick against Charles Parsons! It was really good fun! Thank you for our invite, hope we can visit again soon?" From Post 16 at Thomas Bewick - Callum, Alex, Lewis, Matthew, Harry and Charlie .

Winter Coffee Morning



Many thanks to all who supported and attended, together we raised £1,178 which will be used to fund extra-curricular activities for all of our students

Music

In November, students enjoyed two musical performances in one week from two very different musical groups.

On Tuesday 10th November students were entertained by the fantastic Charleston Charlies, (provided by Music in Hospitals). Charlie, Matt and Mike played jazzy tunes on instruments such as the clarinet, banjo and double bass. Students enjoyed singing and dancing to tunes they hadn't heard before as well as



Charleston Charlies



Jack said he enjoyed singing along to the different songs

familiar tunes such as the Pink Panther. Some Year 7 students gave the following feedback:

"I liked it when Charlie wore different wigs." (Tracy-Ann)
Paul said: "It was a perfect performance".

On Friday 13th November-lucky for us, Live Music Now introduced the students to Bethan Semmens-a harpist from Wales. Students were mesmerised as she played her stunning harp. Bethan told everyone that a harp can cost between £20,000-£60,000! At the end of the performance Bethan allowed the students to play her harp. She was really kind.



Harpist, Bethan Semmens

Here are some of the comments about Bethan's performance:

"I liked when we got to play on the harp. I have never played a harp before." (Tracy-A)



Tracy-Ann plays the harp

"Bethan was really good on her harp." (Robert)
"Bethan was amazing." (Jessica)
"Bethan's music made me feel kind of happy and smiley." (Demi)

Goodbye Mr Sharing

Students prepared this poem to be read out at Mr Sharings farewell assembly.

Marvellous Mr Sharing. Retiring today after many happy years.



Now is your time to relax and put your feet up.

It's all the small things which you have done right that makes our school outstanding.



Caring about all your students. Keeping us safe in school.

Sharing your office and snacks each break time.



Happy times on residentials, even when kept awake all night!

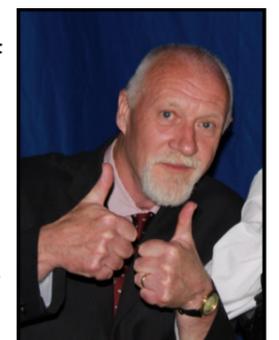
Assemblies will never be the same again without you. They've been awesome.

Ready to help out with whatever is asked of you.

Incredible supporter to Middlesbrough Football Club.

Now you're retiring you can put your beard to good use.

Great memories of you we will never forget.



Happy Retirement Mr Sharing

Other News



This term the Trust schools students council have elected new members from each school. They met together in September to review the events from last year and decided which things such as lunchtime visits and friendship Thursdays we would like to do again. We also made some new plans for the coming year including planning a joint trip away from school and a 'Bake Off' style event. We held our first joint fund raising event, a Christmas coffee morning open to students and parents of all four schools hosted by Hadrian school. The morning was a huge success and everyone who attended had a great time. We were also very pleased to raise £178.23 for a local charity Smile for Life. It was an excellent example of how students from all four schools can work together to achieve something very special.

SCP Trust Schools Council Reps



Connor, 7M Holly, 8B Connor, 8P

Thank you to Francine and her team at Sainsbury's, Heaton, for continuing to support our 'healthy breakfasts' in school.



Advert by Megan, 10A



Lisa and the team managed to raise about £9,000 for 'Smile for Life'

You've Got Mail...

Students in year eight have been learning how to communicate via email. The students compared writing letters and posting them, to sending the same information in an email, and recognised that an email gets there a lot quicker. Connor and Syed emailed Lisa Simpson from our Walker Tech. sixth form to find out about a recent trek she went on, to raise money for 'Smile for Life' Children's Charity.



How long was it? How many miles did you have to walk?

We were in the canyon for four days. We stayed in the Havasupai Indian Reservation which is run by an original Indian tribe. You have to register in the village for a visa and to be able to camp there.

Were you scared in case you fell?

There were some really scary bits. We had to walk down the side of waterfalls through different little caves. We also had to climb up mountains using wooden ladders and chains. Some people were really scared but I love that sort of thing so I wasn't.

Did you feel tired?

Yes, it was very tiring. The last day was the hardest, I was shattered after our ten mile hike out of the canyon.

Where did you sleep?

We slept in tents next to the river which were set up on the first day. A mule carried the things down for us to be able to set up camp. Each day we set out on treks then returned to our tents. We had to carry a rucksack with a spare t-shirt, three litres of water, a high protein snack and some nonslip shoes for walking in water.

Did you have a good time?

It was a once in a lifetime opportunity that I will never forget. We managed to raise about £9,000 for the charity as well which we were really proud of. Next year the charity challenge is a Mount Kilimanjaro trek. I still haven't decided if I'm going to do that!

The Thrive Approach

Thrive helps adults prepare young people for life's emotional ups and downs. The approach shows us what to do to help support young people face the challenges of growing up, and cope with the differing and sometimes emotional stresses of day to day life. As a result, young people become more self-assured and ready to engage with life and learning.

In school we now have eight staff trained as Thrive practitioners as well as all staff having had some training in the Thrive Approach.

We believe that in time Thrive will become

embedded in all aspects of school life. As well as a 'whole school approach' we have small groups of targeted students working together on a weekly basis on areas such as raising self-confidence, developing self-esteem and building and maintaining friendships. In addition to this some of our students have individual Thrive plans which focus on two specific areas of development at any one time. If you would like more information on Thrive, please visit their website on www.thriveapproach.co.uk or contact school to speak to one of the practitioners.

In September we transformed one of our classrooms into a dedicated Thrive room. Our aim was to create a welcoming and relaxed environment that was unlike any other classroom. We sourced sofas and beanbags and created zoned areas for different types of developmental play,



arts and crafts. Students working in SEAL and Thrive groups use the room as well as a range of students at break and lunchtimes.

- 'I like going to the Thrive room at break times to make stuff. My favourite thing that I have made is a reindeer tea light jar. I go because it is more relaxed being in there and I like mixing with different people. There are less people in there as well so it makes it a bit easier for me so I can concentrate more.' **Rebecca 10CA**

- 'I like coming to the Thrive room because we do loads of fun stuff there. When we have SEAL sessions now they are in that room because it's more comfy.' **Abbie 8B**



Changes in School

Towards the end of January, we will have a new member of staff in school working with our families.



NEW STAFF ID



NAME Jo Gyeger

POST Family Support Worker

Leadership Group



Karen Hamilton



Rose Finch



Karen Parker

In light of Mr Sharing retiring, the school governors have made some new appointments within school. Karen Hamilton (deputy head) will take over the role of acting head teacher whilst Rose Finch (assistant head) will become acting deputy head. Karen Parker, head of Humanities will be our new acting assistant head teacher.



Advert by Dee 11B



Puzzle Time

Letter	Binary Representation
A	1
B	2
C	3
D	4
E	5
F	6
G	7
H	8
I	9
J	10
K	11
L	12
M	13
N	14
O	15
P	16
Q	17
R	18
S	19
T	20
U	21
V	22
W	23
X	24
Y	25
Z	26

Year 11 have been learning about Binary coding in computing lessons. Students have been writing coded messages using binary 0 and 1 to turn 'byte' numbers on and off. Can you crack the binary codes below?

128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	Letter
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	C
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	
0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	
0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	
0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	

128	64	32	16	8	4	2	1	Letter
0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	
0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	
0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	



Can you spot five differences on Santa's little Helper?

All About Mr. Sharing



Crossword

Clues:

Across

- His full name is?
- One of his hobbies?
- What gets spilt on the carpet?
- He keeps a tight hold of this?
- Why is he leaving?

Down

- His favourite football club?
- How old will he be on his birthday?
- He likes to take the dog for one?
- Who will he miss the most?
- Dogs name?



What do vampires put on their Christmas turkey? Grave - y.



What do you call a snowman party? A snowball!



What did the big candle say to the little candle?

I'm going out tonight.

Christmas Sudoku

How quickly can you complete the Christmas grid using the symbols below?

The same symbol can only be used once in each row, column and four by four grid.



Answers on Page 11