

Sports News



DAMIEN TESTING HIS AGILITY SKILLS ON THE OBSTACLE COURSE



LOOKING FOR CLUES IN ORIENTEERING



ATHLETICS WINNERS!!

Sports Day 2023

We had cracking weather for our sports day again this year. Students took part in a whole host of our usual sports day events, including karate, dance, athletics, orienteering, football, rebound, sensory relaxation, swimming and hydrotherapy. In addition to this, thanks to 'Smile for Life' we had a range of inflatables, such as sumo suits, challenge course and a gladiator ring, which students and staff enjoyed.



SUMO BOUNCE!!



KAPOW!!



School News



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

Newcastle Schools Achievement Awards



On Monday the 3rd of July 2023, from 4pm until 6pm, it was the Newcastle Schools Achievement Awards. They were held at the Civic Centre which is quite a fancy building where people can have their weddings as well. We were in a big room and our school had two tables. One table had the parents, and the other table had the students and staff from school. There were lots of other schools in the room from all over the city and there were primary and secondary schools. From our school there were three people nominated that went. We were the third school to be called and get up to get our award. When it was our turn, the people read our name and said why we were getting the award. I was first, Lewis was second and Zara was third. After each of our names were read we got up on the stage so that we were all standing together to get our picture taken by an official photographer. After the awards there was some food and drinks for us to have. There was sausage rolls, sandwiches, pickled onions and tomatoes on sticks, and vegetarian options. Before the ceremony I was asked to do an interview for the council. They asked me why I was getting the award and what do I want to do when I'm older. I said I either want to do something in media or be a photographer. The video with me and the other people is on the internet, and the last time I looked over 1,000 people had watched it. Mason 11G



For the last two years our school has benefitted from being part of 'Greggs Breakfast Club'.

Rethink Food has been working in collaboration with The Greggs Foundation delivering a new programme aimed at pupils called Agents of Change. The programme is designed to help children learn about making sustainable lifestyle choices, as well as the importance of physical activity and healthy diets

- So a couple of weeks ago, we went to the Metro Centre to do some work with Greggs. There were about eight of us from our school who went, and there were other schools there as well so there was quite a lot of people together, maybe about ten schools because there was ten balloons in the entrance room.

We went into a special office room at the Metro Centre and the Greggs staff were there. They were doing a treasure hunt with us with different activities around the Metro Centre. So there was a map that was telling us which balloon was where and when we got close we saw the balloon. There was a person at each balloon and they gave us a sticker to show that we had completed the activities there.

After we got all of the stickers we had to do a final challenge to see who would win and that person got a certificate. After we did all of the challenges we called past Greggs in the Metro Centre and Mrs Newton treated us all to a sausage roll, which we ate on the bus on the way back to school. - Lillie, 7N



Our very own Agents of Change, Perry-Lee, Sameera, Lillie, Souza, Freddie and Darren enjoyed a visit to the Metrocentre recently

Sir Charles Parsons School



SALT Team News

We are saying our goodbyes to Bethan in August, she just got married and she will be moving on to the next part of her rotation post in the Trust. Lily will be joining the team as part of the rotation - we'll have a photo of Lily next time!

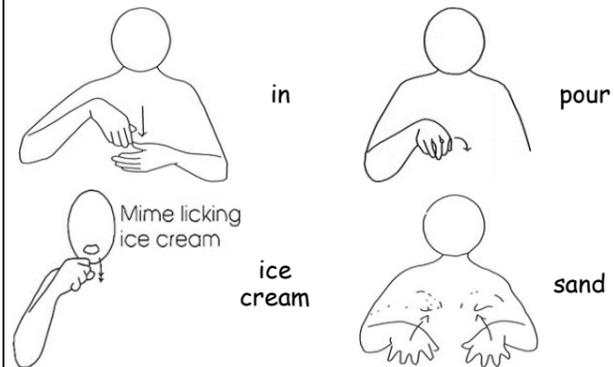


Training

In June we carried out some training for parents/carers on 'Tips for working with Alternative and Augmentative Communication (AAC). We talked about showing children and young people how to use their AAC through modelling language on it. Carers commented they are excited to practice modelling in their home, and the training helped put things into perspective for them!

Makaton Sign Support

Here are a few more signs that might be useful during activities over the school holidays. Hope you have fun!



A day in the life of a Speech and Language Therapist

SALTs work with children and young people on their communication skills, and their eating and drinking skills (dysphagia). Each day is different, but here is an example of what we might get up to in a day!

8:30 Team meeting. These happen once a month to discuss any important things coming up in school, dates for the diary, and talk about some of the children we are working with.

9:30 - 10.30 VOCA review with the Regional Communication Aid Service (RCAS). They sometimes come into school to review a child's Voice Output Communication Aid (VOCA). It is important to have key people involved with a child at this review, we love to hear parent/carer's feedback about their child's VOCA, as well as the school team's views.

10.45 SALT team available for any scheduled meetings, such as EHCPs, to feedback on the great progress a young person has made using their communication aid and to jointly discuss communication aspirations for the year ahead.

11:45 Emails and note writing back to the office.

12:30 Over lunchtime one of the team might complete an eating and drinking review of a child with the Occupational Therapist.

1.45 Speech Session in Rebound. A lot of our young people love rebound and this is when we see them communicating "more", "stop", "go" and "fun" using symbols and signing!

15:00 Back to the office to catch up with the team and finish off notes. School staff can pop into the office with any queries around this time.

15:30 Sometimes we make home visits to continue working with the children in their own homes. This might be for communication or to carry out an eating and drinking review.

4.30 Home time!

Physio Team News

The Physio Team in Sir Charles Parsons consists of Louise, Lynne and Karen. Lynne is in school every day, Louise is in three days and Karen is in four days each week. Karen and Lynne also work during the school holidays.



Ahmed has made great progress with his physio

One of the students we have worked with is Ahmed. Ahmed had a stroke following infection with Covid 19 in November 2021. He was rehabilitated in the RVI initially, then returned home and came back to school. He has made a lot of progress and we began to practice walking with a walking harness which attached to a ceiling track hoist. He has progressed to using a supportive walking frame. He wears a footsplint and can step well with his affected leg. Ahmed is learning to propel and steer the walking frame, and

pushes off our efforts to move the walker, which is great as it shows he is trying to be more independent. He is motivated to walk to see his friends. He enjoys laughing at his friends during PE and uses the walker to go and join the group. He has some very close friends in his pastoral class and they praise his progress and encourage him to keep trying.

Ahmed's parents and sister, Zara, are very supportive and work hard to rehabilitate him at home. He has improved in his ability to transfer at home with his Dad and has gained more movement in his left arm and leg.

In school, Ahmed has a great relationship with his dedicated pastoral team, who also help with his rehab. They give him opportunities to access the hydro pool and help him to spend lots of time on a floor mat developing his movement control.

We hope for Ahmed to have his own walker to practice with at home, and expect him to continue to gain in confidence and ability. We are so proud of Ahmed and the progress he has made.



Advert by Kai, 9D

We are once again very grateful to 'Smile for Life' for their continued support in funding extra curricular activities, most recently our sports day inflatables.

CONDERCUM CRAFTS



Year 10 proudly showing off their weed-free bed!

We have been out for times to help Hadrian with a pop up art shop that they were doing. The first two times were on a Wednesday, and then we also went on a Thursday.

The first day was at Hadrian School. Most of us in the group went to that school before Sir Charles Parsons so it was nice to go back and see it. We did lots of different artwork. The artwork I did with Divine, you had to squirt out whatever colour paint you wanted, then you had to add shaving foam. It was really fun squirting it all out. We mixed the foam and paint to make a swirly pattern then we put the paper on top for it to get the pattern on. Some of the group had to make art by popping balloons with paint in, or by squirting paint out of a water gun.

The next day we went out to Knoplaw Primary school, which is a new school. They worked with us to do some gardening. They have a small allotment area which was fun to be in but full of weeds. We all worked together to clear the weeds and then add the plants in. When the plants have grown they will be used for more artwork.

We were very lucky with the weather because it was outdoors and the weather was very sunny.

Our last visit was to the first pop up shop. We enjoyed seeing people buy the artwork that we had helped to make. We took some money and bought a drink and a scone to enjoy.

- Elle B, 10B



Elle showing her artwork, while Divine squirts ALL of the shaving foam!

Letter from the Head



Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

It's hard to believe it's almost the end of another school year. As always there has been lots going on all across the school.

6th form students have settled in to the new 6th Form Hub, really enjoying their own purpose built space. While the building was ready for students in September, the outside landscaping between the Hub and the Lodge is still a work in process. The 6th form students haven't left the area looking untidy or uncared for though, they have created their own planters to brighten the yard up. The students built the planters as part of their curriculum when working with Chris and Nikki at Wood Hub, then brought them back to school to stain and plant. It's fantastic to see the students developing their practical skills and confidence - and they did such a professional job they have had requests to build more!

Students from all across the school showed off their skills during the summer fayre whether it was in the things they had made, baked or grown or by their sales skills. Thank you to everyone who supported this event - it was wonderful to see so many ex-students and staff coming back to share their stories and adventures with us.

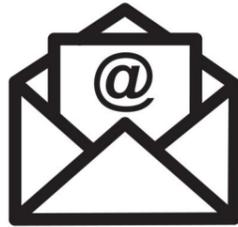
Events such as the summer fayre are not only fundraising opportunities, but also a time when everyone who is involved with the school has a chance to be together. As well as the students and their families - current and past - staff families visit and help out, governors can often be seen perusing the stalls, the nursing, physio and SaLT teams usually pop in and news is spreading in the civic centre too, so we usually have some representatives from the local authority popping in to sample the samosas!

The money raised at these events and through the work of the Friends of Sir Charles Parsons is vitally important, especially in the current economic climate. It makes it possible for us to buy specialist equipment, support residential visits and provide experiences and opportunities that the students would otherwise miss out on. The work of the Friends of Sir Charles Parsons makes a huge difference and is really appreciated by everyone in school.

The end of the school year is always a bittersweet time. It's when we look back over the year, reflect on the things we've achieved as a school community and the fantastic things the students have done, but it's also when we have to say goodbye to some of our students as they move onto the next exciting stage of their life. This year we are also saying goodbye to some of our staff who are moving onto new schools or new careers. While it is always sad when staff or students leave, we are looking forward to when they come back and visit to tell us all about their adventures.

We have some new staff in school too and you can find out about them in the nosy questions part of the newsletter!

Thank you to everyone who has supported the school this year. I hope you all have a fantastic summer and I look forward to seeing you all again in the autumn term.



...You've Got Mail

In computing lessons we have been learning about using e-mails. We spent some time talking about different communication methods from the olden day and now. In the olden days people used pigeons

to send messages. But now people don't do that because they can use the post or technology. We all sent letters to each other at the start of the topic so we could see how long it took for the letters to get there. It was nice to get the letters at home from our friends, but it did take a while because there's lots of checking and sorting of the addresses.

We learnt that when an email is sent there is also lost of checking, the email address has to be checked to see which server and provider it has to go to. It also checks to make sure the address is right.

We learnt rules about using the emails safely. We were using our school emails so we only use them for learning. The system is safer because it checks that no one is swearing or being unkind, which isn't allowed. We know that if there was something that we didn't like on the emails we can talk to staff to sort this.

It was really good getting to use the emails. We learnt how to log on and open emails that we had got. We read our emails from Mrs Anderson and replied to her. Then we also learnt how to send messages to a group with staff in which will be good for next year so we can do work together.

Some of the messages we sent were just text, but we enjoyed adding emoji's into some, and pictures, and also changing the colour and size of the writing.

Some of us enjoyed it so much, we like to check our emails every lunchtime, and ask Mrs Anderson what she has had for lunch, or whether she is having a good day.



The 'Electronic Communication' unit in computing lessons has now been taught for a number of years, with students being given the opportunity to develop their understanding about how communication methods

have developed, and how technology now supports communication in a number of different scenarios, from using VOCAs to telephones, to sending messages.

Previously, when exploring email, the students used a simulation to send messages to each other. However it was recognised that some students needed to develop more 'real life' skills when using email systems, to support them in their life after school. So this year the students have been using Microsoft Outlook to develop their understanding of email.

As well as learning about the technical side of how email systems work, the students spent a number of lessons understanding safe use of email systems, as well as appropriate use, i.e. what rules they **must** follow, and what guidance they **should** follow.

Whilst the discussion was focussed around the use of email, most of these can be applied to the use of any electronic communication, and are discussed regularly with the students in computing lessons. Coming up to the summer holidays, when your young person may be using more technology to keep in touch with school friends, it is advised to have a chat about these rules so that should your young person have any issues they feel more confident in seeking help.

- ♦ The school email account is for school use only, not for sending or receiving home emails.
- ♦ Don't send pictures of other people without their permission.
- ♦ Keep your personal information private.
- ♦ Don't send rude or offensive emails.
- ♦ Your email account is for your use only, don't let others share it with you.
- ♦ If something doesn't feel good, speak to an adult you know well and trust.

As always, should you require any further information or support, do not hesitate to contact Jo Anderson via the school office.

BLAST FROM THE PAST!

It has been lovely to come back into school for all of the leavers events. Especially as some of the sixth form students leaving, I had from year 7, and I was also with some of the year 11 students for two years. It was quite emotional watching all the pictures of the leavers and reminiscing about the great times we've had. Far

too many to mention, and some that just shouldn't be mentioned. Since I left two years ago I have really missed everyone, however I have enjoyed my time in retirement. I have been able to spend more quality time with my family who live in Leeds, Wales and Devon. I have also enjoyed travelling to different countries, as far as Greece. When I am at home I have enjoyed continuing playing football on an evening with some of the staff (so they keep me up to date with all the news), and I have also taken up sea swimming...but only in the warm weather! And as I'm sure everyone will guess, I still love going to watch Leeds United! - Trevor, retired!



Work experience!

Our school has always been proud of the work experience program offered to students. Although in recent years this has been affected by Covid, it's been great to see it's successful return this year, for students across all pathways.

I do my work experience on a Monday afternoon. I go with Rosie. I started in the main school but it was a little bit hard. So now I do the cleaning in the 'Hub' and the 'Lodge' and I really love it.

My jobs are to do the hoovering after sixth form have had their lunch. I also clean all of the tables.

My favourite thing about work experience is wearing the tabard when I'm doing the cleaning.

I have also been learning to use the washing machine so that I can wash the dirty towels and get them ready for staff the next day.

Next year I would like to go back to the main school and do a bit more. I would also like to learn to clean the windows.

- David 6C



On the Thursday after Easter I had an introduction to my placement which was at Reve Hair Salon in Sheriff Hill, Gateshead. At the meeting the woman was talking to me about what was expected of me, what I should be wearing, and also showed be the emergency exits.

I started the next week and I went every Thursday in the morning until 12.30pm, Tracey took me on public transport, it took about an hour because I had to get two buses.

When I was at the salon I was folding the towels for people for when they get their hair washed. I also washed dishes and then made coffees for the customers. I also had to clean the mirrors when there was a break between customers. My favourite job was when I organised the nail trolley so that the colours were all matched up. - Ella 6A



In January this year, I started doing work experience through 'Project Choice'. Rosie, who is in charge of work experience in school sorted it for me.

Before I went anywhere to work I had to fill in a form with all of my contact details and then I had to do a private and confidentiality agreement. Then Gary who does the travel training in school had to teach me the route so that I could get there and back independently. I have done three placements with Project Choice, all at the QE hospital in Gateshead. I have been in the linen departments, pathology and with the volunteering service. My favourite placement was in pathology. My job was to pack all of the test kits with the swabs into boxes so that they could be sent to the GPs for them to do testing.

I have also been very lucky and got to do extra work experience in Ouseburn Farm at Café Beam. I travelled there myself too and did a twelve week course there. In the café I was serving customers, taking their orders and bring out the food that they had ordered. I also made sure everything was clean when customers left, and sorted out their bill at the till.

I leave Sir Charles Parsons in September. My mentor in Project Choice has said I might be able to get a placement in Dunston so I'm keeping my fingers crossed that I have an interview over the summer for that. - Shah 6A

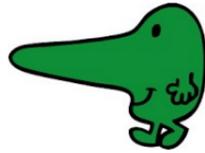
Our blue and purple pathway students have also had the opportunity over the year to develop their independence skills, relating to the 'World of Work' lesson.

Students have visited a number of different places across the North East, which were selected to allow students to develop skills, as well as experience and develop preferences for places they may wish to visit in their future after Sir Charles Parsons School.

When 'out and about' students were encouraged to be as independent as possible by moving with less support in shopping centres, attracting staff attention for help, matching landmarks to support navigation skills, and communicating choices and handling money in cafes with less support.



Nosey Questions for our newly appointed Learning Support Assistants



Darren and Sean from 8D came up with some nose questions to ask our newest staff:

- **Laura**

Do you play video games?
- No.
What is your favourite movie?
- Top Gun.
What are your hobbies?
- Roller skating.
What was your old job?
- I was a beauty therapist. I moved from Cornwall to Newcastle and changed jobs.



What is your favourite drink?
- Coffee for a hot drink, and a milkshake for a cold drink.

- **Victoria**

Do you like your job? - Of course, I love it.
Do you have any children?
- I have two children, one boy and one girl.
What is your favourite animal?
- Cats. I have a pet cat called Katy.
What is your favourite book?
- Harry Potter.
What do you like to do in your free time?
- Go out with my



family.

- **Fran**

How old are you? - 23.
What is your favourite food?
- Sushi but I'm really terrible with chopsticks so I just tend to stab everything.
Are you married? - No.
Where is your favourite place to go on holiday?
- Scotland. I really like to stay in Ullapool.
Who is your favourite singer?
- Taylor Swift. I managed to



get tickets to see her in Liverpool so I'm very excited for next year!

In our humanities lessons we have been learning about the rainforest and all of the creatures that live there. There are four layers of the rainforest and different creatures live in each one. The forest floor is the lowest layer and spiders, ants and snakes live here. The understorey is the next layer up.



Christien's not too sure about the 'giant stick insect'



You can look at the poisonous frog but don't touch!

Lizards, snakes and bugs live here. The canopy is the second highest layer. Monkeys and birds live here. The highest layer is the emergent layer which is the tree tops. Only birds can live here.

- Joe M, 9H
In June 'Bugs n Stuff' came along to show us lots of creepy crawlies. They had a tarantula, a poisonous frog which you couldn't touch, only look at, a giant stick insect, a scorpion and a snake plus more. The tarantula felt hairy like an armpit and moved really slowly. The beetle looked like a leaf in disguise was good at crawling up your arm. The snake felt like rubber and felt quite warm. My favourite was the tarantula because it's rare to see one and I'm thinking about buying one when I'm older to scare my mam!
- Nyle, 9D

On 18th April, M and M Theatrical Productions paid us another visit with their latest show, *The Jungle Book*.

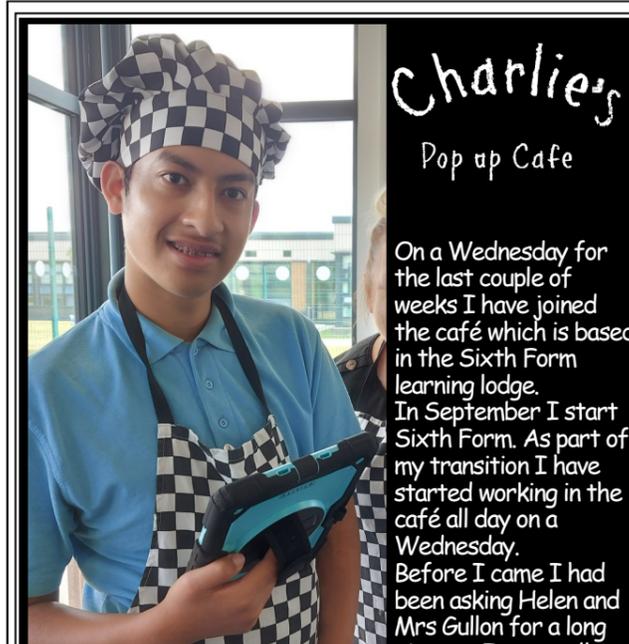
Just after the Easter holidays we had a theatre group visit us. Before the theatre company came to visit I had already seen 'The Jungle Book' movie. I like the movie, it's decent but it's not really one of my favourites. Anyway, I enjoyed the live performance and clapped along to the well-known songs. I didn't sing or dance because I'm too cool for all that! The story was a little bit different to the film version and a bit shorter. When the show was over, some of us got to stay behind for some questions and answers with the actors. I asked if they were the actors from the actual movie. They said no. - Nyle, 9D



"They're behind you!!"



Q&A with the show's actors



Ibrahim getting to grips with the new iPad ordering system

Charlie's Pop up Cafe

On a Wednesday for the last couple of weeks I have joined the café which is based in the Sixth Form learning lodge. In September I start Sixth Form. As part of my transition I have started working in the café all day on a Wednesday. Before I came I had been asking Helen and Mrs Gullon for a long time, so I was really happy.

On the first time I went I met the café team and found out about their roles. I also did some basic health and safety training on washing my hands, getting a clean hat and apron on, and clearing all of the area so that it's ready to prepare food on. The first job that I got was to write the labels for the orders for the staff takeaway. I had to do my neatest writing so that everyone could read their names and orders. I have also had a go at doing some food preparation. I have chopped the peppers and then used them to make the Greek salad. I have also grated the cheese and chopped the onion for the cheese savoury. We also have a new ordering system in the café and I have been learning to use that. We have an iPad that we go to the tables with. We check the customer number then click on the pictures on the iPad of the things that people want. The order then goes to the till so that people can pay for their food on the way out. When people are sitting and having their food, if it's my turn, I go and ask if people are ok and if they would like anything else. At 1 o'clock some staff leave and new staff come in. In between that time we have to tidy all the tables and put new glasses and water out. At the end when everyone has finished then we do the big tidy up. We take all of the dishes into the food preparation area in the classroom next door. We take all of the chair covers off and the table cloths off and they all go in the wash. When everything is clean, the dishes and the table cloths all get stored away for next week. If we have anything left then there's a trolley that goes around the school and any staff and students can buy the items. When we get to each classroom door we say 'Excuse me, would any students and staff like to buy anything from the café?' We usually sell everything that is left. This week we had some special guests. The school governors all came to the café and had lunch. Mrs Hamilton said 'very well done' to all the café crew because that's what the governors said to her. They were very impressed and proud of us. I think the café is really good. My favourite thing so far has been the cooking and serving people in the café. I like to check with them afterwards if they enjoyed it.



Leading up to the Coronation we all spent time learning about King Charles and his life.

My group learned out 'The Prince's Trust' which is a charity for young people to help them find a job. We all worked together making a poster of 'The Prince's Trust' logo. Bradley drew a big outline of the logo and we all made smaller ones. We put them all together on display in the heart in school. We also learnt about how King Charles has done lots of work to help people understand about climate change. We made a poster with other students in year 10 which said 'there is no planet B' which means we have to look after this one because there's not going to be another one. After learning so much about him, it was nice to celebrate King Charles III. We had a party on the Friday afternoon before his Coronation, on Saturday the 6th May. The whole school got together in the heart so we could have a street party. All the tables were decorated with the Union Jack flag and some people had masks on to make them look like Charles and Camilla. We had scones with jam and cream, and we had pop to drink, either cola or lemonade. The King himself even came to make a guest appearance, but we think he looked a lot like a certain member of staff in school! At the end of the celebration, before everyone left, we all sang 'God Save the King'. It felt a bit different because usually we sing 'God Save the Queen'.



Declan reaching for his party hooter after enjoying a cream scone with his classmates. Every class made table decorations, with Declan's all making special crowns!



Summer News Word Search
Find the following words in the puzzle. Words are hidden

ACHIEVEMENT
PROM
IBRAHIM
LEAVERS
PHYSIO
EMAIL
EXPERIENCE

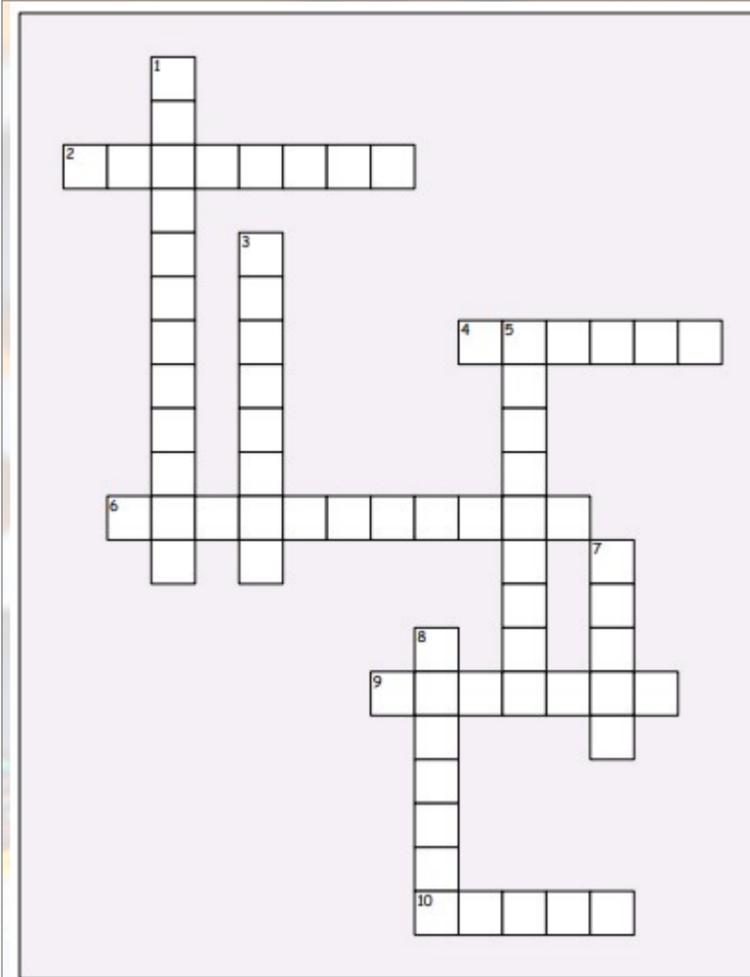
MASON
SPORTSDAY
AHMED
BUGZ
HADRIAN
ESAFETY
KING

AGENTS
CAFE
SUMO
HAWKHURST
TREVOR
WORK



Rainforest Spot the Difference

There are 8 differences in the pictures below, can you spot them?



All Things Sports Day!

across:

- 2: The sport or activity of moving through water by moving your arms and legs.
- 4: Use feet and hands to kick and hit safely?
- 6: Thanks to Smile for Life for these fun activities?
- 9: Relaxation and stories?
- 10: Move your body to the music?

down:

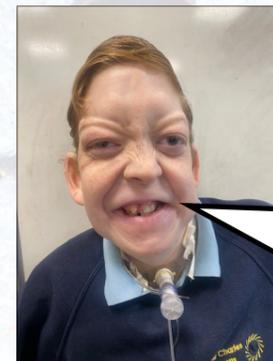
- 1: Looking for clues to find the way?
- 3: A game of two halves?
- 5: Sports and games in the yard?
- 7: Relax and stretch in the water?
- 8: Gentle bounces and stretches?

Rainforest Maze

Can you help Poisonous Pete find his way home?



Top Jokes from Nyle & Kai!



Why did the banana go to the doctor?
- He wasn't peeling well!

What does a house wear?
-A dress!

Why did the fish wear a bow tie?
-It was so-fish-ticated!

What's brown and sticky?
-A Stick!

Why did the cookie go to the doctors?
-He was feeling crumbly!

What's a frog's favourite drink?
- Croak-a-cold!

What's a Koala's favourite drink?
- Coca-Koala!

How do you get a tree into a computer?
-You log in!

