



Park Community School

NEWSLETTER

**End of Year
20 July 2023**

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

This special end of year newsletter celebrates some of the best moments from the past few weeks but also shares highlights from all newsletters this year.

If you have not booked your child onto Connect activities over the summer, it is not too late. <https://connect4.org.uk/event/>

From everyone at Park Community School we would like to wish you a wonderful summer. We look forward to seeing students back in school on Monday 4 September.



Mr. Capaldi



Mrs. Capaldi

PROUD TO BE part of Park

Over the past few weeks we have celebrated the many successes of students at Park. Our annual Awards Evening was well attended by parents, thank you. In addition, many more awards have been shared in House assemblies, including subject awards for hard work and attainment and attendance awards. 'Stars of the Year' have also been recognised by Heads of House and treated to hot chocolate and cake at our tearooms. Congratulations to everyone who has received an award.

Mrs Capaldi



Dates to remember

Monday 4 September:

Year 7 in school from 8.25am, ALL other year groups in for one-to-one meetings with tutors. (Students have brought home their appointments this week. Please contact your child's Head of House if you have any problems.)

Tuesday 5 September:

Staggered return to lessons for all year groups as follows:

- Year 7: 8.25am
- Year 8: 8.30am
- Year 9: 9am
- Year 10: 9.30am
- Year 11: 10am





Park Community School

Park's Festival of Sport

This year you really did 'raise the bar' and walk the walk of 'Further, Faster, Stronger, Fitter'. With staff and students contributing to their Houses total points and demonstrating how Park Community School really is 'Much More Than Just A School'.

Mrs Cavanagh

The Final Score		
Place	Points	House
1st place	7134	Green
2nd place	7096	Blue
3rd place	7024	Red



Abbey Farm Residential

Ten students were given an opportunity to have a free working holiday at a 650 hectare organic farm near Cirencester.

They were split into 3 teams and each day's jobs started at 7:30 (yes, 7:30) with one team making everyone's breakfast, another harvesting fruit and vegetables for lunch and the third team making sure the week-old calves and pigs were fed before the humans.

After washing up and clearing away it was straight into the next activity; firelighting, more harvesting or collecting, grading, boxing and labelling over 200 free range eggs. We made all our (vegetarian) meals using whole foods, prepping and cooking everything ourselves, guided by farm staff. The closest thing all week to processed food was wholemeal bread which made lunch and dinner quite challenging for some of the students and staff but we all felt healthier at the end of the week.

After lunch there were more outdoor activities such as woodland walks and grooming horses until we needed to make dinner. Every meal was eaten together around a massive square table to encourage us to talk to each other about the day and then we had a game of spin the bottle to decide who was washing up.

There were no phones, TV or radio so we spent the evenings playing games and chatting, until the fresh air, walking and physical labour took their toll, and we enjoyed a well-deserved sleep.

By the end of the week it was obvious that all the students had gained a deep understanding of where our food comes from and had increased their ability to work with others, confidence and self-esteem through learning outside of the classroom doing completely novel activities.

Each of the students was a credit to their families, full of enthusiasm, good manners, kindness and being brave enough to try new things and work with different people.

Mr Shearn





Park Community School

Year 10s on Work Experience

It has been great to welcome our Year 10s back from their two-week work experience placements and hear about their experiences. We have had students experiencing a range of careers across the local area and many also making use of our school's facilities to trial different careers. Roles experienced have included: landscape gardeners, mechanics, teaching assistants, architects, solicitors, chefs, IT programming and much more. Employers have been full of praise for Park students and students have had another opportunity to find what they love.

Mr Jervis



Highlights from this year!

Year 7 Explorers!

This week Year 7 have spent two days exploring our local area. Along with their tutors and teachers, they have visited Hayling or West Wittering beach to consider geographical issues, explored Chichester town; visiting the cathedral and museum, and spent time at Staunton Country Park investigating its history and team building.

The two days were very much enjoyed by all and will now be built upon in lessons.

Mrs Pearce

My favourite part of the day was lighting a candle in the cathedral.
Oakley



September 22



Park Community School

Greenpower Finals at Goodwood

What a fantastic day! We arrived early and got out to practise. Our three cars: Chase, Keep up and TS2 all did us proud.

Qualifying Race 1: Chase was storming ahead and led the race for 13 laps. Shelby broke the Greenpower kit car lap record for the fastest lap around Goodwood. This is an incredible achievement. Unfortunately, the rewire we completed caused a problem with the electrics and the car faded quickly at the end and we lost lots of places. We finished 12th. TS2 moved along nicely. This is the new Year 7 boys' team. They did brilliantly, finishing in 4th place and achieving Park's best ever distance of 36 miles in 90minutes. Keep Up sadly had issues and faded quickly but did get up to 9th place at one point.

International Final!

All three cars were going brilliantly and at one point we had all three in the top ten. Chase and TS2 kept swapping places, but were around 12th and 13th. Some great pit changes and driving meant that the cars held their own.

Finally, after brilliant racing, teamwork and problem solving, out of 160 cars that have raced across the country this year, and out of the 45 that made it to the final, our official finishes were ...

Mr Payne

Keep Up 31st Chase 9th TS2 7th

October 22





Park Community School

Community Bowls

We had a lovely afternoon at Bedhampton Bowls Club. Harry was the only student who was prepared to brave the weather, so we went along and he played a single match against club member Alan.

It was a great game and very competitive. Alan ended up winning with five points with Harry just behind on three.

At the end of the session, one of the members approached Harry and explained that he had given his grandson a set of four bowls for Christmas 18 years ago. He then passed them over to Harry and told him he would like him to have them and continue using them in the future. Harry was delighted to accept.

Mr Herriot



October 22



Year 9 at the Farm

A great start today. Year 9 were really helpful; digging over beds, removing old tomatoes, getting pigs back into pens and hopefully mending fences well enough to keep them in there. Well done.

Mr Shearn





Park Community School

November 22

PARK IN PARIS!

Months of dedicated planning and hard work from Ms Butler culminated in a highly successful Disney trip this year. It came as a great shock to us all that she was firstly unable to attend, and that secondly this would be the last trip directly influenced by her work.

On Tuesday 11 October 2022, 44 of our Year 10 and 11 students left Park at 6.30 in the morning to make their way to Paris. It was a smooth journey, and we arrived at the Channel Tunnel early so were able to get an earlier crossing. The weather was fabulous, and we all enjoyed the autumn sunshine when we stopped for lunch.

We arrived early to the hotel Kyriad and we had time to unpack and make a trip to the local shopping mall before dinner. This was then followed by a Disney quiz to get us in the mood.

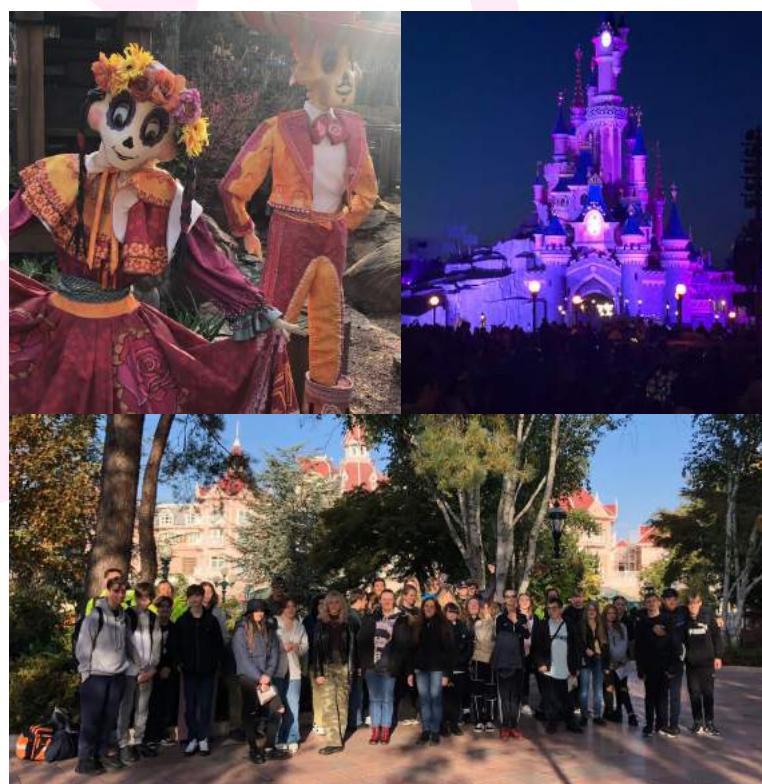
On Wednesday we had a full day at Disneyland Park in the glorious sunshine; students loved the rides and parades with a particular spooky Halloween theme. We stayed right until late in the evening to see the spectacular light and firework show.

On Thursday we started the day by celebrating two birthdays and then made our way to the Studio Park for another fabulous day in the park. Although the weather wasn't quite so bright we still made the most of the rides and shows including lots of Marvel characters and displays. We had a short visit to Disney Village to visit the colourful Disney themed shops and restaurants on the way back to the hotel.

On Friday we sadly left the hotel for a drive through the French countryside to The Thiepval Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, a war memorial to 72,337 missing British and South African servicemen who died in the Battles of the Somme of the First World War between 1915 and 1918, with no known grave. It was a very sombre but interesting end to our trip to France.

As usual the Park students were fantastic ambassadors for the school, and it was a pleasure to share this experience with them. This comment from Anthony just about encapsulates the whole experience of the week "When you go there you don't want to leave and the memories you make will stick with you forever!"

Ms Bannard and Mr Pollard





Park Community School

YES Panto Trip

On Saturday 10 Dec the YES trip team took 20 students to The Kings Theatre, Southsea, to watch the Pompey Panto, Cinderella.

It was a chilly walk from the station but there was a lot of chatter and excitement about visiting the theatre.

The Panto was fantastic... oh yes it was! There was lots of audience participation and our students were singing, dancing, cheering and booing! We even got wet from water guns during the show.

Quotes from the day :

- Can I sit with you on the train because I've never been on a train before?
- I couldn't sleep last night because I was so excited.
- I've never seen a Panto
- Can we stand up and dance?
- That was brilliant, I loved it all.

A fabulous afternoon, proving that Park is Much More Than Just a School.

Miss Seaman



Amazing work by Miss Nuttal's class for their Identity Project about the Green Man in Art.

Mr Waterfield

December 22



Student Christmas Lunch 2022





Park Community School

Park Outdoors

Park Outdoors 22-23 had their first expedition this week. The group of Year 10 and 11 students showed superb resilience as they completed their 2.5 hour night walk across the South Downs, starting at Queen Elizabeth Country Park. Despite the very chilly condition the students were brilliant throughout and had a great time. They were led by Park staff and joined by Outdoor Adventure Activity leads, who commented positively on the students throughout. The walk was completed with no light and required real mental strength as well as physical application. The next Park Outdoors event will take place in January.

December 22



Ms Bearpark



Wizard of Oz Performances

Huge congratulations to the cast and crew of The Wizard of Oz for a fantastic run of performances. The students have worked tremendously hard getting the show ready and showed great determination and resilience for four performances!

Thank you to all parents and staff for their support with the production either behind the scenes or supporting by watching the shows!

Mrs Williams and Mrs Chuter





Park Community School

Year 10s back at Winchester College

During their most recent visit, our year 10 Winchester College group attending lectures on mathematics and philosophy and also got to experience the college's Christmas Fair.

Mrs Capaldi



December 22

Well done Stem Ambassadors

Our Stem ambassador team have produced and sold various Christmas gifts over the past few weeks. They are well designed, creative and fit for purpose. As a result they have sold out.

Well done- we look forward to your next sale.

Mrs Gregory





Park Community School

Read-aloud-a-thon



I've been wanting to read this book for ages! - Emily 8JMA



Park Literary Festival

After the author talk I chose Trash because Andy Mulligan is a really good writer and now I have one of his books - Jayden 8JMA



Student and Teacher voice:

'We were really impressed with Andy Mulligan's talk – he was so interesting and had amazing stories linked to his novel *Trash*.'

'William Hussey's talk and focus on the exploration of prejudice was wonderful – he was very engaging!'

'Meeting Andy Mulligan was such an honour! I have taught his novel to students for many years and it was an absolute privilege to be able to talk to him about his work and about how much our students at Park love reading his book.'

March 23

Year 7 Novel Sharing

Miss Tomkinson's Year 7 English group enjoyed hearing about her favourite reading book so much that they asked if they could have the opportunity to share their favourite books too! They had a wonderful lesson where everyone sat as a class and each person shared their favourite book and why they thought it was brilliant!





Park Community School

Energy Quest Workshop

STEM Ambassadors were lucky enough to participate in an Energy Quest workshop delivered by an engineer. The existing ambassadors also welcomed our newest members from Year 7. Lots of exciting trips and activities will be going on this term to increase interest and opportunities in STEM careers.

Mrs Gregory



Park are Greenpower Champions at Goodwood

Congratulations to our amazing Greenpower team, led by Mr Payne and Mr Davies.

On Sunday 30 April, the team competed with our three cars. We have never won a race at Goodwood before so to get first, second and fifth places was incredible. This means that TS2 and Chase have automatic qualification for the national final. Keep Up will also stand a really good chance of making the final. The team were independent, hardworking, and organised - this was a massive contributor to an excellent day. We now have two new trophies for the cabinet too!

Mr Payne's run down of the day:

We arrived at Goodwood with all cars running well during practise. Lap times were putting us in the top ten places, so hopes were high.

Race 1

100 cars on the grid with 60 in our category. All three cars got off to a good start with TS2 starting slightly ahead, closely followed by Chase. Keep Up was slightly behind but catching up well. The sun was shining, and all three cars were going well in the top ten. Keep Up started to fade surprisingly early and was in sixth place but dropped to finish 32nd. Later investigation by the team found that a damaged battery cell was at fault. Chase and TS2 were going brilliantly. Both teams worked well in pit changes and kept moving up the leader board. TS2 managed to get into first place and was developing a good lead but started to fade towards the end. Chase was catching TS2 and moved into second place. TS2 and Chase maintained their lead and came first and second for Race 1.

Results are determined by the best distance on one race of the two on the day, so all was to play for to make sure we kept those top places.



Race 2

Unfortunately, due to a battery problem, our speed controller blew up. Unfortunately, we did not have a spare so Chase could not take part in Race 2.

Keep Up, with new batteries, made a great start along with TS2 in what was a rainy afternoon. TS2 was hit by another car on the track and sustained severe damage to its rear axle and sadly was out of the race. Keep Up was moving much better this race and was in the top five at the halfway point. It moved up to third place and then second but started to fade towards the very end of the race but finished in an excellent third.

What a fantastic day. We are extremely proud of our Greenpower team.

Mr Payne

May 23



Park Community School

RACE AT OUR PLACE

Every year since 2013 we, as a community school, hold our own Race for Life, which we call the 'Race at our Place'. The aim is to walk, jog or run from Park Community School to Staunton Country Park and then back to school. This year we had another amazing day where all of our students and staff took part in what was the 10th year anniversary. Congratulations to George who was the first student to cross the finish line.

Miss Harris



May 23



Thank you to Amita, Savanah and Fletcher who all raised money in their own time for the race.

For the Love of Reading

Mr Fred Deeks, who served as chair of governors at Park for 25 years has purchased some fantastic books for our library. Mr Deeks kindly met with some of our reading ambassadors and discussed their reading in and out of school and areas of interest. Armed with this information, he visited Waterstones and purchased a range of books for our library. Students were delighted with his choices.

Thank you Mr Deeks.

Mrs Capaldi





Park Community School

Park in New York!

We have taken Year 11 students to New York six times now and every year it just gets better. It takes only a short time before the hustle and bustle of the New York streets becomes second nature and they grow in confidence every sidewalk they explore. The aim of the trip is to provide inspiration and a desire to travel and see the world. It is also an opportunity to take us all out of our comfort zones and experience more than the usual day to day.

The students never fail to amaze us - they embraced the opportunity and experienced Times Square, Liberty Island, 911 memorial, Top of the Rock, Empire State Building, Grand Central Terminal Station, American Museum of Natural History and Central Park like seasoned travellers. The memories and experiences will stay with them for a lifetime

Ms Bannard

May 23





Park Community School

Park in Poland

We took 15 students from Year 10 and Year 9 to Krakow, Poland for four days. We were staying in the centre of the city, just on the edge of the beautiful medieval old town. On Day 2 we visited the Auschwitz-Birkenau Concentration Camp where students were able to see for themselves the atrocities committed by Nazi Germany and their allies during the Holocaust. The next day we had a guided tour of the traditional Jewish town in Krakow and visited the museum of the factory of Oscar Schindler, the man whose actions saved the lives of 1000 Jews, and who the film Schindler's List is based on. Later that day we had the privilege to meet Anna, a survivor of the Holocaust who shared her story with us. On the final day we explored the old town and visited some of the beautiful Cathedrals in Krakow before visiting the world-famous medieval salt mines. It was an amazing trip with an abundance of sightseeing and opportunities to enjoy the delicious Polish cuisine. It was an experience that will no doubt stay with students forever.

Mr Pycroft & Ms Bannard



Rock 2 the Beat

On Tuesday 25th April, Hampshire Music Service came into Park Community School to launch their exciting 'Rock to the beat' project. The aim of the project is to promote the love of music and performance. From this, 13 students were selected to take part in this wonderful opportunity involving six weeks of workshops on an instrument of their choice. Each workshop is 50 minutes long and students get to take their instrument home to practice. After the project has finished students will be invited to showcase their instrument in a performance evening. Watch this space!



Mrs Chuter

May 23



Park Community School

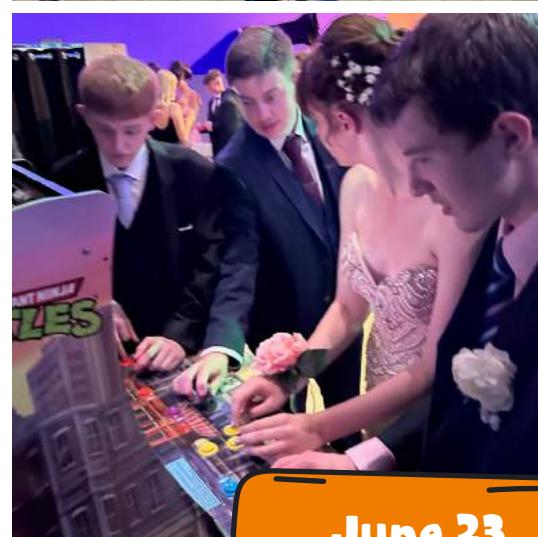
Farewell to the Class of 2023

Congratulations to our Year 11s. They officially left Park last week. The end of their journey with us was celebrated with our traditional Leavers' Assembly followed by our Leavers' Ball in the evening. Students certainly celebrated in style.

Our theatre was transformed by our community and site team into a Gatsby themed ball-room and a wonderful evening was had by all. Thank you to so many of you who came out to watch the arrivals, the stunning outfits and to cheer each student as they walked the red carpet! It was a truly special evening and another moving reminder of what it means to be part of our school and its community.

We look forward to seeing Year 11 again on their GCSE results day on 24 August. Many more Leavers' Ball photographs will be available for them to take away on this day. #proudtopartofpark

Mr Cavanagh



June 23





Park Community School

Finding what we love

Carousel

This week students on our carousel have had a great time at the farm. Highlights have included:

- New arrivals have made the most of the freedom of the farm as they squeezed through the gaps in the fencing.
- Layton watering what the rats have left us in the polytunnel!
- He was almost as brave as Teddy who got between a 200 kg sow and her food.
- A bumper crop of gooseberries thanks to Year 8s braving their thorns without complaint.
- Oakley giving fresh water directly to one of our half-wild boars.

Mr Shearn



Chess Champions

Chess has now been established as a regular feature of the restaurant every break and lunch time. An after-school club is now in place for September which will be run by Miss Gibbons.

Mrs Capaldi



June 23



Park Community School

Sports Ambassadors Support at Barncroft and Riders Sports Days

Barncroft

Our team were fantastic once again leading the sports day at Barncroft. Each student had a station to run and were responsible for modelling the activity and counting the points up. There were many parents supporting which increased the pressure further on the ambassadors.

However, they were really calm and composed throughout the morning and afternoon. Yet again I am incredibly proud of their effort and application.

Riders

We had a great morning and afternoon at Riders for their sports day. The students took on a variety of roles leading and supporting.

Special mention was given to Jayden, Alivia and George for being really supportive and showing good leadership throughout.

Mr Herriot

"Your Sports Ambassadors were a real credit to you. They were really positive and got stuck in with all of the activities, fully participating with the children and families. We were really proud to have them here. Thank you."

Mr England, Headteacher of Riders



June 23



"A huge thank you to your amazing sports ambassadors and their teacher who came to help with our sports morning today. We honestly couldn't have done it without them. They were such a credit to you."

Ms Petipher, Headteacher Barncroft

Refugee Week and the Theme of Compassion

Park students embraced this year's theme of compassion as we celebrated Refugee Week at Park. The creative group, 432 Nomads, came into school and ran workshops on what it means to be refugee. Students used music, art, performance and poetry to express their thoughts with some performing in Mr Bourton's assembly the following week and others being invited to be part of Ports Fest last weekend.

Miss Manning



Park Community School



FREE

**Summer
2023**

Youth Fun Days



**FREE ACTIVITY DAYS FOR 11-16 YEAR OLDS
ATTENDING SECONDARY SCHOOL**

**FREE
lunch**

Week 1 Activities

Monday 24th July Clay creations with 'Making Space'

Tuesday 25th July Skateboarding with 'Team Rubicon'

Wednesday 26th July Activity Day at Peter Ashley Centre

Friday 28th July Water Sports at Cobnor Centre



Week 2 Activities

Monday 31st July Acrobatics and Aerial Hoop

Tuesday 1st August Roller Skating

Wednesday 2nd August Player Ready Virtual Gaming

Thursday 3rd August Graffiti Art



Week 3 Activities

Monday 7th August Printed Art with Making Space

Tuesday 8th August Swimming and Inflatable Fun at Petersfield Open Air Pool

Wednesday 9th August Bounce Fitness and Mug printing

Thursday 10th August Activity Day at Peter Ashley Centre

**Book
Now!**



Week 4 Activities

Monday 14th August Cooking

Tuesday 15th August Cooking

Wednesday 16th August Woodworking

Thursday 17th August Big Top Circus

Park Community School, Middle Park Way, Havant PO9 4BU
Young people attend alone. These events are free to attend.

These days are for those entitled to FSM or on EHCP, SEN plans.

This is criteria for the funding. Like our Facebook page - connect4families

To book visit www.connect4.org.uk Info: 02392489811 or email admin@connect4.org.uk



Park Community School

Summer
2023

FREE Family Fun Days*



Everyday includes crafts, cooking, sports, an entertainer and a specialist activity!



Week 1 Activities

Monday 24th July Gymnastics and games with 'Luna Acrobatics and Aerial Arts'

Tuesday 25th July Dancing with 'TADAA'

Wednesday 26th July Hula Hoop fun with 'Hula Skoola'

Thursday 27th July Mill Cottage Farm



Week 2 Activities

Monday 31st July Bubble workshop and Bubble Show with 'Bubbles Man'

Tuesday 1st August Circus Skills with 'Juggling Jake'

Wednesday 2nd August Trip to Staunton Farm

Thursday 3rd August Martial Arts with 'Freestyle Martial Arts'



Week 3 Activities

Monday 7th August Birds of Prey and Crafts with 'Winchester Science Centre'

Tuesday 8th August Circus Skills with 'Juggling Jake'

Wednesday 9th August Planetarium with 'Winchester Science Centre' and Mini golf

Thursday 10th August Mill Cottage Farm

Week 4 Activities

Monday 14th August Reptiles

Tuesday 15th August Gymnastics and games with 'Luna Acrobatics and Aerial Arts'

Wednesday 16th August Martial Arts with 'Freestyle Martial Arts'

Thursday 17th August BBQ and Big Top Circus

Park Community School, Middle Park Way,
Havant PO9 4BU



These events are free to attend.

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Like our Facebook page – connect4families

To book visit www.connect4.org.uk Info: 02392489811 or email admin@connect4.org.uk



Park Community School



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