

Sports News

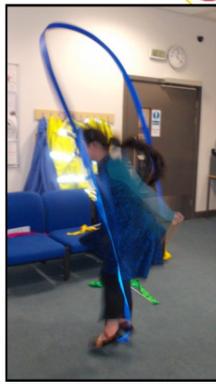


Students in sixth form have this term been taking part in sensory dance as part of the enrichment programme. They have been exploring different objects that they can help use to aid their performances as well as how they can use their bodies in different ways to dance. The students have learned about different forms of dance and what are the important principles that make up any dance.



Caitlin and Saira use the Rhythmic Ribbons and Subhan shows his dance moves

Sensory Dance



In our sensory dance lessons we have been learning new dances and making up our own routines. We had to move our legs, arms and bodies. Everyone had to think of two different moves to make up a new dance routine. The moves I made were 'criss-crossing' my legs and waving my arms. Everyone copied each others moves. We called the dance 'Criss-Cross'. We have also been dancing using ribbons, bean bags, balloons and hoops.

Subhan 6M

EARLY BIRD SWIMMERS

Some students have been taking part in morning swim sessions during registration time to get them prepared for the school day. They have worked in the main pool and in the hydro pool practising their swimming skills. The sessions have really helped build their confidence in the water and it has given them the opportunity to practise different swimming strokes. In particular Thomas Richardson and Richard Brown in 7B have excelled within the sessions, as they are now able to swim on their fronts for a full length of the pool without stopping.

I go swimming on a Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. We are allowed to do anything we want in the pool because it makes us used to the water. Tom or Andrew are usually in the pool with us. I like to play tag. After we've played some games we then practise swimming. At the beginning of the year I couldn't swim very far, but now I can swim a full length of the pool. I feel ok when I'm doing it, not nervous anymore.

Richard 7B



Richard and Thomas excelled in swimming & Abbie has worked on her independence skills

Also during these sessions some students have been practising their independence and self-help skills by practising showering, hair washing and dressing skills.

I like coming in the morning to get a shower, so I can learn how to wash and dry my hair and then I can go home and I can show my mam that I can do it by myself.

Abbie 7B



School News



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



For the last six weeks a Newcastle United Football coach, Alex Curran from the Newcastle United Foundation, has been coming into school to work with some of our Year 8 students on improving their football skills. They have been working on passing, shooting and

dribbling, but also how to work as a team during a match. The students had some extra special guests for their coaching session last week. This has been a fantastic experience for all the students involved.



Question Time
'Why became a footballer?'



Lara kicks the ball from Gouffran,



'Ghuffran meets Gouffran'

On Tuesday 25th November two footballers from Newcastle United came into school to watch us play football and teach us new skills. They were called Jack Colback and Yuan Gouffran. They taught us how to score goals by kicking the ball hard. Gouffran showed us how to kick the ball extra hard in the penalty area. We were able to ask them lots of questions. Courtney asked them why they had wanted to become footballers. Mr Colback told us that it was because he enjoyed watching football when he was young and had always wanted to be like the footballers he watched. They also told us how hard they train during the week practising lots of different skills for the matches. We really enjoyed their visit the best bit was when Mr Colback scored a goal past Dean. We loved having them in our school and learnt lots of new things.



Team Work

By David, Jordan and Kyle 8G

Roll Up, Roll Up, The Circus comes to SCPs! Page 4

Read all about our new learning on pages 8 & 9

Sainsbury's

Many of our students travel from all around the city into school each day and this often means they leave home each morning far earlier than their siblings and friends. During pastoral time at the beginning of each day healthy breakfasts and snacks are offered to those who may not have had time to have breakfast at home. Since September our school has benefited from fruit to have with our breakfasts which has been provided free of charge, by Sainsbury's in Heaton. We hope to continue and expand our links with both Sainsbury's and other local businesses in the future.

Sir Charles Parsons School



The Snack Shack

During enrichment lessons students from year 10 have been finding out about running their own café and all of the different jobs that need to be considered. Before they set up the 'Community Café,' they carried out some research into what made a good café.

We visited a café in a local supermarket. It was quite cheap to get juice and a biscuit. We found out that you had to wait in a queue to get served, then wait in another queue to get your order, and then another queue to pay. When you got your order you had to get everything you needed by yourself (napkins, teaspoons, etc.). We also visited another café - Café Beam which is run by the children's charity 'Smile for Life'. It was different to the first café because we gave our orders sitting at the table and then everything was brought over to us. We paid before we left and the lady came around to give us our bills and collect our money. The decoration inside was nicer, there were flowers on the tables and menus so you could have a look while you were sitting. We all preferred this type of café. For our café we wanted to find out which toasties would be the most popular so we set up a 'Toastie Tasting' session. We made three types of toasties, they were banana and chocolate, cheese and onion, and jam. We presented small portions of the toasties on a plate with cocktail sticks for people to use to pick the toasties off. We recorded people's ideas about their favourites on tally charts. Cheese and onion was the most popular, banana and chocolate was

second, and jam was the least favourite. Next we set up our first proper café in school. We held it in the dining hall because there was



Mr Isaac enjoyed 'Toastie Tasting', his favourite was cheese & onion

more space than in a classroom. We used the kiosk to serve from. We put numbers on the tables with decorations.

Everyone had a job, Casey and Kye had to take orders, Adam and Faris served the drinks, Isshi and Dee served the food, Ellie and Sannah prepared food on the plates in the kiosk. Students all took turns at showing café guests to tables, checking they were happy with the service and clearing tables. The opening hours of the café were from 10.25 to 11.20 (lesson 2). We served toasties, hot drinks and small cakes. Students who were invited arrived and were shown to their tables.



Kye takes an order

Some extra people came who had heard about the café, so it made it very busy. We cleaned the tables, but there was no time for washing all of the dishes and equipment so we need to think about this for next time. Things that we learnt from our first café:



Ellie and Dee serving drinks and snacks.

- Improve the table decorations - maybe have table cloths.
- Writing a bill - each table could be given a bill when they have placed their order so that they can get their money ready to pay.
- Recording the orders - a sheet in the kiosk so that you could note how many sandwiches and then you could cross them off as they were made.

We have now hosted 'Snack Shack' three times in the dining room and it has been a great success with very positive feedback from our customers.

By Faris, Casey, Adam, Ellie, Dee, Kye, Isshi



Casey and Adam helping to prepare and check an order.

By Faris, Casey, Adam, Ellie, Dee, Kye, Isshi

Sir Charles Parsons School



Christmas Coffee Morning

Friday 12th December 2014

We had a fantastic turn out at our Christmas Coffee Morning this year with almost 100 guests attending. As well as enjoying the festive stalls, games, raffle, tombolas and refreshments we

managed to raise a
RECORD BREAKING

£1,190.27

In addition to this, a further £550 was raised by staff who attended and supported a virtual race night hosted at Heaton Stannington Football Club.

All funds raised will go towards ensuring all students in our school experience at least one residential visit during their life at Sir Charles Parsons School.

The next planned residential visits which will benefit from our fundraising will take place towards Easter 2015.

A group of 15 students will be visiting Calvert Trust Outdoor Activity Centre in Keswick, Cumbria. The centre provides trained staff and specialised equipment which enables all of our students to access activities such as rock climbing, abseiling, kayaking, and pony and trap driving. Another visit which is planned to take place before Easter is a skiing trip to Zakopane in Poland.

Again, the resort that will be used provides specialist equipment and trainers so that all students can take part in skiing activities. In addition students will have the opportunity to socialise and experience Polish culture through traditional meals and visiting markets.



We have received some very kind donations this term to support our fund raising initiatives at our Coffee Morning and Race night.

Deli Delights gave us crisps and flapjack to sell at the Coffee Morning and some pubs and local businesses donated 'meals for two', 'haircuts' and even a 'massage treatment'!



Puzzle Time Answers



THE SWEETY CODE

6 T h e G r i n c h

5 T h e S a n t a C l a u s e

4 T h e P o l i a r E x p e r s e s

3 H o m e A l i o n e

1 F r o z e n E l f

3. Mrs Maher

2. Barry J

1. Alison J

WHOM GUESS?

C h r i s t m a s d a y



Sixth Form Speedy Bird Cakes

Students in sixth form have made Speedy Bird Cakes to keep the birds happy this winter. Why not make one to hang in your garden at home?

You will need:



Steps:

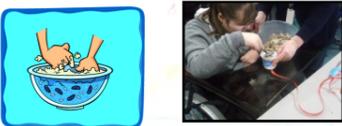
Carefully make a small hole in the bottom of a yoghurt pot. Thread string through the hole and tie a knot on the inside. Leave enough string so that you can tie the pot to a tree or your bird table



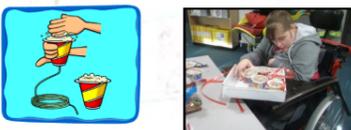
Allow the lard to warm up to room temperature, but don't melt it. Then cut it up into small pieces and put it in the mixing bowl.



Add the other ingredients to the bowl and mix them together with your finger tips. Keep adding the seed/raisin/cheese mixture and squidding it until the fat holds it all together.



Fill your yoghurt pots with bird cake mixture and put them in the fridge to set for an hour or so.



Hang your speedy bird cakes from trees or your bird table. Watch for greenfinches, tits and possibly even great spotted woodpeckers



Star Signers

Star Signers meet every week in school and practice MAKATON signing with our Speech and Language Therapists. MAKATON signing is designed to support spoken language - signs are used to help some of our students to communicate. Signs are used, with speech, in spoken word order. Using signs can help our students who have no speech or whose speech is unclear, to support the understanding of conversations (signing key words) as well as an essential tool to communicate with our students who have a hearing impairment. All staff at our school use signing as a key to enhance learning. Students are encouraged to learn and use signs so they can communicate with their peers using a common medium. As well as this, the physical action of signing keywords can often aid students to recall key learning facts.

If any parents, carers or friends of our school would like to find out more about MAKATON and who may be interested in attending training sessions in school, please leave your details with the school office and we will contact you with future training opportunities in the new term.

Star Signers Delise and Max wish everybody a ..



Happy



Christmas



Young Guiders



Our Young Guiders

This term our young guiders group have continued with their fundraising efforts. In recognition of all of their hard work the students and staff involved were

nominated by the Newcastle Guide Dog charity for the 'Collaboration with Others' award at the National Guide Dog Annual Awards 2014.

They were up against some really tough competition; teams from Microsoft, The Queen Elizabeth Hospital and the Police Force were also nominated. Our young guiders team have raised £1,500 to date and next year we will be able to sponsor our own guide dog puppy who they want to name Charlie.



Meeting VIPs at the Awards Ceremony

Claire Devine, Volunteering Consultant for North East & Cumbria said *'I nominated the school for the award because the work that has been done by staff and pupils is ground-breaking and impressive. The way that the staff embraced My Guide and other aspects of Guide Dogs (like fundraising) has been fantastic. It was really heart warming to see the students supporting each other and getting so much out of the experience.'*

If you would like to learn more about this charity, visit the website at:

www.guidedogs.org.uk

A Letter from the Head



Dear Parents and Carers,

Christmas at school is always a time when I reflect on what I regard as a real strength of this school, our sense of community. This is something that is frequently commented on by our many visitors.

As in any school our students have their fair share of disputes and arguments, especially during the 'troublesome teenage years'. On a daily basis throughout the year however, I also see students with different needs and from different cultures and faiths, laughing together, supporting and caring for one another.

There are many people, including those brought up within a Christian culture, who believe the true spirit of Christmas has gone. The idea that Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Christ and promote "peace and goodwill amongst men" has been lost in a sea of consumerism and personal pleasure. They may be right and I myself may be guilty of this. This Christmas however, I will take time to remember and celebrate the fact I am fortunate enough to be a part of a community which is supportive and caring. A school full of students who in spite of their needs, are in many ways very positive role models for others.

I wish you all season's greetings and a happy and peaceful New Year.

Nick Sharing



Winner!
Well done
Natasha,
7B Winning
Christmas
Pudding
Wrapper
design



Winner!
Well done
Tahir,
7B
Winning
Christmas
Card Design

SCP CIRCUS

As part of their life skills lesson, Sixth Form students have been learning about 'Working well together'. The students researched different circus acts, explored a variety of props, decided on choosing or creating their own acts, resourced costumes, building props and stage accessories, selected music and the list goes on... Above all each student proved their ability to be part of a fantastic team! Acts included: Magician, lion tamer, limbo dancer, palm reader, skittle knockers, strongmen and a clown, all perfectly orchestrated by our very own ringmaster! Some students were supported to create a sensory clown display. This was part of a 'Candy Stall' with refreshments of freshly made, sweet smelling candy floss and a variety of flavoured popcorn on offer, against the backdrop of a 'Big Top Tent' made by our very own 6th form students. Curtis the clown really enjoyed squirting the audience with his water flower. Everyone had a laugh! A huge 'Well Done' well to all involved, especially Jordan J, who stepped in at the very last minute to replace our poorly ring master.



Kate & her crystal ball



The Strongmen

Performers Quotes:

"I was nervous going on the stage but at the same time I really, really enjoyed it!" - Subhan (Strongman)

"Strongman, great, muscle-stretch!" - Alex (Strongman)

"The audience was a little bit scared because they thought the lion was real. Subhan helped me to hold the hoop for the lion to jump through" - Dylan (lion tamer)

"I have always wanted to be a clown because I like making people laugh!" - Curtis (clown)

"I was so proud of each and every student's contribution and achievements. As well as being a great learning opportunity they also had fun" - Mrs Haq



The Clown



PARENTS & CARERS

Parents and Carers are invited to come along for a cuppa, biscuit and a catch-up once a month (new date and venue will be sent in the new year).

The parent & carer support group meetings are held in various venues around the city, to make it as accessible as possible for all of our families.

Shelagh from 'Pass it on Parents' also comes along and offers a wealth of information on latest funding available for parents, carers and students as well as keeping us informed of social events we might like to take part in.

If the parent and carers support group isn't really for you, you can always give Jo Corby a call in school, she is happy to help with anything you may need. We also have the Family Support team, Val and Lorna, who help many of our families, Jo will be able to let you know when they are available.



We need your support!

Sir Charles Parsons School are collecting Chronicle Wish Tokens to support

cash for your community

School Governor News

At our last governing body meeting Lindsey Booth and Ruth Proctor both explained that due to family commitments they would be stepping down as Chair and Vice Chair person.

The governors voted unanimously for Ashley Ferguson to be our new Chairperson and Nigel Coates to be the Vice chairperson.

Current User: rf57

To: nigel.coates
From: rf57
Subject: New Governor Role

What do you do as a governor?
I help to run your school, by attending meetings with Mr Sharing and other governors. I work on deciding what the school can spend money on to make your learning better.

Is it hard or easy being a governor?
The hardest bit is having enough time to be a good governor. The easiest part is coming into school and watching all the good things you do.

Do you have another job?
Yes I am a lecturer (which is like a teacher) at Northumbria University.

Why did you want to be a governor for our school?
I knew your school was 'Outstanding' and I wanted to get involved to help to make it even better.

What is your favourite type of sweet?
I like rhubarb and custard sweets. They are really yummy!

We like using computers in school, do you like computers and do you have one at home?
Yes I like computers they make my work a lot easier. I have just got a new computer. I do a lot of work at home on my computer.

What is your favourite movie?
I like a lot of different movies. My favourite one is the King's Speech; which is a true story. I also like James Bond films.

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.

Current User: df64

To: ashley.ferguson
From: df64
Subject: New Governor Role

What do you do as a governor?
I work as part of the governing body team to challenge the Head Teacher on the strategy of providing the best possible outcomes for the pupils at the school. We look at how the school is funded and ensure the budget is efficiently and effectively managed. We have an aspiration to be an outstanding school at the next OFSTED review. We also sit on the appointment panel when staff vacancies need to be filled.

Is it hard or easy being a governor?
It can be as hard or easy as you want to make it finding the time and managing that time effectively is the key, bringing our own life experiences and training to the fore.

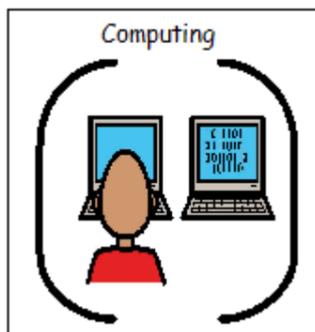
Do you have another job?
Yes, I am a chartered Civil Engineer working as a project Manager delivering large capital drainage schemes protecting the public and the environment.

Why did you want to be a governor for our school?
To give something back to the community and to use my skills to help provide a better future for the people who pass through Sir Charles Parsons School and because Mr Sharing asked me.

Do you drive and what sort of car do you have?
I do drive, my car is getting quite old now but it has lots of toys and on it which I like a lot so I am reluctant to change it. The Car is a black Nissan Primera 2.2 diesel.

What's your favourite TV programme?
I like science and quality documentaries, no one particular programme.

What's your favourite thing to do at the weekend?
I like to go out on a Saturday morning with my wife and son for breakfast at a small coffee house in Belsay, followed by a rugby match at Newcastle Falcons, but it is always very cold, why do we play at winter time?



Over the summer ICT saw some changes to the curriculum. One of the biggest changes was the name, the lesson is called computing rather than ICT now because the government want

students to learn more about how computers work.

Students are still covering topics that they used to such as learning to use Publisher to make a book about themselves, learning to use Excel to display information using charts, and of course a big focus on e-safety and digital citizenship.

Now some new topics have been introduced such as Understanding Binary, Algorithm Design, Boolean Theory and Visual and Textual Programming.

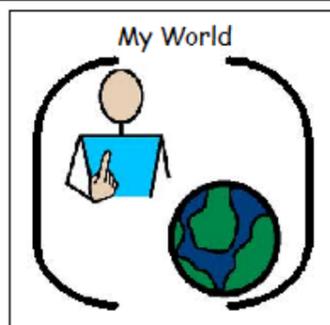
We have been learning about binary with Mrs Anderson. Binary is the code that computers use to store information. It's numbers 0 and 1 and then these numbers are used to show the numbers in a byte. You get bits and bytes, a bit is one digit of information, a byte is 8 bits all together. The eight numbers that you see in a byte are 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64, 128.

We have learnt how binary is used to store information on a hard drive, the hard drive is the thing in the computer that you save all your work to. It looks a bit like a CD but is smaller and has a read write arm. At the end of the arm there is a magnet, it pulls or pushes tiny magnets on the hard drive up or down to magnetise them North or South, this then stands for binary 0 or 1 which the computer reads and changes into the information on screen.

Aaron, 11G



Students in year 11 played on an old 'Spectrum' computer which uses Binary to store and transfer information from a cassette to the screen



This year 'My World' has been added to the curriculum.

The subject was introduced to encompass behaviours for life and learning, which are a set of skills and attitudes needed by everyone to help them get the most out of life in school and out of school. It provides opportunities for the practical development of functional numeracy and literacy skills. Students are encouraged to develop personal learning and thinking skills through evaluating their own learning.

Students access My World during a double lesson each week and carry out half termly projects. The projects have the same focus throughout the school, for example learning about the local area, but are differentiated to the needs of the students in each group. Students in Year 7 are taught in pastoral classes whilst the rest of the school are in sets based on their abilities and needs.

I went to Newcastle on the metro to look at different landmarks. I love the metro. I walked all the way to the Quayside for my packed lunch. It was very hot and sunny. I like the Millennium Bridge. I went to Jesmond Dene when I was learning about hobbies. I wanted to join the runners in the Dene but I went for a walk instead. I had a snack in the café and I saw a goat going for a walk on a lead.

Callum 9A

In My World this term we have learned about leisure time activities and hobbies, we tried out lots of different hobbies such as crafts, cooking and sports. We planned our own trip out of school to the bowling alley, we had to think about how we would get there, how much it would cost and decide if everyone could access the activity. After half term we learnt about our homes, we found out we all live in very different types of houses and flats. We also watched some videos about children in different countries and what sort of houses they live in. Then we learned about things that could be dangerous in our homes and how we can stay safe and help to stop accidents happening.

Rajo & Aaron 11G

My Future Plans

This year student's Statements of Educational Needs have been replaced with Education Health Care plans for students in years 11 and sixth form. The idea is for information to be available about what students enjoy learning and are good at, but also what they enjoy to do socially.

To get more information for the first meetings, 6th Form held a 'My Future Plans' event in October. The event gave students the opportunity to experience different learning activities from what they would usually get in school, as well as a range of social, and daily living activities. All sixth form classrooms and areas were transformed for the day into different environments and students were given a timetable so that they could explore as many activities as possible. Mrs Giuliani's room was turned into an independent living area so that students could experience daily living activities. As well as preparing snacks and washing dishes afterwards, students experienced other activities such as cleaning windows and vacuuming, and making a bed.

The vocational room was set up so that students could explore some of the practical courses that they may wish to embark on when they leave Sir Charles Parsons. Some students enjoyed working in a hairdresser environment, and learnt how to wash and style hair. Other students enjoyed practising how to paint and wallpaper, a skill they may need to decorate their own home, as well as a course they might undertake in future years.

Mrs Maher and Mrs Haq changed their rooms into areas to offer social events. In Mrs Maher's room students could go bowling, or play other games such as air hockey and darts. Mrs Haq's room was changed into a bar for the day. Students were served by staff with cocktails and other drinks they had selected from the menus, all non alcoholic of course!

The event was a great success and hopefully one of many. Not only did the students (and staff) have a great time, but it provided staff with more information about the students that they may not normally be able to acquire.



❄️ ❄️ Puzzle Time ❄️ ❄️

THE SWEETY CODE

Students in sixth form have been learning to use Excel to add numbers. The students decided that the best way to collect data to enter onto a spreadsheet was to eat a range of sweets, to record the favourites. These are the sweets they used in their challenge.

CAN YOU CRACK THE SWEETY CODE TO FIND THE NAMES OF OUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS MOVIES?

												
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
												
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z

1.      

2.   

3.         

4.             

5.             

6.         



GUESS? WHO!

Shehab and Jordans Tricky Teasers

1		2		3		4			5		
6											
		7									
8											
				9		10					



Shehab's Teasers:

1. 25th December ?
2. The colour of poppies?
5. Her with the curly hair?
6. She makes the dinners?
7. My favourite sport on TV?

Jordans Tricky Questions:

3. One of Newcastle's best ever players?
4. Our teachers name is Mrs....?
8. Shehab and I go to see them every day?
9. Lots of them in school right now?
10. I am not supposed to drive with this!

'Sno Jokes! by Scott 10CW



What did one snowman say to the other snowman?

- Can you smell carrot?

What do you sing at a snowman's birthday party?

- Freeze a jolly good fellow!

What do snowmen eat for breakfast?

- Frosted flakes!

What did the cow say on Christmas morning?

- Mooooey Christmas!



Answers on page 11