

# Sports News



## Panathlon Nationals

After winning the Panathlon Challenge regional event at Gateshead Stadium we qualified for the Nationals which was held in York.

We had to get to school really early in the morning to meet Emma, Andrew and Barry at 7.30am as they were taking us down. We did different events like running, boccia, shotput, table cricket, polly bat, javelin and athletics. We played against other students from across the country. We landed up coming 3rd place, which I was happy with. I really enjoyed the day taking part in all the different sports. My favourites were running and playing polly bat. - Leon, 10P



From Left to Right: Dan, Abbie, Natasha, Richard, Tom, Tahir, Leon & Dean along with some friends from Percy Hedley school



Tom, from 8T said 'I had lots of fun at the Penathlon. I played in the polly bat competition against other schools and I came third, which was good because it was the first time I had played!'

## Northern Hope Gymnastic Centre

On Wednesday 22nd November our team went to a gymnastics competition against seven other schools in Birtley, Gateshead. To start with, we had to do a warm up and stretches with the young leaders. Our first activity was balancing we had to work with a partner, it was really hard not to fall over. Next, we had to do forward rolls, bunny hops, cartwheels and jumps down the tumble track, which was very springy so we could jump higher. We then went on the trampoline and could jump or somersault into the foam pit, it was good fun. My favourite activity was the parallel bars, we had to hang from the high bar holding a beanbag between our knees, then we got free time to swing and do front flips on the bars. After lunch the young leaders and coaches did a tumbling demonstration for us, they were amazing.

Amber said swinging on the parallel bars was her favourite bit and Connor's was watching the tumbling demonstration. - Stephen, 8BK



Sir Charles  
Parsons  
School



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# School News

Winter 2017



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Students involved in the Sensory Curriculum and a year 11 Literacy group recently enjoyed a visit to us made by Katy from 'Katy Pony Therapy' ([www.klponytherapy.co.uk](http://www.klponytherapy.co.uk)). The visit was kindly organised by Colin and Tim from Vision Education.

In November, two sensory Shetland ponies came into school to see us. They were called Cracker and Mr P. They were brown and white. Ellie went to reception to meet them and walked Mr P down to 6th form. Everybody who passed was very excited to see two ponies walking through our school! Mrs Hamilton was especially surprised when Ellie led Mr P to her office! We stroked the ponies and were allowed to brush them. They were very soft and fluffy. The ponies were really friendly and gentle with us. After a little while, we noticed a strange smell and realised that Cracker had had a poo on the floor! The owner quickly picked it up using poo bags for dogs. The last time Cracker had a poo in a place where he shouldn't have done was when he appeared on ITV's This Morning with Phil and Holly. We were thrilled to have a celebrity with us! We loved having the ponies in school and hope that they come back to visit us again soon.

- By Ellie, Cameron and Ryan 11G



Cameron enjoyed grooming Cracker. He said, 'he had nice hair and a soft nose. I tickled him on the chin.'



Read all about the first stages of our play equipment installation, what the students think, and our plans for next year. Pages 2 & 3

## New staff in school - Pool Facilities Attendant!

We have recently appointed Kieron to help look after our school swimming pools and equipment. Students in year 8 asked him about his 'favourites'.



TV Programme? Black Adder  
Film? Star Wars  
Pop Star? Taylor Swift  
Hobby? Football & Pool  
Subject at school? Biology  
Interesting fact? I have two sausage dogs called Daxster & Shnurg!



Sir Charles Parsons School mascots, Ant and Dec, joined in the Christmas Spirit on 'Christmas Jumper Day'. Students and staff paid £1 to wear festive togs and raised over £90 for 'Save the Children' charity.



Advert  
by  
Josh  
- 6M



Sir Charles  
Parsons  
School





'The Friends of Sir Charles Parsons School' have had an extremely successful year in terms of fundraising, grant donations and raising the profile of our school. Events have been well attended by our supporters - staff, students, parents, carers, friends and the wider community. Our Friends of.. Facebook page has now almost 200 'likes' which enables even more people to keep up to date with our current events and fundraising efforts.' Find us on [f](#) 'Friends of Sir Charles Parsons School'.

'The Friends of...' have raised £43,013.98 this year, which is a 58% increase on our first year as a registered charities total. We have held eight events this year continuing with and introducing new initiatives such as GNR, school photo day, Ragbin recycling as well as holding stalls at an external church fair.

We have also benefited hugely from grants awarded by The Big lottery, The Wooden Spoon Children's Charity, The Chronicle's Sunshine Fund, Sir Janes Knott Trust, The Rothley Trust, RW Mann Trust and Community Foundation. This has enabled us to fund the first five of our desired nine phases of outdoor play equipment to be installed this year and early 2018.

Our students now benefit from access to an outdoor gym, timber trim trail, wheelchair accessible roundabout, zip wire and basket swing. Funding and orders are now in place for the sixth and seventh phase due to commence in February with the installation of a wheelchair accessible swing, two standard swings and the sensory area panels. Plans are underway to fund the remaining two phases, which are a bespoke accessible tower structure and a tyre park. It is estimated these two areas will cost around £24,000 to purchase and have installed.

Fundraising and bids for grants for our outdoor play equipment will remain our main initiative in 2018. However, as agreed by all of our stakeholders, we will continue to support the provision of our residential experiences and that of providing specialist equipment and resources for our students.

Fundraising events in the pipeline include tentative plans for a 'Coast to Coast' cycle ride over two days sometime in the second half of the Spring term 2018, more information will follow in January. Longer term plans include a 'Peak to Peak Challenge' and for both of these initiatives we would welcome any participant offers from our supporters!

We have also secured an increased number of places for the charity in the 2018 main Great North Run and mini and junior runs. One area we continue to find challenging is having sufficient volunteers to help at our bigger events such as our Winter, Spring and Summer coffee mornings. Again, FOSCPs would welcome any volunteers of help at such events. Please get in touch with the school office who will direct you to the appropriate committee members for more information.



## Gingerbread Houses

We had a special treat with food technology and art when we designed and made a gingerbread houses.

Everyone in Year 9 took part, we all went to the food tech. room. It was a bit of a tight squeeze but it was nice because we got to work with our friends from other Year 9 classes. I had to put icing on to the gingerbread house. There were lots of decorations to choose from like Smarties, chocolate buttons, strawberry laces and white chocolate buttons. Everybody made one each and they were all different colours and designs.

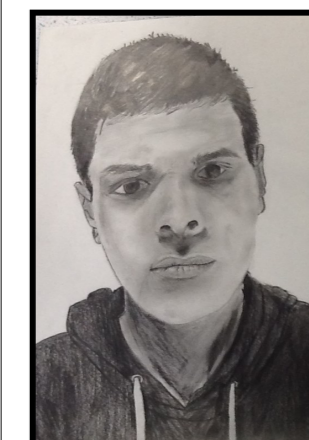
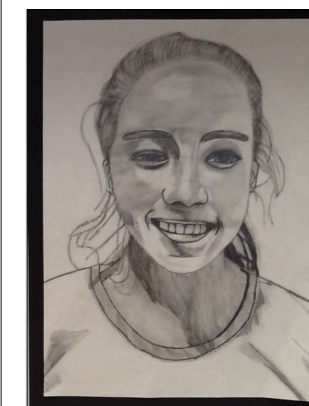
We took them straight away as soon as the icing had dried. We all took them home to show everyone in the house and I shared mine with my mam. We had a bit and then kept some for later. It tasted nice and sweet. - Bailey 9M



To begin with the students worked on their own designs, and then worked together with a friend to choose the ingredients to create their design. Some Year 10 students were involved in preparing the resources and ingredients.

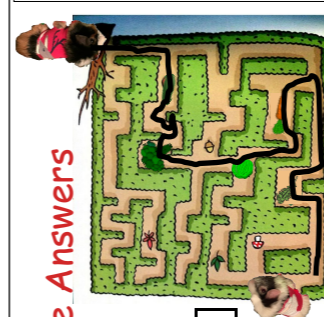
## GCSE ART

Tahir, 10B Courtney and Connor, 11W have been studying GCSE Art via a mainstream link at our neighbouring school, Walker Technology College. The students are now busy preparing their final pieces of work to be submitted in March '18.



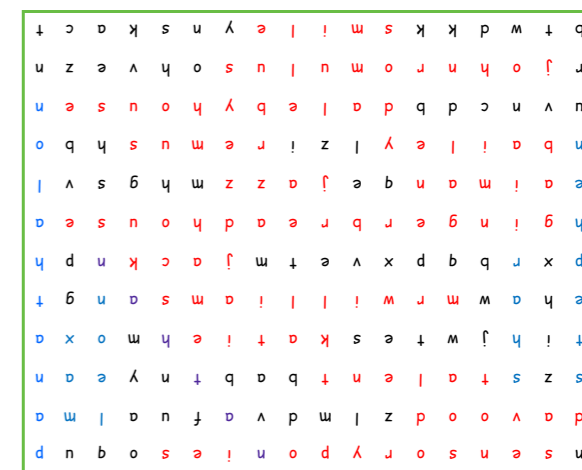
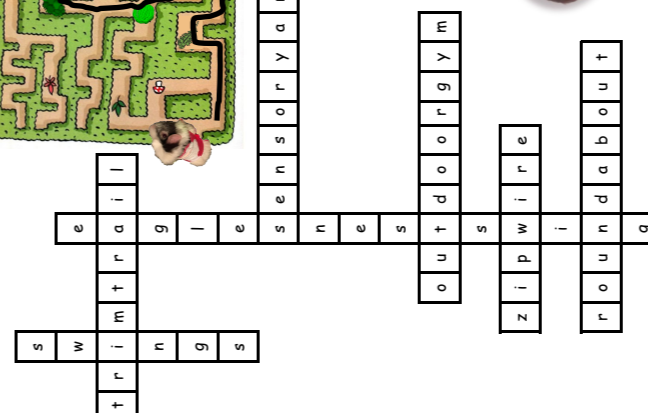
We go to Walker Tech. three times a week to do GCSE Art with a year 11 class. We have been working on a sketch book using our own designs. We have been working on a 3D designer toy model of our own choice. This was quite a challenge because you had to figure out how to form the shapes of it. We have drawn a

portrait of ourselves using pencils. It was really hard to get it right and took us a long time. When we return after Christmas we will be starting to design a poster of our own choice. I have chosen 'Hell Boy', Tahir has chosen 'Lewis Hamilton' and Courtney 'First Step'. - Connor 11W



STAR WARS

SCPs Kids Zone Answers





Over the last term during literacy lessons Sixth Form students have been preparing acts to perform in '6th Form's Got Talent'. The project was around students developing social communication skills as well as increasing confidence in expressing personal opinions.

The students could choose to form a group act or to work as a solo performer. Over the weeks students have researched TV talent shows from around the world to compare acts and formats. Students then practised their acts over a series of weeks, and each week received feedback recorded on a critique sheet from their peers.

The feedback process was very important in developing students self awareness and helped them to develop their practical skills further. For example the basketball act learnt that counting through the act helped them to synchronise. Students from Years 7, 10 and 11 formed the audience for the final show, with selected Sixth Form staff and students forming the judging panel.

The acts included Josh who played the drums to 'You Spin Me Right Round', Nathan and Max singing Journey's 'Don't Stop Believing', Aiman who performed a Bollywood dance routine, Adam who sang a solo of 'Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer', as well as a duet with Ellie of 'Merry Christmas Everyone' by Shakey. Also performing were the basketball team, Rebecca P who did a solo of Frozen's 'Let it Go', and a group act of 'The Twelve Days of Christmas'.

It was a close call as all acts were extremely successful, however the overall winners were Max and Nathan. Their performance was even better second time round when they sang it as winners, which had all the audience singing and clapping along.

In what was a very close call, Max and Nathan were crowned the 2017 winners of 'SCP's Sixth Forms Got Talent'! With their superb rendition of 'Don't Stop Believing'



The Judges had some tough decisions to make...



Callum performed some super tricky basketball moves!



*I enjoy playing on the trim trail because it is good exercise and I like to keep fit. I play on it with my friends and time each other. I think it's great fun! - Connor, 9M*

*I like the outdoor gym the best. We use it in PE lessons and at breaktimes. My favourite piece of equipment is the 'sit-ups' because I an working on my six pack! - Dylan, 10B*

*The Eagles Nest Swing is my favourite. It goes really high. I like going on with my friends, Morgan gives the best pushes! - Connor, 7CW*



*'I think the roundabout is a good thing for the students who use wheelchairs because they can go on with their friends and go really fast!' - Aman, 7CW*



*'We love the zip wire. It's good because it goes super fast! Once you get to the end of the wire you have to fetch it back for the next person to have a go.'*

*- Demi & Shelby, 7W*

A lady called Elsa came to see us in sixth form in school. Her job is an oral hygienist and she showed us how we should look after our teeth so they stay healthy and don't fall out. She brought loads of things with her. She had giant teeth and toothbrushes to practice brushing in the right places, timers to show us how long to brush and some fizzy drinks so we could see how much sugar is in them which is bad for teeth. We all had a go at chewing special tablets that made our teeth go blue and purple. This showed where the plaque was. We brushed our teeth to get rid of the plaque. It was a good visit and I think we all learned lots about healthy teeth.

- Aiman 6M



# Smile



'Elsa asked us some questions about how we look after our teeth. I had to check where to brush my teeth in the mirror after the tablet turned my teeth and gums blue.' - Callum 6H

'It was quite funny when the lady came in. We got to see a man do a rap about teeth! I got to dress up like a dentist. It is really important to brush your teeth every day. We used a timer to show how long to brush for.' - Josh 6M



## The World of Work

On Wednesday 1st November, students in year 10 had the opportunity to take part in a 'World of Work' event to raise awareness of different types of careers and vocations. Guest speakers came in to school to talk about and show the students the type of work they do, how they trained and what their job entails. Our visitors included an architect, a nurse, a cocktail designer and a gardener. They each led workshops to give the students a taste of what skills and qualities employers look for in their future employees. Students were able to recognise that the qualities needed for employment can also be linked to our school Behaviours for Life and Learning.



'I liked learning how to make the cocktail 'Fun on the Beach.' We mixed cranberry and orange juice, peach puree and some sugar syrup. It tasted delicious!' - Jack 10P

Let's help every child **thrive**

has given them the challenge of working with different classmates and has given some people the opportunity of taking the lead when they wouldn't usually choose to do so. The pastoral staff have been very impressed with how well the students have communicated their ideas with each other with little adult support.

Students in 7A have been enjoying working together to make an Autumn class display as part of a whole class Thrive project. This



It was great when we got our hands messy making the tree trunk. - Richard



I liked working with everyone in a group and doing hand prints with Sadie. - King John

## HISTORY

Students in year seven have been learning about Roman mythology, and in particular the brothers Romulus and Remus. The students enjoyed acting out the story of how Rome began.



## ROMULUS AND REMUS BY 7CW



## Nosey Questions for our student teachers



We have had two student teachers in school this term to work in the Science and Maths departments. Shar, from 7A, interviewed Mr Williams and asked some very interesting questions!

If you weren't a teacher what would you want to do? **Mr Williams - Crime fighting, the next most important thing!**

Where is your favourite place in the world that you've visited? **Mr Williams - Tai Long Wan beach, Honk Kong is the most beautiful place.**

What did you like to do as a kid? **Mr Williams - Play football, I would even use a tennis ball if I had no football!**

Do you like working with children? **Mr Williams - Yes - it's great fun.**

If you could fly something, what would it be? **Mr Williams - A dragon, I'd be on the back of it!**

Which superhero would you like to be? **Mr Williams - Flash as I'm always late for things.**

Would you rather be the smartest or the most active person in the world? **Mr Williams - Most active.**

If you could have any animal as a pet, what would it be? **Mr Williams - A dog.**

If you had the chance to walk on the moon or skydive, which would you choose? **Mr Williams - Walk on the moon.**

What are you scared of? **Mr Williams - Monkeys, packs of monkeys can be scary.**

What would be the worst insect you could eat? **Mr Williams - Giant Locust, they're big and squishy on the inside.**

Are you a vegetarian, vegan or do you eat meat? **Mr Williams - I eat meat, I'm carnivore.**

Shah interviewed a student teacher and asked some very nose questions!



Our other PGCE student, Mrs Casey, has been teaching Year 10 science. Paul, Year 10, tells us a little bit more about what they have been learning about.

Mrs Casey has been teaching us about food chains. We learnt lots of new words like predator and prey. One of the food chains that we learnt about started with plankton which you find at the bottom of the ocean. Little fishes eat the plankton and then big fishes eat them, and then sharks eat the big fishes.

We went into the heart and we each had a different picture. We then had bits of string and we had to join them to whichever bit came next in the food chain. By the end the string was going in all different directions.

I have enjoyed having Mrs Casey for my lessons because it was a nice change. Mrs Casey helped all my friends in the class with their learning. - Paul, 10B



**Live Music Now!** helps children and young people to explore music and express themselves creatively.

The charity provides access to high quality live music in a workshop environment that is inspiring, interactive and accessible. Thanks to Live Music Now! we recently held a concert by 'Knox and Ion.' Frazer Knox and Tom Ion, from Glasgow, are jazz guitarists.

Richard, from 7A was there and said, 'We listened to some jazz guitarists play songs. Some people danced along to the fast music and we all sat and listened to the slow music. They played traditional songs and some pop songs. I enjoyed dancing with my friends the most and would like to see Knox and Ion again.'



The students had fun dancing along to 'Knox & Ion'

## Beadnell



Some year eight students recently took part in a three-day residential visit to Beadnell, Northumberland. Our school benefits from having access to this provision every year thanks to 'Adventure Holidays', which is a non-profit making charity.



All Aboard the Billy Shiels!

Our class went to Beadnell. We stayed at Daleby House. It was an upside down house because the bedrooms were downstairs and the kitchen was upstairs. We went to the beach. We went on a boat called the Billy Shiels across to the Farne Islands and we saw some seals.



Outside upside down 'Daleby House.'

Talia thought one of the seals looked like a dog. We had fish and chips and ice cream and we were full up! We went on a visit to Bamburgh Castle and saw lots of weapons and suits of armour. We played a game of crazy golf and Stephen won. - Dawod and Katie A, 8BK

## Letter from the Head



Dear Parents, & Carers ,

The autumn term began with a great deal of excitement as the first pieces of play equipment were installed in the yard. Luckily lots of mild dry weather allowed the students - and staff - to get out and explore the new equipment. It has really made a difference, promoting students' social skills and confidence. Year 8 students also made the most of the mild weather and had a fantastic few days at Beadnell, taking Mr Patel, our new assistant head with them. My thanks to the FOSCPs and everyone involved in the fundraising efforts over the past few years for making all this possible.

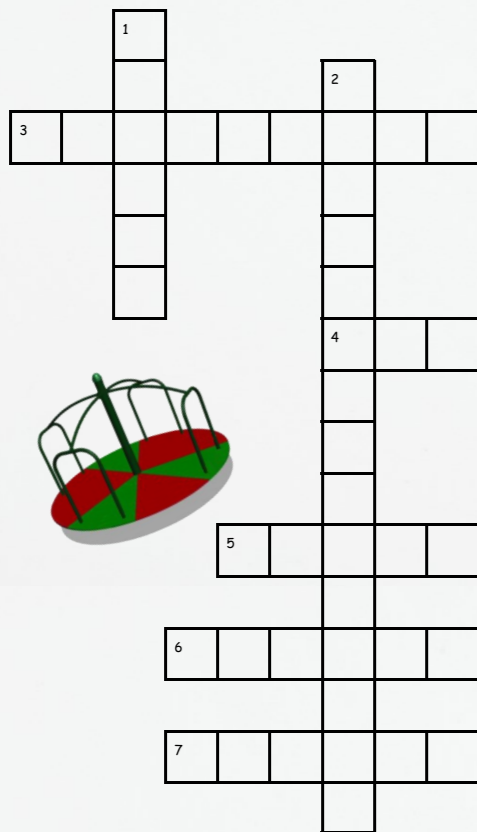
Time seems to have flown by since those warm September days, the year 7 students have settled in and it's almost the end of term already!

Clive from Thrive, the Christmas Elf, has come back to join us this year getting up to all manner of mischief, but also celebrating and rewarding students for their good learning and effort. He has also taken over as headteacher and moved into my office for a while!

The end of the autumn term is a wonderful time to work in a school, with the many opportunities Christmas provides for fun, enjoyment and coming together as a school community. A chance to talk and catch up with parents and carers at the coffee morning and carol service. Students have the opportunity to spend more time with their friends at the disco and - my favourite event - the whole school Christmas lunch. Sitting down together as a school to share a meal - and the terrible Christmas cracker jokes! It embodies some of the most important Christmas messages: of caring for others and being with people we care about. I've often commented on the strong feeling of community being one of the greatest strengths of our school. At Christmas this is even stronger and the Christmas events give us the opportunity to really come together as a family and community, working, playing and learning together. Merry Christmas everyone, and I look forward to January when we are back at school to enjoy, learn and achieve together!

Karen Hamilton  
Headteacher

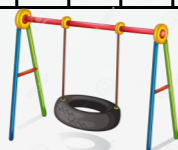
# SCPS Kids Zone



Find the answers to our playground puzzle!

- Across
3. Obstacle course made of wood?
  4. And we will see this soon?
  5. Get fit outside?
  6. Jump on, slide along?
  7. Round and round it goes?

- Down
1. What's next?
  2. Big bird goes high?



Why did Santa go to the doctor?  
Because of his bad "elf"!

What did the sea say to Santa?  
Nothing, it just waved!

What do you get if you cross  
Santa with a duck?  
A Christmas Quacker!

Who is Santa's favourite  
singer?  
Elf-is Presley!

Where do elves go to dance?  
Snow Balls!

Why was the snowman rummaging in the bag of carrots?  
He was picking his nose!

Who's Favourite Film?



I'M A GUINEAPIG  
Get Me Out Of Here!

Find the way to reunite Ant with Dec in this Bush Tucker Trial!

Make sure he collects their top five favourite snacks (as verified by their management), in the correct order!

Kale Carrot Lettuce Broccoli Cucumber



n s e n s o r y p o n i e s o q u p  
d a v o o d z l m d v a f u a l m a  
s z s t a l e n t b a b t n y e a n  
t i h j w t e s k a t i e h m o x a  
e h a w m r w i l l i a m s a n g t  
p x r b q p x v e t m j a c k n p h  
h g i n g e r b r e a d h o u s e a  
e a i m a n q e j a z z m h g s v l  
n b a i l e y l z i r e m u s h b o  
u v n c d b d a l e b y h o u s e n  
r j o h n r o m u l u s o h v e z n  
b t w d k k s m i l e y n s k a c t

Find the following words from School News in the puzzle.

Words are hidden → or ↓ and ↘

aiman  
bailey  
dalebyhouse  
davood

gingerbreadhouse  
jack  
jazz  
john

katie  
leon  
max  
mrwilliams

nathan  
panathalon  
remus  
romulus  
sensoryponies  
shar

smile  
stephen  
talent



Answers on page 11