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INTEGRATED COLLEGE

2018
comment

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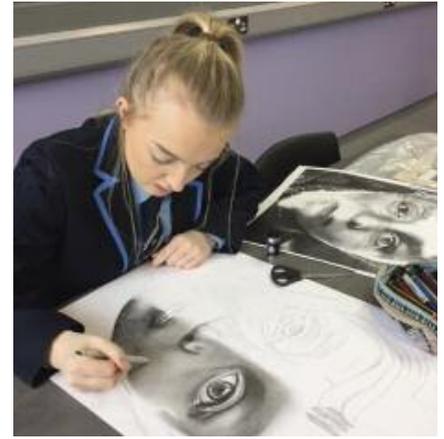
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Welcome to Comment Magazine 2018

I am delighted to endorse this latest edition of Comment magazine.

In the past year, our pupils have been involved in a wide range of activities and events within subject areas, including a large number of subject trips, visits and speakers and, of course, the school formal is always the highlight of the year. The work of the senior and junior prefects, the junior mentors and the school council have contributed greatly to the life of the school and particularly assisted the junior members of the school. Details of these trips and other events can be found on our website: www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org.



It has been a very busy year, as we have been delighted to move into our new school building after many years of waiting and planning. This new seventeen-million-pound facility will be a tremendous asset to both the pupils and the local community in the future, and we look forward to finishing off many aspects of the interior over the next few months. Whilst it has been very sad to watch the old school building disappear, it will allow us to have our state-of-the-art sports facilities on site from September 2018 to add to the new Astroturf pitch and tennis courts. We have also been delighted to introduce post-16 courses into the school for the first time and we welcomed our first sixth-form classes in September 2017. I would like to acknowledge the hard work of the staff in setting up these courses, and we have been delighted with the response from our pupils so far.



I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of the pupils for their tremendous contribution to school life, the parents for their continued support, and the staff for the many hours of commitment that they devote to the pupils. Finally, we are again indebted to our business partners, who are sponsoring our rewards programme, and to the many local companies who annually support the college through sponsorship of this publication.



**G. BEATTIE
PRINCIPAL**

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GCSE PERFORMANCE AT PARKHALL INTEGRATED COLLEGE HITS ALL-TIME HIGH



Rebecca McDonald-Westrn

Pupils at Parkhall Integrated College celebrated receiving record-breaking GCSE results yet again on Thursday morning and with good reason.

At the last confirmation of results, **86% of pupils** had reached the target of five A*-C grades – a further increase of 5% from 2015 and an increase of almost 20 % from 2013 – demonstrating the rising attainment levels within the school. Some 60% of the year group obtained seven or more A*-C grades – a 13% increase from 2015. Overall, 92% of pupils gained five A*-E grades, and 95% gained 5 A*-G grades. Results in both English and Maths have increased this year.

Principal George Beattie commented

“We are all absolutely delighted with the results this year. For the third consecutive year, our five A*-C grades have been above 80%, which is fantastic. We had forty children who obtained the standard that grammar school children are measured on: 7 A*-C grades including English and Maths, which is absolutely tremendous. They have been achieved though hard work from the pupils, quality teaching from the staff and a high level of pastoral support and guidance. The relationship and support of the parents also play a crucial role in this success.

“The curriculum that we offer is suited to the needs and aspirations of the wide range of abilities of our pupils and allows them to achieve appropriate progression routes for the future. As with many non-selective schools, we will continue to focus on raising standards of literacy and numeracy and aim to continue to raise our performance in these areas in the future.

“Nineteen of our pupils obtained ten or more A*-C grades: Leah Woods, Megan Webster, Zoe Taylor, Amy Sherritt, Imogen Pearce, Taylor Nixon, Miriam Clarke, Shannon Nicholson-Anderson, Emily Melville, Rebecca McDonald-Western, Emma McCappin, Rachel Lowry, Chloe Leach, Craig Robinson, Ebony Kerr, Georgina Houston, Morgan Little, Christopher Dobson, Kaitlin Millar and Catherine May Burke, which is an incredible performance.

“In addition, the following pupils all gained at least seven A*-B grades: Head Boy John Cooke, Head Girl Victoria Stewart, Jessica Allison, Cameron Craig, Kurtis Hazlett, Leah Hincliffe, Renaldas Nauseda and Megan Webster.

“A* or A grades were obtained in English, English Literature, Maths, Single Award Science, Double Award Science, Construction, ICT, Home Economics, Child Development, Art and Design, History, French, PE and Business and Communication Systems. English Literature, Construction, Music and Child Development had 100% pass rates, with Geography also scoring particularly highly.”

Mr Beattie did reflect on his pleasure at being able to offer post-16 courses to pupils for the first time in September. “It has always been a frustration that many of our pupils have had to leave the town for post-16 education, and we are delighted that, in conjunction with Antrim Grammar School, we can now make this offer to our pupils. This provision is something that we hope will grow year on year and provide a pathway for many of our young people, particularly as we are set to move into our new building in the near future.”

The college would like to extend a word of congratulations to all pupils who received their results yesterday and wish them every success for the future.



Shannon Nicholson Anderson, Taylor Nixon



Henry Chan



Emily Melville, Bethany Tombs,
Rebecca McDonald-Westrn



Victoria Stewart with her family



Chris Dobson



Shannon Nicholson Anderson, Adam McCullough,
John Cooke, Mr Beattie, Luke Thompson



Mrs Gourley with Jade Taffe



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INTEGRATION

Parkhall Integrating New Pupils



The new year 8 pupils at Parkhall Integrated College enjoyed learning about integrated education with Mrs McIver and Mrs Crossey as part of their induction programme in their first days at school. They played games to get to know each other and to learn about what it means to go to an



integrated school. They had fun using wooden blocks to build integration ideas and made postcards to send to pupils in other countries. A great time was had by all the pupils, who looked very smart in their new uniforms and worked brilliantly together.

Everybody Outstanding at Parkhall Integrated College



Pupils at Parkhall Integrated College have been celebrating Integrated Education Month during March. The theme this year is 'everybody outstanding', which recognises the diversity of talents at Parkhall Integrated College and celebrates difference. The year 8 pupils enjoyed taking part in drumming workshops with Thomas from Ghana and his variety of African drums. One class attended a special event at the Eikon Exhibition Centre in Lisburn as a part of Amazing the Space, a youth-led peace-building initiative funded by the Northern Ireland Executive Office that empowers young people across Northern Ireland to become ambassadors for peace within their communities. The project enables young people to contribute to a more

peaceful society, acknowledging that they can be key agents of change in their communities. This year's Amazing the Space project was officially launched by His Royal Highness Prince Harry on Thursday 7th September 2017. The event in Lisburn took place on 23rd March and was attended by more than 3,000 young people from schools across Northern Ireland and the border counties. The pupils enjoyed meeting other students and loved the radio roadshow as well as the free lunch. Mrs McIver, a teacher who accompanied the pupils, said, 'This was an amazing treat for our pupils and a great message to them to contribute to peace locally and in the world'.

A Right Royal Welcome

Pupils from 8K and Mrs McIver were thrilled to come face to face with Prince Harry and Meghan Markle on 23rd March when they visited the Eikon Exhibition Centre as part of the Amazing the Space, a youth-led peace-building initiative funded by the Northern Ireland Executive Office, which empowers young people to become ambassadors for peace within their communities. Prince Harry launched the programme in September this year, therefore it was great that he could return to Northern Ireland, with his then wife-to-be, for this event. Having taken part in the programme last year and as part of the Integrated Education Month activities, the school was keen to attend. The pupils enjoyed watching many schools' performances of dance and music, showcasing how they are living out the peace pledges they made last year. For the finale of the event, Prince Harry and Meghan joined the performers on stage and were presented with a picture of the peace tree, on which our school pledge hangs. The crowd of 2,500 pupils gave the couple rapturous applause as they took photos and recordings for their own memories. 'We knew nothing about this and so were really excited when we were told they were coming', said Corey Laverty. 'It was the best day ever', said Holly Gibson. 'It was a brilliant day. Thank you, Mrs McIver', said Brooke Law. It is very important for our school to meet pupils from different traditions in Northern Ireland and across the border at these events and to be a part of building peace in our country. Having the chance to rub shoulders with the royal couple made the event something that the pupils won't forget.



Integrated Education at the Ulster Museum

Parkhall integrated College took part in the Big Small Stories exhibition, which was launched by the Northern Ireland Council for Integrated Education (NICIE) on Friday 17th November at the Ulster Museum. The museum opened its doors to principals, founding members and past and present pupils of integrated schools. The foyer displayed sixty-five pop-up stands showcasing photos and histories of all integrated schools in Northern Ireland, including Parkhall Integrated College. The evening's entertainment included emotive storytelling by the teachers and parents who played a crucial role in the creation and success of the integrated education sector. There were performances by a number of schools, and the audience were impressed by the talented young people. The exhibition continued over the weekend with performances, films and speeches by representatives from many integrated schools. On Saturday morning, Jezliah Geogy, a year ten pupil at Parkhall Integrated College, performed an Indian dance in traditional dress to a captivated audience who praised her talent. Mrs McIver, integrated education co-ordinator for the school, said she was extremely proud of Jezliah and that she was great ambassador for the school as well as a perfect symbol of the diversity which is welcomed and respected in integrated education. Jezliah and Mrs McIver had the chance to talk with Mr. Danny Kinahan, a former MP for South Antrim, who attended the event and who had kind words of support for the school. The schools' marketing stands will remain for some time at the museum to advertise the integrated sector and encourage parents to choose integrated education for their child.



Peace at Parkhall Integrated College

International Day of Peace was celebrated in Parkhall Integrated College on 21st September with a special assembly. Mrs McIver, co-ordinator for integrated education, spoke about the importance of peace in the world today and two new year 8 pupils recited the Parkhall peace pledge, which sets out the school's commitment to a peaceful environment. This pledge will soon be displayed in the new school building due to open in December 2017. Also, two pupils who won prizes in a NASUWT anti-racism competition in July read their winning poems aloud to the other students. The students, Alexandra Peacock and Jezliah Geogy, wrote poems of a very high standard. A number of other pupils were acknowledged for their impressive artwork and literature to reflect the fight against racism in school and in the community.



Parkhall Integrated College Goes to China

Mrs McIver, modern languages teacher and integrated education co-ordinator at Parkhall Integrated College, spent the Halloween break in China, visiting the school's new international partner school, Haishu Foreign Languages School. As part of a British Council and Chinese Education Bureau-funded programme, Mrs McIver had the opportunity, along with ten other UK teachers and principals, to spend a week meeting education delegates, observing lessons and teaching English in the Chinese school. She received a warm welcome and learnt a great deal from the teachers and school's management. She taught some lessons and shared good practice from the N.I. curriculum. This programme is designed to encourage and form links between the UK and Chinese schools, so that we can learn from each other and begin subject-specific projects, teacher and pupil exchanges and cultural learning. Parkhall Integrated College has previously formed links with schools in other countries and is very excited about this new opportunity to expand the pupils' learning in citizenship, education for mutual understanding and personal development, all of which are of great importance in this integrated school.



Shared Education Council Update

In December, the student council had their first meeting at Antrim Grammar School. Pupils each introduced themselves and set down some ground rules and plans for the year ahead. They came up with statements to represent what shared education meant to them as a group and took them back to schools. The statement which receives the most votes will be used by schools as a shared education ethos statement. The next meeting was held at Mossley Mill,

where we met the Mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council and talked about significant issues, local and throughout the world. Pupils then had a talk about what their views on the community were and what they would like to see change. The shared education council also planned a trip to London in May to visit Parliament and have a tour of the building. A very busy and exciting year.



Shared Education Prefects

Some of our year 12 prefects volunteered to assist the year 8 and year 9 shared education programme for this year. They attended a training workshop in Antrim Grammar School on Wednesday 4th October. They met prefects and teachers from Antrim Grammar School and St. Benedict's and worked in teams to get to know each other and learn

ways to support younger pupils in the shared education sessions. Mrs McIver reported that they were brilliant ambassadors for the school and said that she looked forward to having them assist her and the pupils in the 2017-18 school year.

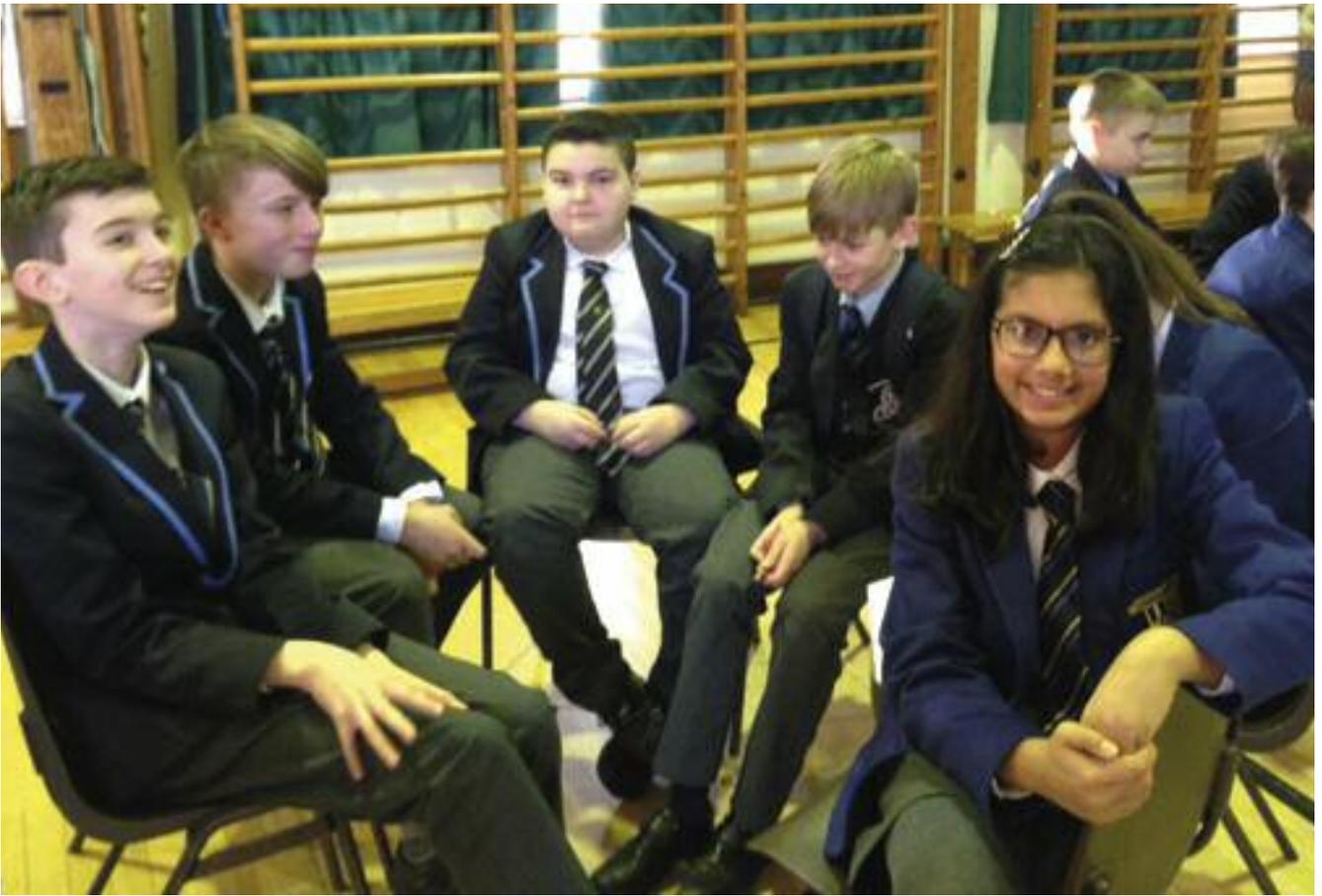


Shared Education Programme 2018-2019



Year eight and year nine pupils have had another great year, meeting and working with pupils from Antrim Grammar School and St. Benedict's College during the Shared Education Signature Project. As well as getting to know their peers from different schools, backgrounds and cultures, they have been developing life skills such as team building, resolving conflict, developing resilience and making good choices. They have covered topics such as immigration, adolescence, diversity and identity. They have had fun playing games, presenting information and doing lots of group work. They have made new friends and deepened relationships which were formed last year. Our year twelve and year ten prefects have been extremely helpful and appreciated facilitating the sessions at our school. Furthermore, the joint student council, which comprises representatives from the student councils in the three schools, has met regularly and discussed issues relevant to young people. They visited Stormont and the Houses of Parliament in London during the year and have become great ambassadors for our schools. In addition to this, a group of year ten boys in the three schools have also had the opportunity to learn new skills and develop their confidence through a shared basketball coaching programme. On 14th June all pupils involved had a great day at the fun run around Castle Gardens. On the whole, everyone involved, including the teachers, has enjoyed getting to know more people from the community, benefitted from working together and sharing ideas. They are all looking forward to next year's programme of activities.





Our year 8 and year 9 pupils have been working extremely well with their friends from Antrim Grammar and St. Benedict's during their shared education LLW sessions. They are learning lifelong skills to help them work better in a team and ways to navigate the difficulties that may arise in their teenage years. Their relationships with the other schools are developing, and friendships are forming.

The recent inspectors' visit was extremely complimentary about these sessions and the pupils and teachers involved. The other school pupils were impressed with the sessions which took place during March in our new school building with the excellent audio-visual equipment in our assembly hall. We are happy to be able to share our great facilities with our neighbours.





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Love for Life Workshop



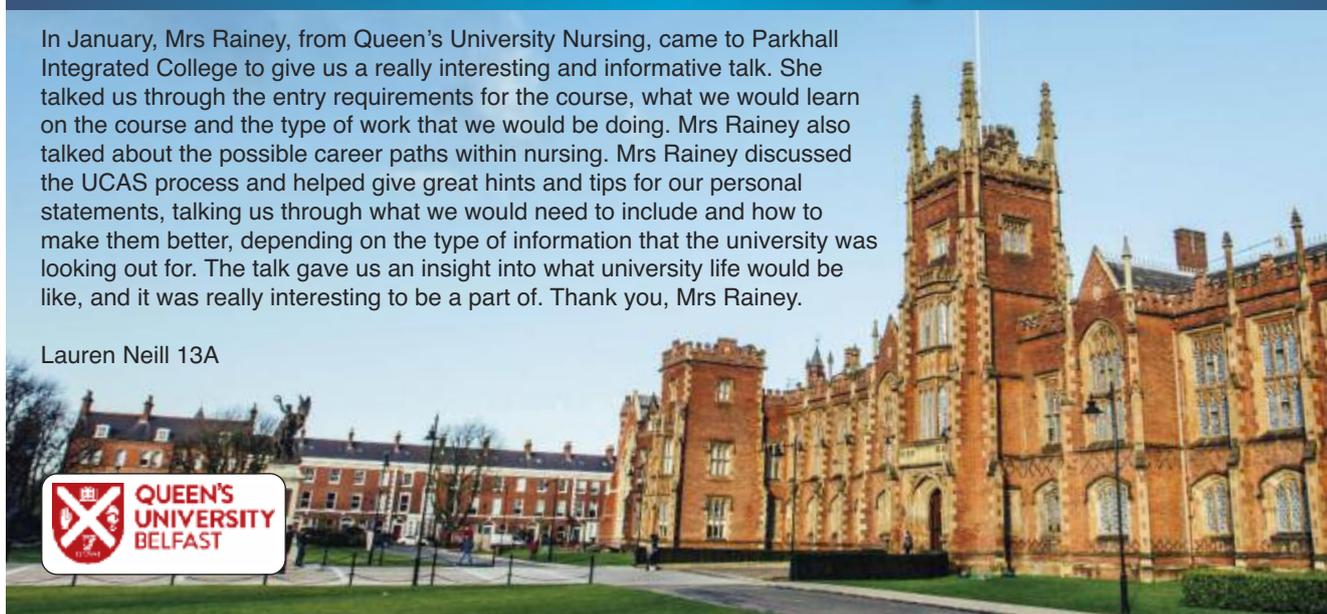
Love for Life work in partnerships with schools to ensure that excellent relationship and sexuality education is delivered to help pupils develop a healthy respect for themselves, relationships and sex. All year 11 pupils were involved in a workshop entitled 'Icebergs and Babies' with the team from Love for Life. This programme recognises that young people

today face tremendous pressure from many places and are often confused about who to listen to. Love for Life provides relationship and sexuality education, which aims to empower young people to achieve their potential and to make informed and responsible decisions throughout their lives. As such, this programme covered important issues, such as looking at the influence of the media and sex, self-image, sex and the law and peer pressure. It was an engaging and enjoyable session, from which the year 11 pupils gained lots of very valuable information.

Post-16 Queen's Nursing Talk

In January, Mrs Rainey, from Queen's University Nursing, came to Parkhall Integrated College to give us a really interesting and informative talk. She talked us through the entry requirements for the course, what we would learn on the course and the type of work that we would be doing. Mrs Rainey also talked about the possible career paths within nursing. Mrs Rainey discussed the UCAS process and helped give great hints and tips for our personal statements, talking us through what we would need to include and how to make them better, depending on the type of information that the university was looking out for. The talk gave us an insight into what university life would be like, and it was really interesting to be a part of. Thank you, Mrs Rainey.

Lauren Neill 13A



Year 9 The Smashed Project

The Smashed Project is an educational theatre initiative with a vision: to break the culture of underage drinking and reduce alcohol-related harm amongst young people around the world. The Smashed Project gave a very exciting production in November to our year 9 pupils. They presented the drugs and alcohol theatre production to the whole year group, looking at the pressures that young people face today, and how to cope with these pressures. The production also looked at the effects of drugs on individuals, families and society. It was a very informative, interesting and enjoyable production, with lots of student input.



TRANSFER EVENING

Record-breaking Numbers at Parkhall Integrated College Transfer Evening



The annual Transfer Evening at Parkhall Integrated College on Thursday 11th January attracted a huge turnout of prospective pupils and their parents. The new school assembly hall was packed to capacity as visitors were given the opportunity to view the facilities and to meet teachers, support staff and pupils.

The evening began with a DVD outlining what life is like at Parkhall. The DVD is designed to give prospective pupils an insight into both the year 8 curriculum and wider school life, alongside a review of many of the primary liaison programmes that Parkhall offers.

In his introduction, Principal George Beattie emphasised the school mission statement, the aims of the school, the strong pastoral care system and extensive induction programme, which is designed to ensure that the transition to post-primary education is as smooth as possible for year 8 pupils.

In highlighting how well the year 8 pupils had settled into school life, Mr Beattie emphasised how delighted he was with the school intake last year of 144 pupils. The provision of year 10 mentors for each year 8 class ensures that the newest additions to the school community have a familiar face to support them at all times. The college also use the services of junior school prefects in year 10, and they too have an important role to play in helping the younger pupils within the school.

Mr Beattie commended the young people who completed GCSE study last June, many of whom gained excellent A*-C GCSE grades and have progressed to further study and/or employment. He gave a special mention to a number of pupils who each had obtained nine, ten or eleven A*-C GCSE grades in 2016 and the increasing number of pupils who are obtaining at least seven A*-C grades. The number

of pupils gaining five A*-C grades had increased to a record-breaking 86% last year, the highest in the history of the college. The college continues to review the key stage 4 curriculum to ensure that pupils are provided with the breadth of choice suitable to their needs and aspirations, and the successful introduction of post-16 education was outlined, allowing the pupils to remain at Parkhall to complete their education. Mr Beattie expressed his delight that fifty pupils had begun sixth-form studies in September.

The importance of extra-curricular activities was highlighted, and the range of opportunities to experience educational visits was of particular interest to the young people. In the past few years, pupils had visited Alton Towers, Paris and London, with football trips to Manchester, Barcelona, Madrid and Italy alongside trips to Dublin, Auschwitz and the ski trip to the USA.

Mr Beattie outlined his delight at the new £17-million building, which had just opened for pupils at the start of January. This will provide state-of-the-art classrooms, Science labs, specialist workshops for Art, Technology and HE, new canteen facilities and new youth and community facilities. The sporting provision includes an AstroTurf pitch and five tennis courts, which are already in use, as well as a fitness suite, a gym and a four-court sports hall.

The need to develop mutual respect, tolerance and understanding of others amongst our young people was clearly identified as being a major focus as the college continues to build upon its controlled integrated status.

The impressions of the current head girl and head boy, Zoe Kirkpatrick and Daniel McCullough, were well received by the large audience.

Parents and prospective pupils were then given a comprehensive guided tour of the school, highlighting the type of activities being undertaken by year 8 pupils.

Anyone who missed the open evening or has any further questions about the college is invited to contact the principal on (028) 9446 8556 or to make an appointment at the school office to arrange a tour.



Translink Safety Bus Visits Parkhall College



In January, we were visited by Kevin and Susan in the Translink Safety Bus. The purpose of their visit was to highlight the safety issues associated with the use of public transport. Using a range of videos, education packs, props and their down-to-earth enthusiasm, Kevin and Susan brought issues such as bus behaviour, vandalism and its effects to life.



CHARITY

The staff and pupils of Parkhall Integrated College have once again been very generous in their charity support.

Throughout this academic year we have donated money to various charities to help support work at home and abroad.

Save The Children

On 15th December 2017, staff and pupils took part in their annual Christmas Jumper Day. Once again, there was a wide and varied array of Christmas jumpers on display. We raised £400, which was sent to help support the work of Save the Children. This charity helps to support young people in the UK and also worldwide.



Action Cancer

In March 2018, pupils and staff had the opportunity to win a luxurious Easter basket and at the same time raise money for Action Cancer. The basket included a huge Easter egg, a bar of chocolate and a very cute bunny rabbit. We were also encouraged to donate £1 and suggest a name for the rabbit in the basket.

The two winners were Miss Brown and Ellie McNeill (8P). Miss Brown, along with the help of her form class 12P, suggested Brian as the rabbit's name and Ellie suggested Frank. Well done to Miss Brown and Ellie, and a huge thanks must go to everyone who donated to this very worthy charity.



Macmillan Coffee Morning

Year 13 BTEC Health and Social Care pupils were delighted to hold a Macmillan coffee morning on Monday 2nd October. Pupils invited members of Antrim's Men's Shed and Pathway pupils from Riverside School. Year 13 Health and Social Care pupils are currently studying a unit on supporting individuals with additional needs. This coffee morning not only raised money for a fantastic charity but allowed pupils to interact and ask questions regarding individuals' additional needs and how they are supported by current health care provision. We raised a fantastic £100.00 and thank everyone for their kind donations.

Operation Christmas Child

The pupils and staff at Parkhall Integrated College are to be congratulated on their efforts and involvement in the world's largest children's Christmas project, Operation Christmas Child.

The school's junior prefects did an amazing job, overseeing the entire project from start to finish, and were totally overwhelmed by the school's response to it: 105 shoeboxes, filled with thoughtful gifts and beautifully written messages, as well as monetary contributions, totalling £1200 worth of donations. The shoeboxes left Northern Ireland on Saturday 18th November for children in Belarus in Eastern Europe.

This project has once again highlighted the kind and generous nature of our pupils. We are extremely proud of them for coming together as a school community for such a worthwhile project and helping to bring joy to the lives of less fortunate children around the world.



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SUBJECTS

Animal Care - Animal Sanctuary Visit

Year 11 Animal Care pupils visited Mid-Antrim Animal Sanctuary to carry out a risk assessment. They visited the kennels and cattery and enjoyed meeting both the long-term residents and animals who are looking for new homes. Pupils brought a donation of food, enjoyed meeting Bay the border collie and wanted to bring him back with us.



World Animal Day



In October, our year 11 Animal Care pupils celebrated World Animal Day by producing posters highlighting animal rights

and welfare issues. The pupils sampled vegan cheese, yogurts and ice cream.



Year 11 Horsecare

Year 11 BTEC Extended Certificate in Horse Care pupils grooming, picking out hooves and learning to lead out during their practical sessions at Laurel View Equestrian Centre



Hannah and Adi practising leading out in hand



Aimee learning to groom



Katie bringing her pony in from the field



Brooklyn learning how to pick out a horse's hoof



Brooklyn getting ready to lead out in hand

Dublin Trip

On Saturday 2nd June, a group of twenty-five pupils from years 9 to 12 travelled to Tattersalls International Horse Trials & County Fair in Ratoath, County Meath. Tattersalls is Ireland's premier three-day event, and pupils saw a range of top-class riders, including current and former European, World and Olympic champions compete at 1-3* level. Most of the day was spent walking the cross-country course, stopping at jumps such as the water combination and the splash pond to watch horse and rider combinations tackle each obstacle. The pupils could not believe the size of the cross-country jumps, especially in the 3* competition. Students witnessed the chef d'équipe of the British eventing team, Chris Bartle, on the course longlisting horse-and-rider combinations for the upcoming World Equestrian Games.

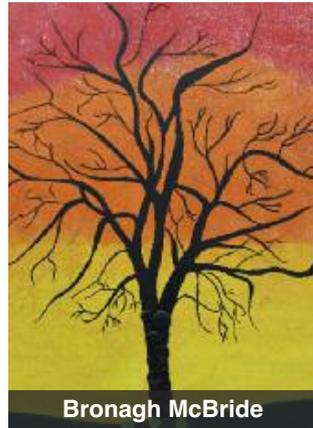
They saw horses being warmed up before heading out onto the cross-country course, and there were frayed nerves when a horse broke a coloured pole in the collecting ring. As well as cross-country action, there was show jumping to be watched in the grandstand at the main arena and great amusement to be had watching the Shetland pony jumping, a dog show and visiting a petting zoo, where pupils had the opportunity to hold snakes, bearded dragons and a tarantula. We even managed to fit in amusement rides, a birthday cake and a visit to the shopping village. A great day was had by all, and a very tired bus full of equestrian enthusiasts made its way home late on Saturday evening with several pupils asking "Can we go again next year?"



Art - Year 12 / Unit 1 - Final Pieces



Amy Wilson



Bronagh McBride



Destiny Allen



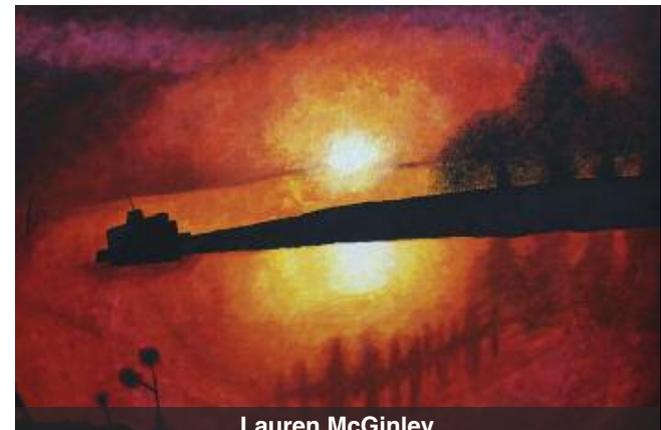
Ellen McMullan



Emily Alexander



Georgina Lynn



Lauren McGinley



Courtney Martin



Lois Woodage



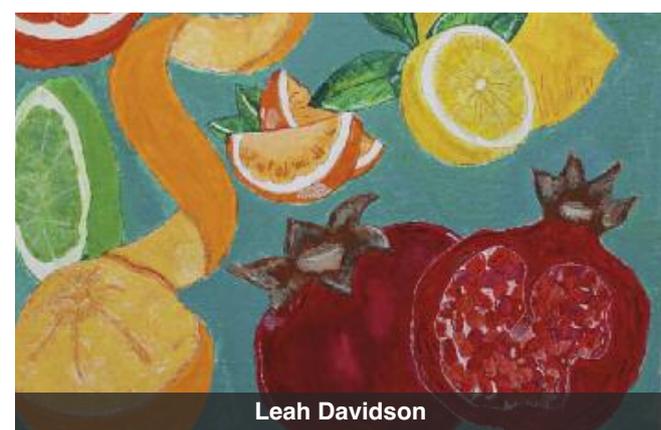
Madison Field



Jamie-Leigh Gibson



Jessica Mason



Leah Davidson

Art - Year 12 / Unit 1 - Final Pieces



Sophie McConkey



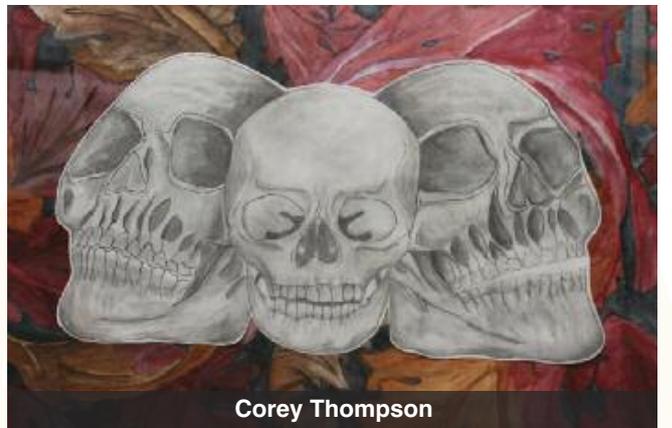
Sophie Faulkner



Megan Mitchell



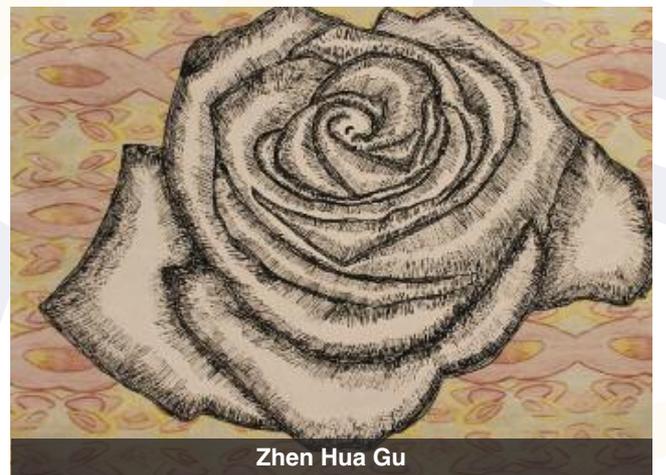
Morgan Hanna



Corey Thompson



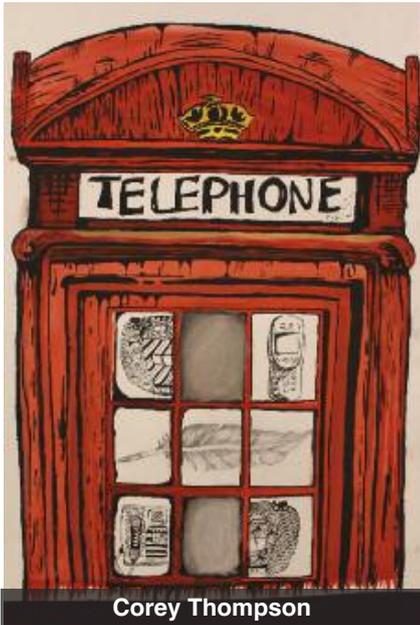
Reese Chan



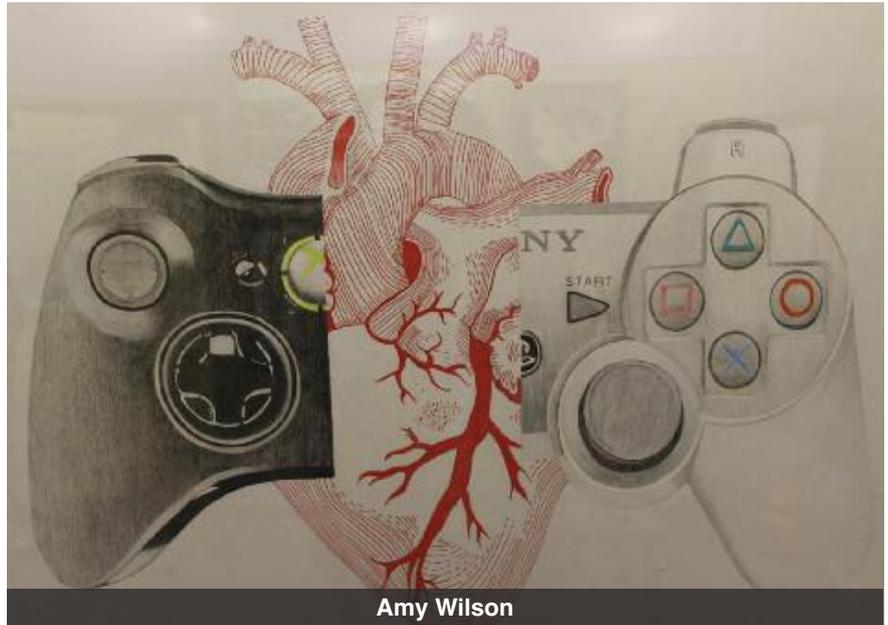
Zhen Hua Gu



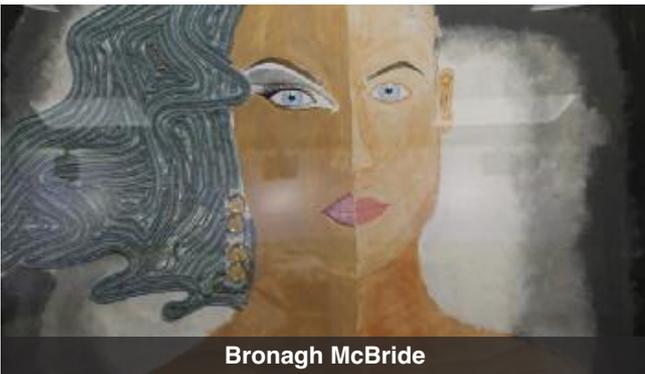
Art - Year 12 / Unit 2 - Final Pieces



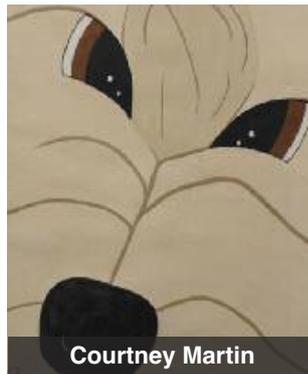
Corey Thompson



Amy Wilson



Bronagh McBride



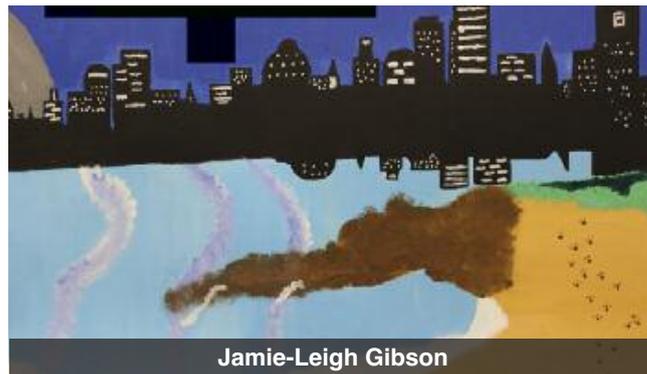
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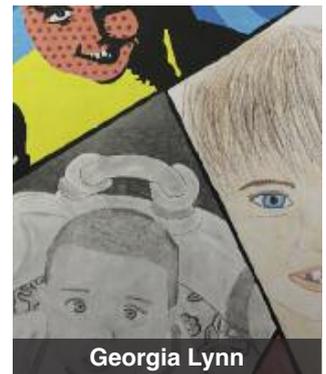
Reese Chan



Emily Alexander



Jamie-Leigh Gibson



Georgia Lynn



Lauren McGinley

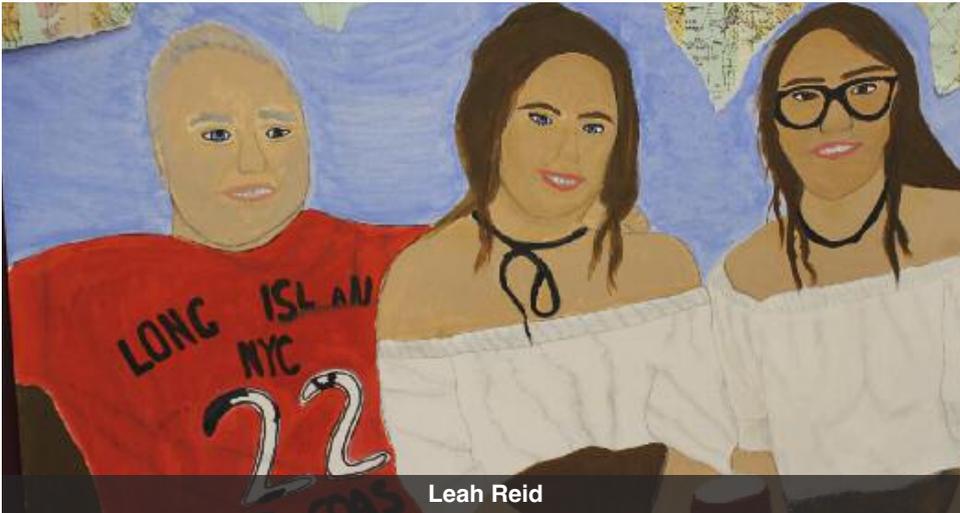


Jessica Mason



Ellen McMullan

Art - Year 12 / Unit 2 - Final Pieces



Leah Reid



Lois Woodage



Madison Field



Sophie Faulkner



Sophie McConkey



Megan Mitchell



Leah Davidson



Morgan Hannah

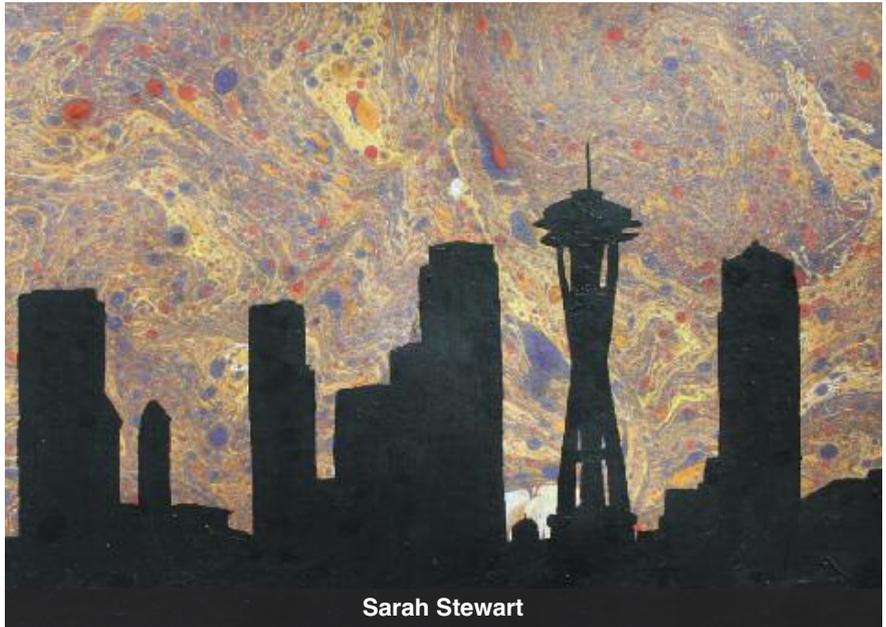


Zhen

Art - Year 13 - Final Pieces



Abbie Price



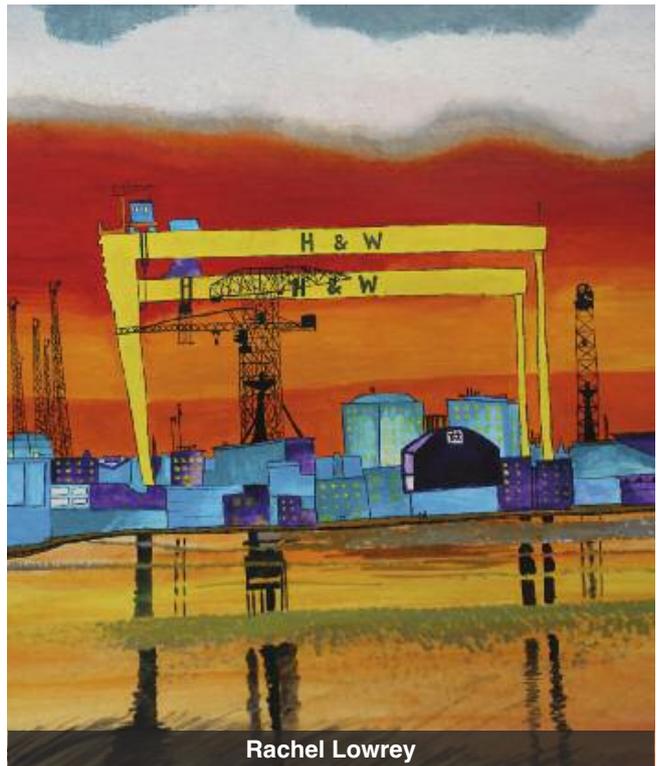
Sarah Stewart



Sarah Stewart



Imogen Pearce

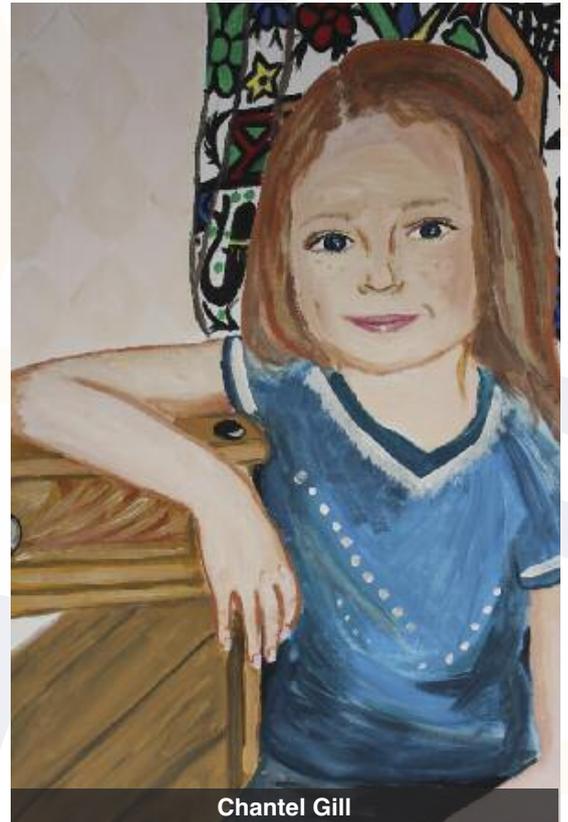


Rachel Lowrey



Sarah Stewart

Art - Year 13 - Final Pieces



Art - Year 13 Art & Design Trip to Belfast Friday 2nd March 2018

On a very cold and snowy Friday in March, the year 13 Art class, accompanied by Mrs Cochrane, took the train to Belfast. The pupils visited various landmarks and galleries, taking lots of photographs. The class are working on a

drawing unit, themed 'In the City'. A great day was had by all, and the pupils gained much inspiration to help them with their classroom studies.



Art - Year 11 GCSE Art & Design – Snowflakes

On Monday 4th December 2017, the year 11 GCSE Art & Design classes went to Antrim Forum to use stencils to paint the windows. I really enjoyed this activity although I did manage to cover my hands with paint.

This activity was part of our winter assessment, and the task was to design and make snowflakes to decorate the windows of Antrim Forum for the annual Christmas carol service for Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council.

To begin, I made paper snowflakes that were copied onto acetate film and then carefully cut out with a scalpel. This was very fiddly.

I experimented with my stencils, using paint and glitter in my portfolio before working on the windows so that I could practise and knew what I was doing. We had a really good time, and it was great to be out working in the community representing our school.

Amy Adams 11P



Year 11 GCSE Art & Design - Christmas Tree Festival

As part of our winter assessment, all GCSE Art and Design students participated in a collaborative project for the Christmas Tree Festival held in All Saints' Parish Church.

Our task was to design and make Christmas tree decorations, which I really enjoyed.

The theme for our tree was the Advent Calendar, and we each contributed one small decoration.

Mervyn, the Art technician, designed and made the tree, and Miss Maguire carefully stuck in all our decorations on site at the church. We were all absolutely delighted with the finished result.

The event took place from Thursday 30th November until Sunday the 3rd December, and all the money raised was for charity.

Hannah Adams 11R



Art - Heartstart Programme

As part of the Heartstart Programme, key stage 3 pupils completed Art assignments, researching the artists Jim Dine, James Goldcrown, Chris Uphues and Romero Britto.

The aim of this programme is to raise awareness of how to react in an emergency.

Different departments in school collaborate on this project, and in the Art & Design department this year, pupils produced colourful heart-inspired images.



Careers - Year 10 Students Get Down to Business

Year 10 students recently took part in the Young Enterprise 'Project Business' programme.

Supported by the Department of Education Northern Ireland, the programme gives students a practical, activity-based insight into enterprise and business, helping them develop their business and economic understanding, as well as personal financial capability.

Martin Morgan led the workshops to enable the students to explore a range of business concepts, including the role of the consumer, supply and demand, the market economy, and savings and investments.



Careers - Victoria Square Trip

The year 11 and 12 Office and Retail class availed of the chance to take part in a retail trip to Victoria Square in Belfast. Pupils were able to interview employees in various retail outlets in the centre to see what a job in the retail industry might be like. There was even time for some shopping and lunch despite the weather.



Careers - Year 9 Young Enterprise Day



All of year 9 had the opportunity to work on their enterprising skills at the YENI workshops facilitated by Young Enterprise. Firstly, students looked at key enterprising skills and how they were already using them in school. They then worked as a team to produce a game – either board or online. They had to draw up a business plan for their product, along with a logo and a slogan. Then, their creative skills were used to



create a prototype. Finally, they had to present their finished product to the rest of the year. Vivianne from Young Enterprise, working alongside our business partner for the day, Barbara from ASDA, praised the pupils for their innovative ideas and awarded prizes for the best teams who were able to think outside the box.

Careers - SKILLS NI 2017

All year 13 pupils had the opportunity to visit the Skills NI 2017 careers fair. This was held at the Titanic Exhibition Centre in Belfast, and was the first out-of-school visit for our newly established sixth form. There was a wide range of exhibitors keen to provide information on qualifications, career pathways, university courses and apprenticeships. Our pupils had the opportunity to host a news bulletin with Belfast Met Media department, handle giant snails and bearded geckos with Belfast Zoo, try to walk while wearing “beer goggles” with the PSNI, and design a suspension bridge with the Institute of Civil Engineers. The event bombarded our pupils with ample facts and figures to help them in their career action planning for post-18.



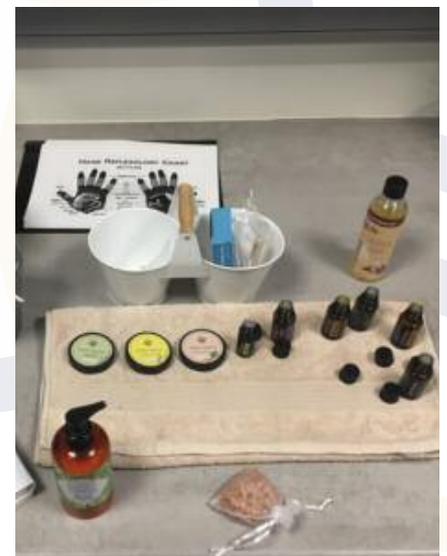
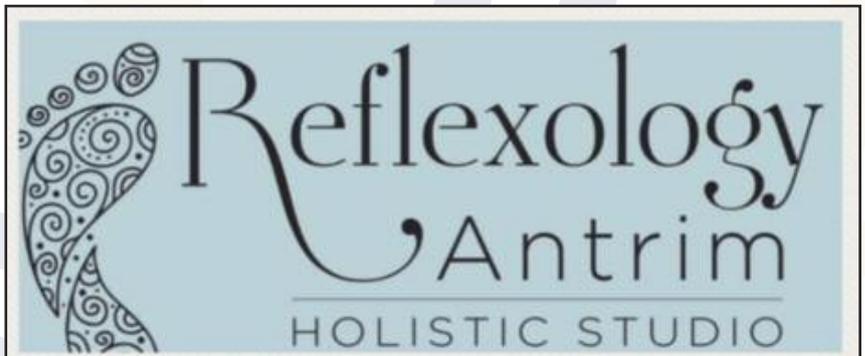
Child Development - Breastfeeding Mothers

Year 11 GCSE Child Development students were delighted to invite Ballyclare Breastfeeding Support Group into their class. Mothers discussed their childbirth experiences and the reasons for choosing breastfeeding.



Complementary Therapy

Year 13 Health and Social Care students were delighted to invite Ann Kennedy from Reflexology Antrim into school. The pupils are currently studying how complementary therapies can be used in supporting conventional and orthodox medicine. Ann demonstrated a range of treatments, such as hand massage, Indian head massage, back, neck and shoulder massage and discussed how these treatments can benefit health and wellbeing.



PRIZE NIGHT

PARKHALL INTEGRATED COLLEGE PRINCIPAL'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2016/2017

Thank you, Mr Chairman.

Before commencing my report, I would like to extend to all of you – parents, special guests, elected representatives and young people – a very warm and personal welcome to this, the 46th Annual Prize Distribution at Parkhall Integrated College and thank you for your support this evening.

I am delighted to welcome back to Parkhall Mr Roy Dickson, Mrs Mavis Knox, Mrs Paddy Wallace and Mr Jackie Davis and our elected politicians and thank them, as always, for their support. I must also say a special word of welcome to my wife Sonya and daughter Jenni.

Our chairperson made mention to our guest of honour, Ms Shirley Henderson, the first head girl of Parkhall College, in this very building. I am absolutely delighted, Shirley, that you could find the time to join us this evening, along with your husband and daughter, and we look forward to hearing from you later in the programme.

A major highlight for me this year away from school life was the British and Irish Lions tour to New Zealand in June. The Lions set out to make history by attempting to achieve success in New Zealand, a feat last achieved back in 1971. With the series locked at one test all, the Lions drew the final game, 15 all, and created their own piece of test history in a drawn Lions series. Here in Parkhall, we have also taken our opportunity in the past year to create some pieces of history:

Like the Lions we are often judged by results and, in terms of academic performance, 2016/17 has proven to be a historic year. At GCSE level, 109 of our pupils gained at least five A*-C grades in August. This equates to 86.5% of the year group (14% above the Northern Ireland average), a record-breaking performance that means that the college is currently sitting at a three-year average of 83%, a figure which is 11% above the Northern Ireland average for non-selective schools. Every pupil who left last year did so with at least one GCSE or equivalent qualification, and 97.4% of our pupils left with at least five A*-E grades. In terms of one of the selective schools' benchmarks of seven A*-C grades, we had our best ever performance, with 64% of our pupils meeting this standard in 2017 (12% above the Northern Ireland average). Thirty-eight of our pupils obtained the selective schools' benchmark of seven-plus A*-C grades including Maths and English, demonstrating that, although we do not use the phrase "grammar stream", we have large numbers of children who achieve the grammar school standards.

This year A* or A grades were achieved across many subjects, and I would like to pay tribute to the continued hard work of our heads of department, who have led this significant school improvement and to the two year heads, Mr McClintock and Miss Spiers for all their efforts.

Fifteen pupils gained nine A*-C grades. Fourteen further pupils gained ten A-C grades. Three pupils – Amy Hunter,

Hannah Mellon and Sytoria Wainwright – gained eleven GCSE level 2 qualifications, and, for the first time in the history of the school, Chloe Hughes, Jessica Williams and Ieva Rudnickaite gained twelve level 2 GCSE qualifications – a tremendous achievement. Also of particular mention are Sam Cunningham with three A*s and five As, Emily Johnston with three As and five Bs, Ethan Leeper and Danielle Wilson with four As and four Bs, and Dylan Wilson with two A*s, four As, a B and a C, and Sam Courtney with two A*s, two As, two Bs and three Cs.

In measuring this success, it is perhaps pertinent to compare the 2017 exam results with our results from the last time the Lions toured – to Australia in 2013. This comparison shows a 20% increase in five A*-C grades (from 66% -86%), a 9% increase in our five A*-E grades and a 2% increase in five A*-C grades with English and Maths. Our percentage with seven A*-C has doubled from 32% to 64%, and seven A*-C with English and Maths has increased by 7%. Our pupils entitled to free school meals have also performed admirably with five A*-C grades, rising from 57% to 83% (19% above the Northern Ireland average) and our seven A*-C grades rising from 32% to 67% (25% above the Northern Ireland average). Whilst both our Maths and English results have steadily increased, a major focus as we move forward will be on increasing the number of pupils who achieve these standards, ensuring that they have included both English and Maths.

These successes build upon the groundwork that is provided across key stage 3. Our breadth of curriculum enables all our young people to succeed, and it is very rewarding to be able to acknowledge our class prize-winners, who represent all streams across all year groups. These successes build upon the tremendous work that is carried out in our local primary schools, and I am delighted that Mr Gourley, principal of Antrim Primary School, has been able to join us this evening. These successes also reflect on the support and assistance provided by our parents, and I thank you on behalf of the pupils for all that you have contributed this year.

Throughout this year, history has been made on many other fronts:

- Our first ever shared education classes took place with our partner schools, Antrim Grammar and St Benedict's, including the creation of a shared education school council
- Our first ever competitive Gaelic football match took place, with our year 8 boys against St. Benedict's College, and we were delighted to host the girls' integrated hockey tournament on our new AstroTurf pitch
- The first official presentation of our Colours Awards for leadership, sport, academic achievement, arts or community took place in December
- Our year 10/11 girls' soccer team won their third Northern Ireland futsal championship in the past four years and followed this up by becoming the only school in history to hold both the indoor and outdoor girls' seven-a-side football titles in the same year, continuing the remarkable success of this group over the past number of years. Individually Zoe Kirkpatrick and Emily Wilson gained the fantastic honour of both being selected for Northern Ireland

U17 international teams, and Emily was subsequently selected to represent Northern Ireland in the prestigious Euro under-19 championships in July of this year – an absolutely fantastic achievement considering Emily was only fifteen years of age when the tournament took place here in Northern Ireland – and she made a major contribution in every game in the tournament.

- We were delighted to hear of the progress Hannah Adams and Katie Woods have made in trampolining, and we wish Katie every success as she represents Team GB in the upcoming World Age Group Championships in Bulgaria, having successfully won the gold medal with Team GB in Portugal. Ross Macausland represented Northern Ireland under-14 development squads, Darragh Morgan, the Antrim district team; Sammy Clyde, Ulster under-16 honours; Harry Mawhinney, Ulster under-17 rugby squad; Nicole Clyde, under-14 National Boxing Championships; Sophie Clarke, U15 Northern Ireland iceskating squad and Daniel McCullough, who qualified for the Ulster finals at both javelin and 400m hurdles.
- Our pupils celebrated Integration Week, walking to Stormont and participating in the Amazing the Space peace-building initiative. Some year 10 pupils enjoyed taking part in Ulster Scots dancing and in an Ulster Scots and Irish language development programme.
- We look forward to hearing from our choir later in the programme. They have entered for the past couple of years, so we were delighted when they won first prize in the Tower Centre school Christmas carol competition. I know that the choir enjoyed spending their £500 prize money on a trip to Tayto Park, and I would like to thank Miss Kennoway for all her work with both choir and orchestra.
- In March of this year, we were successful in our bid for post-16 education in the college at the third attempt. The end result of this is that we currently have fifty pupils in year 13 studying thirteen different courses, and it is fabulous to see so many of those pupils returning to prize night in our new Parkhall uniform. I would like to express particular tribute to our teaching staff, who have embraced the challenge of delivering courses at this level for the first time and to our partners at Antrim Grammar School, as our pupils get to share courses at post-16 for the first time.

Returning to the Lions, throughout their tour to New Zealand, players and management made the most of every opportunity, and, likewise, our pupils have had extensive opportunities this year to travel – to Italy, London, Dublin, the French battlefields, on Geography field trips, to the Christmas market – and to take part in LEGO competitions, Young Enterprise, careers events, STEM club, Scripture Union, Operation Christmas Child, choir, orchestra and a wide range of sports, and also to attend anti-bullying workshops, Heartstart training, the Try Rugby programme and, of course, the school formal. I would thank all the staff who give up their time to provide these opportunities throughout the year.

So what actually contributed to making the Lions successful in the summer? One aspect was the strength of leadership that existed at all levels throughout the entire travelling panel with key figures such as Sam Warburton, Owen Farrell, Maro Itoje, amongst others, who flourished. This collective leadership is reflected here at Parkhall and I would like to draw particular attention to:

- The continued vision of the board of governors, the vice-principals, Mr Connolly and Mrs McKibbin and the senior management team

- All the teaching staff, head of departments, pastoral heads, heads of year and co-ordinators, who demonstrate leadership both in the classroom and outside to ensure that our young people reach their full potential. We were delighted to congratulate Mr and Mrs Falls on their wedding and also Miss McConville and Miss McCreagh on theirs. We celebrated the birth of Maisie to Mrs Kennedy, Alfie to Mrs Bigger, Oscar to Mrs Cochrane and Penny to Mrs and Mr Cunningham. As always, I would like to acknowledge our temporary and substitute teachers, who are a fabulous asset to the school.

- The level of leadership displayed by our pupils in the past year has also been tremendous, through roles as school prefect, school mentor, junior prefect or school council representative. It is fantastic that sixty pupils have recently put themselves forward as year 8 representatives for school council elections. I congratulate all those who have been successful in their applications and interviews. I would like to thank John and Victoria for their excellent year in post as head boy and head girl and also thank Harry, Adam, Hannah and Catherine Mae as very capable deputies. I would now like to invite John and Victoria to come forward and receive a small token of our gratitude.

- Our very best wishes go to Daniel and Zoe, alongside deputies Jamie, Rhys, Morgan and Kirsty as they undertake their roles this year.

A second key aspect of the Lions' success was the work carried out by the backroom staff. This work often goes on behind the scenes, sometimes unnoticed, and here in Parkhall, I would like to commend the work of our technical, clerical, learning support, building supervisors, cleaning and canteen staff, who continue to make sure that the organisation of the school ticks along meticulously. I would personally like to thank Mrs Pat McHenry for her enormous contribution to school life and for keeping me right.

- I would like to acknowledge the contribution of Margaretta, Matthew and Shauna as they move onto new and exciting challenges and welcome Aimee, Jim, Krissy, Michelle and Melissa for this school year. We were very deeply saddened at the death of our Technology technician Mr Norman McBurney in March of this year. Norman served at Parkhall for thirty-seven years and was both a tremendous, loyal character and a tremendous gentleman. His presence around the school is greatly missed by many on a daily basis.

- Also operating behind the scenes are our business partners. The very kind support of our business partners has enabled an element of competition to come into our Rewards Programme work with Rachel Shiels winning our Chef of the Year title and Lois Woodage winning our Young Carer of the Year prize. Melissa Carroll was our Young Entrepreneur, Beth Whiteside our Artist of the Year. Ben Hennessy and Michael Montgomery shared our Emerging Leaders award and Corey Thompson won the Enterprise award.

Having perhaps prematurely announced that last year's Prize Night would be our last in this school hall, I can definitely confirm that in December we will move across into our new school building. Whilst this is currently a huge undertaking for all, it will be a just reward for our pupils and our staff, who have had to endure the long wait and split-site



arrangements for too many years, not to mention the crippling effect on our already depleted school budget. It hasn't always been easy here on the campus, and I would like to thank our two neighbours on campus, Antrim Grammar and Steeple Nursery, in particular, Mrs Lendrum and Mrs Scarlett, who are here with us this evening, for their patience and understanding. The history connected with this building has been celebrated on a number of occasions this year, and we look forward with great excitement to enjoying

a new £17 million building and beginning another chapter in the history of Parkhall Integrated College.

But tonight is about celebrating the history makers of 2016/17, and I would like again to congratulate each and every one of our young people on their successes tonight.

Ladies and Gentlemen, that concludes my report.





Junior Class prize winner Noah Aiken with special guest speaker Shirley Henderson



Year 13 pupil Hannah Moxen receiving her GCSE certificate from guest speaker Shirley Henderson



Head Girl Zoe Kilpatrick, winner of an individual sporting achievement award with guest speaker Shirley Henderson



Ellie Johnston & Danielle Olliver joint winners of the Roberta Aiken Cup for Girls' Hockey.



Head Boy and Head Girl – Daniel McCullough and Zoe Kilpatrick



Jonathan Bell with the Wilson Cup for Overall Achievement In Business Studies



Parkhall Integrated College Orchestra



Parkhall Integrated College Choir



First-aid Training



The Occupational Studies year 12 Care group have completed their first-aid training. Louise from Berry First Aid delivered the course over two classes, and the pupils learned how to place a casualty into the recovery position, use a defibrillator and treat sprains, burns and incidents of choking. This training will come in useful in the near future,

as a number of these pupils are ready to take up placements in child care settings as part of their work experience, and most of the students in this group are keen to work in a care setting once they leave school. It was a very enjoyable and informative experience for all involved.

Muckamore Nursery Visit



Year 12 Care students visited Muckamore Nursery School, where they spent the morning interacting with the children. They played games both inside and outside in the 'muck garden' and helped serve the children their snacks. The pupils thoroughly enjoyed their visit and did not want to leave. We would like to thank the staff of Muckamore for accommodating us.

Tesco Trip



Year 11 Child Development enjoyed a trip to Tesco to visit the baby food aisle. Pupils are currently studying the stages of weaning and the importance of establishing good eating habits in childhood. The pupils purchased some weaning products and fresh items and returned to class, where they did a product taste test on fresh versus convenience.

Sure Start



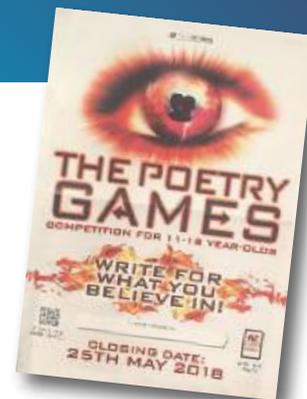
Year 11 Child Development students were delighted to attend the Sure Start baby and toddler event in Farranshane house. Sure Start is a government initiative to enhance services for children under four and their families in areas of greatest need through better access to family support, advice on parenting, health services and early learning. Pupils got to talk to a range of organisations such as Libraries NI, Sling Swing, Aqua Bellies, the Public Health Agency and NICMA.



English - Amy Wilson



In April, Amy Wilson in year 12 received some very exciting news: she was going to be a published poet. Amy entered a competition run by the English department in conjunction with Young Writers earlier in the year. Amy was selected from over 6000 entries from across the UK. Amy's poem "The Conspiracy" will be published in a collection of poems called "The Poetry Games - Northern Ireland Voices" alongside pupils from across Northern Ireland. This is an amazing achievement for Amy, who has promised to thank the English department when she wins her first Pulitzer.



English - Read On. Parkhall Gets Reading



February 10th marked the start of the annual ReadOn event in Parkhall Integrated College. Both years eight and nine swapped their normal English curriculum to become involved in a number of reading-based activities as part of the ReadOn scheme. Organised by local charity Cancer Fund For Children, pupils raised funds for this worthwhile cause whilst the English Department was given an extra chance to boost literacy and generate enthusiasm for the topic of reading.



During the launch of this event, Sarah Clements, a representative from Cancer Fund For Children, visited school to tell pupils about the important work of this charity. Pupils were interested in finding out about the different support programmes and services offered for families who may be faced with this disease. With cancer being so widespread, our ReadOn participants were keen to take part and raise as much money as they could by reading as much as possible.

Pupils ended up raising the very impressive total of £1646.00 with special prizes awarded to Sara Joseph and Karolis Laginauskas for raising the most sponsor money. A big "well done" to all the pupils who took part.

Geography - Richard Magowan Visit

Students from our year 11, 12 and 13 Leisure, Travel and Tourism classes attended an afternoon session with Richard McGowan on Wednesday 28th February. Richard is a past pupil of Parkhall College and has recently been appointed as project manager of Galgorm Resort and Spa's new school of excellence for the hospitality industry. This is an exciting opportunity for our students to gain apprenticeships and a guaranteed position at the resort upon completion. Richard chatted to our students about the travel and tourism Industry and future developments that could affect our young people in their pursuit of a career. It was an excellent introduction to real job and training opportunities in travel and tourism and a continuation of our links with the resort. I am grateful for Richard's time and support in advising our students on how to develop themselves in the world of work whilst really enjoying their chosen career.



Mantella Brings the Tropical Rainforest to Parkhall

We were delighted to welcome Karl and his tropical friends to our new school build to deliver year 8 workshops on unique rainforest animals. Some of our favourites, such as Ralph the spectacled owl and the surprisingly friendly boa constrictor, returned to be introduced to our year 8 students. We also met some new members of the Mantella family: the giant leaf cockroach, who is very particular about cleanliness, the fascinating gecko with so many amazing adaptations and the intriguing glow-in-the-dark scorpion. As always, there were plenty of fun facts, interaction and real learning about these special creatures who live and thrive in the fragile rainforests of our world. We look forward to Mantella's next visit for year 9.



Health & Social Care - Riverside School



Year 13 BTEC Health and Social Care pupils visited local Riverside School, which caters for pupils who are aged 4-19 with severe learning difficulties and profound multiple learning difficulties. Year 13 Health and Social Care pupils are currently studying a unit on supporting individuals with additional needs. As part of their assignment, pupils have to explain the benefits of adaptations and support provided to individuals with different additional needs. Miss McCann, senior school head of department, kindly gave the pupils a guided tour of Riverside School and showed pupils adaptations to equipment and teaching to enable all pupils to achieve their potential by providing a safe, secure and stimulating environment.



Year 13 Health and Social Care pupils enjoyed a visit from Northern Health and Social Care Trust social workers Deborah Dalton and Margaretta McCullough. Pupils are currently studying a unit on working in health and social care. Deborah and Margaretta give a wonderful insight into the role of a social worker and duties they carry out daily.

Bus-and-train Station Visit

Year 13 BTEC Health and Social care pupils visited the local bus and train station on Tuesday 10th October. The pupils are currently studying a unit on supporting individuals with additional needs. As part of their assignment, pupils have to explain the benefits of adaptations to buildings for individuals with different additional needs. Pupils researched the adaptations that have been put in place to doors, toilets, footpaths and public transport that allow all individuals to access the same services.



Home Economics - Foods of the World



Year 10 PA pupils have been studying foods of the world for their tracking assessment. They worked in pairs to plan and produce dishes from countries such as Mexico, France and China. A variety of dishes were cooked including chilli con carne, crepes and chow mein; however, authentic American hamburgers proved most popular with the class. The pupils worked hard and sourced a range of props to add value to their finished dishes. Well done to all.



LMC Cookery Demonstration



Year 11 Home Economics pupils were delighted to receive tasty cookery demonstrations from the Livestock Meat Commission. These demonstrations are a fantastic way to assist the learning process of GCSE Home Economics. The LMC has nine trained school cookery demonstrators who deliver messages about the nutritional benefits of beef and lamb, food safety, food hygiene, quality assurance, provenance and cooking methods.

Bushe's Bakery

Food Preparation visited our local bakery to learn about the presentation of foods and careers choices linked to the theme of 'a day in the life of a baker'. The pupils gained invaluable experience they can bring back to the classroom and use to enhance their presentation skills for food resale, which is required as part of their course. All pupils were able to research and produce a careers leaflet of possible careers they could pursue as a result of the Food Preparation course on offer at Parkhall. Once again, we would like to thank Bushe's Bakery for their continued efforts in helping us to deliver a curriculum outside the classroom.

Local Produce Visit



Year 12 GCSE Home Economics students received a talk from Mervyn Jones, who is an independent local produce consultant. Mervyn talked to the pupils about ethical and environmental issues surrounding food choices. The pupils enjoyed the talk, which helped them to complete their controlled assessment.

Year 12 Food Preparation Trip to Top of the Town

Year 12 students visited Top of the Town restaurant in Antrim to fulfil the careers element of their Occupational Studies portfolio. The pupils received a talk from sous chef Michael, and the trip proved invaluable to our students, as they gained an insight into the demanding career of a leading chef in a fast-paced dynamic restaurant environment. We thank Top of The Town for giving our pupils this experience to learn outside the classroom and for the delicious food that they put on for us.



ICT - E-Safety



In April, the PSNI came in to talk to KS3 pupils about e-safety and how to keep themselves safe when online.



E-Safety is very important to us here at Parkhall Integrated College. We want every student in our school to continue to enjoy using technology without putting themselves at risk. Many of our students do not realise how quickly they can find themselves in a difficult situation by putting their personal details and personal photos online.

We are dedicated to ensuring all our students know how to:

- * keep themselves safe online
- * know what to do when things go wrong
- * know who to contact for help, advice or support

Sentinus Visit

In November, David Pilkington from Sentinus came into school to talk to our year 13 ICT students about the IT sector in Northern Ireland. This gave our pupils the opportunity to investigate the exciting world of career opportunities offered by the information & communications technology sector in Northern Ireland. This is one of the fastest growing sectors of the Northern Ireland economy and shows no signs of slowing down. It offers plenty of exciting opportunities for young people and is 'the place to be'. Our thanks go to David for his talk and presentation to our pupils, who learned a great deal about working in the ICT sector.



LLW - Terranova Drama Production



Year 8s had the opportunity to attend a drama production brought to us by Terranova Productions. The show was called "You, Me, Us and Them" and focused on the difficulties surrounding diversity and inclusion facing our society. Year 8s have been studying this topic in both their Citizenship classes and in their Shared Education workshops with Antrim Grammar and Crumlin Integrated schools. They thoroughly enjoyed the dynamic play, featuring two of Northern Ireland's up-and-coming actors Melissa Dean and Stefan Dunbar. The pupils followed the thoughts and anxieties faced by the actors in various scenarios, and reached their own conclusions about the appropriate way to deal with them.

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Parkhall College - New Build

New Parkhall Integrated College will offer top-class education for Antrim.

The new Parkhall Integrated College may have been a long time coming but as staff and pupils kicked off 2018 in vastly different surroundings, there can be no doubt that it was worth the wait.



State-of-the-art facilities in purpose-built classrooms herald a bright future for the college, but one thing that hasn't changed is the drive and dedication to deliver the best possible education in a school which enjoys close ties with the community.

Our principal, Mr Beattie has been at the helm of the school for the last decade and has refused to give up on the vision which, for a long time, remained just out of reach.

Two-and-a-half years on, Mr Beattie, the staff and pupils are delighted with the new building and welcomed the investment in the school. "I can't stress enough how big an investment this is," he said. "It's a massive investment in the children particularly. We have explained to them that it really is a case of the Department of the Education investing £17 million in them to give them the best chance in the best facilities. It is a fantastic boost for our school, particularly when we look at previous closures of schools, the NRC campus and industries in the area. It will mean so much to our young people, staff and to the community."

Mr Beattie is aware of just how far-reaching the benefits of the new school will be, given the number of outside bodies who have used the old facilities over the years. Local groups who met there include a bowling club, a camera club, choral society and flower-arranging club, as well as the youth club. The school is delighted to be able to maintain the links with these organisations and looks forward to welcoming even more in the future.

One of the immediate differences which has already had a huge impact is the fact that the school no longer has to juggle classes and activities around a split site. Where senior and junior classes once had separate sites, the spacious new build caters for year eight right up to the newly established sixth form. "We have cut out that travel time, which gives staff longer to prepare between classes and means they can be available to students between periods.

"It will be a great relief to parents who had to manage dropping off and collecting two or more children at different sites every day. We established our sixth form in September, and, just with that first year, we welcomed fifty students and have more than 740 pupils across the school now. We are determined to keep offering the best we can for our pupils and have already had initial discussions about developing the site further."

And it is not only the change from a split site which will benefit the pupils as they begin to explore the facilities on offer in their new school. In each of the fifty-two classrooms, there is a touch screen display – a step above even the interactive whiteboards which some schools enjoy. There are nine computer rooms and an ICT iMac suite as well two more rooms with laptops and a number of Chromebooks, which are portable, allowing for research.

The Science department is state of the art, as are the new Technology and Home Economics areas, and all of this is before you even begin to take in the sports facility. Children

will have access to a gymnasium, a large sports hall and a fitness suite complete with equipment and machines, as well as five tennis pitches, two football pitches and a rugby pitch.

“Some of the children are in awe,” Mr Beattie laughed. “It’s so large and spacious, and there are a lot of lights and some really nice design as well as large corridors. I suppose it’s a reflection on the type of facility they were in before. It was old and tired and had had little or no investment, as we were promised a new build. These facilities, combined with the fact that we can cater for students right up to eighteen and nineteen, means that there is no reason for young people to leave Antrim for their education. We are delighted with how our academic performance has improved year on year but we also ensure that we offer a wide curriculum and give every pupil the best opportunity rather than focus purely on one aspect. Pupils can enjoy sports and other classes, such as Horticulture, Equine Studies and Performing Arts.

“When I came here I wanted to make sure the school was open and inclusive for everyone. We cater for every ability and those with a disability, regardless of any perceived social barriers.”

Mr Beattie is delighted that the new build will complement the education provisions already offered by Antrim Grammar School.

“Parkhall Integrated College has always been steeped in tradition and history, and we make sure to acknowledge this while continuing to develop and progress,” he said. “We will serve the children of Antrim and give them the best possible start while being part of a community and working with parents and colleagues, like those at Antrim Grammar. I must also put on record my sincere appreciation to both Antrim Grammar School and Steeple Nursery for their patience over the build. Thanks must also go to our board of governors, who have held firm and backed us up from the start, as well as the cross-party support from our political representatives. We are grateful to the Department of Education, the Minister for Education, the Education Authority, O’Hare & McGovern and the design team at BDP.”



YOUTH CLUB

Youth Club - OCN Course



Members of Parkhall Youth Club and year 12 pupils at Parkhall Integrated College (Katie, Leah, Rachel and Katie) receive their OCN level 1 Youth Development course award. This course took place at Parkhall Youth Centre and gave participants the opportunity to discover more about the theory and practice of youth work while gaining an accredited certificate from the Open College Network.

Youth Club - Yearly Review



Parkhall Youth Centre has had a successful year, with young people being recognised for their achievements in the area of volunteering and leadership. We have had fourteen young people complete their OCN Level 1 Youth Development course. In addition, five young people have completed the Millennium Volunteer 200 hour achievement. This is given to a person who has volunteered for 200 hours over their time as a junior leader.

The youth club now has fabulous facilities and access to the school sports hall, AstroTurf football pitch and its own well equipped youth social area. We are now open for annual registration, which is free. Our nightly sessions are also free.



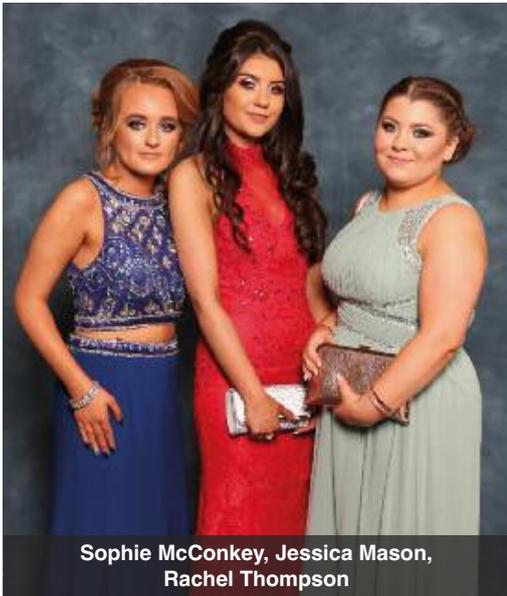
FORMAL 2018



Emma Hill, Destiny Allen, Jade Brownlee



Owen Gorman, Emma Hill



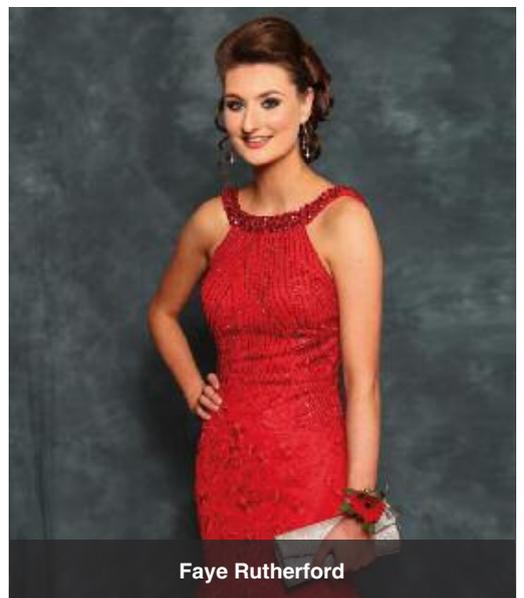
Sophie McConkey, Jessica Mason, Rachel Thompson



Gabrielle McMullan, Ellen McMullan, Emily Alexander

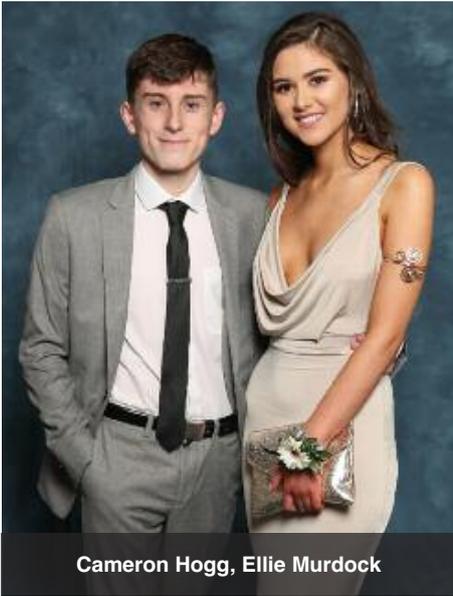


Evan Hegarty, Stuart Cooper, Jamie Kernaghan, Jamie Taylor, Mason Nutter



Faye Rutherford

FORMAL 2018



Cameron Hogg, Ellie Murdock



Gary Aitcheson, Katie Moore



Justin Agnew, Michael Smiles, Ross Craig



Georgia Lynn



Zoe Kilpatrick (head girl),
Daniel McCullough (head boy)



Emily Wilson, Abbie Brownlee, Kirsty Spence



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Work Experience



Parkhall Hosts The Lyric Theatre

On Tuesday 7th November, Parkhall Integrated College was honoured to host a performance from The Lyric Theatre in Belfast.

The play was called "Black Out" by Davey Anderson.

Its main character was a young man called James, whose personal circumstances and reactions led him into drugs and alcohol, resulting in charges of assault, arson and attempted murder.

Around ninety pupils from year 11 attended the action-packed performance and came away being encouraged to think about these social issues.

The actors were incredible and they, along with three young men who were currently serving in Hydebank, took part in a Q&A session that was both moving and informative.

Mrs DB



“ The boys from Hydebank spoke really openly. They wanted us to learn from their mistakes. ”

“ I loved watching this play. Sometimes it was funny and then really sad. ”



“ It was class. It nearly made me cry. ”



“ Made me want to talk about my problems. ”

Staff Appreciation Day



The board of governors of Parkhall Integrated College rewarded the staff with a day in Portstewart in appreciation for their hard work in moving from our old school to our fabulous new one. It started with a cooked breakfast in the canteen, then buses ferried us up to the Jet Centre in

Coleraine for 18 holes of mini golf. Some craic (and suspected cheating) was had by all. Afterwards, we were bussed to Portstewart for lunch at New York Inn and finished with a walk and ice cream at Morelli's.



LONDON TRIP

London Shared Education Council Trip to Parliament

It was very early in the morning of 23rd May when we met at the airport doors, excited for the journey ahead. Once everyone had arrived, we continued through the airport, passing security with no problems and on through to the gate.

We boarded the plane and had a safe journey. Shortly after arriving at London's Gatwick Airport, we found our bus and were soon on our way to the Parliament building.

Our bus dropped us off just outside, and we walked around, finding the nearest McDonald's. After our lunch, we had a quick walk across London Bridge and along the river, as the weather was amazing, before heading inside for our tour of Parliament.

We were met by our tour guide just inside the doors, and she took us across the courtyard into the main building. We were guided into the oldest room in the building, stopping for photo opportunities.

We moved on into Central Lobby, where we learnt about differences between the House of Commons and the House of Lords. Luckily for us, we had access to a viewing area where we could see the House of Commons mid-debate about the East Coast rail franchise.

Our group was then brought into a law and debating workshop where we were split into two teams, competing against each other for points. We also had the chance to come up with our own debate and act it out against each other. One person from each team was chosen as leader, and we came up with the topic of 'schools should be given more money and it should be split out evenly within the UK'.

Our local MP, Paul Girvan, then came in, and we had the chance to ask him questions and find out his opinion on real-life matters, how he was elected into Parliament and where his passion for it came from.

Right after that, it was back on the bus to the airport again, ending our delightful trip to London with some shopping in Gatwick before flying home.



FOOTBALL TRIP

Football Trip 2018 – Milan and Lake Garda

Following on from last year's visit to the north of Italy, Parkhall Integrated College's annual football trip returned to the beautiful town of Peschiera on the shore of Lake Garda. Having learned from last year, this time we flew into Bergamo, just an hour or so from both Lake Garda and Milan, but once again, Bella Italia campsite with its excellent bungalow accommodation would be home for the next four days.

This year, the tour was to be more leisurely than before with much less travelling and more time to spend in the campsite to enjoy the variety of pools, courts, pitches, trampolines and climbing activities on our doorstep, all bathed in sunshine and with temperatures in the high twenties.

Saturday morning was a leisurely few hours spent exploring and relaxing followed by a little shopping in the afternoon before the highlight of the weekend, a Serie A match between A.C. Milan and Hellas Verona at San Siro stadium in Milan. We were very fortunate to have excellent seats in the front row of the visitors' section and were afforded a spectacular view, not only of the match itself, but of the antics of the Ultras at their end of the stadium, which were almost as entertaining as the match itself. In the end, A.C. Milan emerged triumphant over their rivals with four goals to one, including a couple of spectacular finishes.

Sunday was our day at Gardaland, an excellent theme park only a few minutes' drive from the campsite. Those brave enough went on Oblivion and the Blue Tornado rides, but there was also much more to see and do and eat, and the weather could not have been better for a day outside having fun.

That evening's entertainment included another eagerly anticipated match that weekend: the now traditional five-a-side face-off between the pupils and the staff. With more than twice as many goals as the previous day's professional match in only twenty minutes, including a few to rival them and an own goal that was hotly debated around the barbecue later that evening, the staff continued their unbeaten streak and showed once again that they know a thing or two about *il bel gioco*.

This year's trip confirmed for everyone that the location on Lake Garda and the facilities on offer at Bella Italia campsite are ideal. We all agreed that the only way it could really have been any better would be if we could have stayed longer, and perhaps next year we will. Now, if we could just organise an A.C. and Inter Milan derby at San Siro for our next visit...





Athletics

NEBSSA Athletics Results		
Event	Pupil	Results
U13 girls' 800 metres	Arianna Drysdale	3rd
U15 girls' shot	Charlie Anna Ramsey	4th
U16 boys' high jump	Darragh Morgan	6th
U16 boys' 1500 metres	Ross McCausland	1st
U13 girls' long jump	Rylee Shaw	3rd

Sports Day 2018 Champions	
Year 8	- Arianna Drysdale
Year 9	- Tori Hamilton
Year 10	- Jorja Battishill
Year 11	- Nicole Clyde / Niamh Faulkner / Ellie Stewart

Ulster – District C Heats Results		
Event	Pupil	Results
Junior boys' javelin	David Craig	3rd – qualified for Ulster Finals
Intermediate boys' javelin	Daniel McCullough	4th – school record (31.79m)

Athletics Season

Many of our boys enjoyed a good year on the athletics track. A highly successful sports day was held at Antrim Forum in May, involving many excellent performances from boys throughout the school. This was followed up by around a dozen boys entering the NEBSSA athletics heats across many events. This competition is an area board-wide competition, so even competing at this level is recognition of talent. From these heats, many progressed into the finals. Of particular note on the athletics track is our current year 11 pupil Ross McCausland, who won both the heats and the finals in the NEBSSA competition in the 1500m, therefore being recognised as being one of the top middle-distance runners in the country – an extraordinary achievement. Rising field star David Craig, who is currently in year 10, is without doubt also one to watch. David competes in the javelin and shot putt, gaining a bronze medal in the javelin at the NEBSSA competition and breaking the school shot putt record on sports day. Again, we watch the progress of both Ross and David with a great interest.

Football Season

Football is the school's major sport for boys, but it would be fair to say that this season has been mixed across the age groups at a team level, but not so when we report on individual successes and potential.

This season, we have two team honours to boast of, with our year 11 team winning their domestic league at Mid-Antrim level, and the year 10 team winning the cup again at domestic level. These successes must be built upon, and the coaching staff and the boys themselves will do everything possible to achieve this next season. The simple fact is that we all must practise more to improve.

While the year 8 team, captained by Ross Smyth, and the year 9 team, captained by Owen Blair, competed well enough throughout the long season, both fell short of achieving that much sought-after team success. Other schools and districts have not only caught up with us but have also overtaken us in what is thought to be our number-one sport. I hope to see our boys rise to the challenge next year.

On an individual note, I am very much encouraged by the progress of many of our footballers at local club level, with approximately 80% of our players regularly playing at the weekends for their respective clubs around the area, and we in the PE department love to hear the stories they bring back from their games the following week. In this area, we watch with particular interest the continued development of Ross Smyth, Jamie Lavery and Oscar McClay in year 8, Owen Blair and Ethan Sherwood in year 9, Harry Foster and the greatly improved Ross Smillie in year 10, the excellent development at club level of year 12 pupil Reece Sloan, and, of course, our rising star Ross McCausland of Linfield FC and Club NI, who is scoring lots of goals and turning many a head in his performances for school, club and country. All these boys have shown they have the ability to play the game at a high level and, with continued determination and effort and a few lucky breaks at the right time along the way, they could go far in the game. I would like to wish them all good luck and hope they keep up the hard work.

Rugby Season

Rugby is still very much a developing sport at the school, with the year 8s and 9s working hard with the rugby development officers from both Ballyclare and Randalstown rugby clubs to improve their skill base. The focus is to get the boys introduced into the sport, often from a non-playing background.

Parkhall Boys' Report

Cricket Season

Like rugby, cricket is a sport that is very new to many of our boys when they join the school, and with it being such a technically difficult sport to play, it takes a long time to get the boys interested and up to competitive standard. Success should not be measured solely by team honours but also by the amount of interest in the game and the numbers of boys who continue to take up the sport at club level.

Last season, we were able to field four teams across the school, with over 40 boys playing competitively. The year 8 team, captained by Callum Stewart, progressed well and competed in both Ulster Schools' and friendly matches in their first season, winning a few of them along the way. A fair amount of interest was developed among this age group, so further progression is expected in the season to come. The year 9 team, captained by Max McMeekin, also progressed well and managed to win two of their five matches, with some very impressive performances along the way. Our most improved and impressive team in the school is our year 10s, captained by Ben Cunningham, who are developing very well with quite a few of them showing a keen interest and the potential to take their talent far at club level. We will continue to watch Ben's progress, along with that of David Craig, bowler Aaron Gill and wicket-keeper Ross Smillie with interest.

We have certainly been successful in getting our pupils to play the game at club level, as many of our players represent Muckamore Cricket Club from under 11 right up to senior level. In fact, the current Muckamore 1st XI is made up of no less than seven of our former pupils, nearly all of whom were initially introduced to the game at school. Of particular note at club level this season, have been Luke Allen (presently in year 13) who is a regular performer for the first eleven. Luke currently has a batting average of 42 made over a twelve-match season, scoring well over 300 runs in the process – a future star no doubt. Also representing Muckamore are Jamie Jackson (current year 12) with over 150 runs under his belt this season and Jack Kirkpatrick (current year 12), a player who rarely drops a catch, with some excellent displays in the field. Both Jamie and Jack will most certainly be in the running for most improved club cricketer of the year at this year's annual awards dinner to be held in November. This year, we will also look forward to our new star in the sport, as great things are expected of Callum Stewart in year 8, who is very handy with both bat and ball and, according to Mr Martin, is certainly one of the most technically gifted players to come through the school in quite some years.

Finally, on a cricketing note, we look forward to the arrival of our new indoor nets, which will soon be in place in our sports hall. They have been long sought after and will hopefully greatly improve the boys' skill level in both bowling and batting.



CuChulainn Cup

As part of the CuChulainn Cup preparations, Ulster GAA coaches came into Parkhall to give talks on the GAA. From this, we had coaching sessions in hurling and Gaelic football and subsequently entered a combined team with Crumlin

Integrated. As Antrim CuChulainns, we played teams from all over Ulster and, to our credit, got to the final only to be beaten by a strong Ballymoney outfit. We hope to extend this next year as the boys really enjoyed this opportunity.



Parkhall Integrated College recently received a new set of Gaelic football jerseys, sponsored by Antrim Credit Union (ACU). Principal Beattie welcomed Keith Savage from ACU

into our new school building to present the jerseys to team members on Monday 29th January 2018. The boys were delighted with the new kit and appreciate the support of ACU.



Gaelic Football Blitz

Parkhall Integrated College played in our first ever Ulster Colleges' blitz at the Dub in Belfast on 25th October 2017. Our boys were competitive in all of our five games, and we showed great character and resolve throughout. Although beaten, we scored great points from play, and Tyler scored a

screamer of a goal against the eventual winners of the tournament, Glen Road CBS. The Parkhall lads showed great promise and were bursting with enthusiasm in each game. Here's to the next blitz!



Girls' Junior Rugby

This year, we were fortunate enough to continue our links with Ulster Rugby ladies' coach, Davy Chambers. Davy came to Parkhall on a Wednesday afternoon to take the girls for a coaching session. The girls thoroughly enjoyed their time learning rugby, and some even progressed to playing outside school as well. The girls turned up in some horrendous weather conditions and were still keen to tackle and fall to the ground. We hope to continue this again next year and would love to see more girls taking up rugby.



East Antrim Under-13 Hockey League

The year 9 girls have played five matches, winning three and drawing two. They have scored nine goals and conceded only one. With two more fixtures to complete the league, it will probably come down to a final-game battle with Ballyclare Secondary School. The Parkhall goals have come from Ellie Johnson, Hannah McGrath, Danielle Olliver and Laura Barancova.



East Antrim Under-15 Hockey League

The year 11 girls have been helped out by some year 10 girls. They have played four games so far, winning three and losing one. They have both scored and conceded eight goals, with the goals coming from Katie McBride (year 10) Emma Bryne, Nicole Clyde and Niamh Faulkner. The girls have only more league fixture before the Christmas break in this league.

After Christmas, all the hockey teams commence the NEBSSA leagues, with year 8 having their first set of 11-a-side fixtures.



Aimee Johnston - Football

Aimee Johnston is a year 10 pupil at Parkhall Integrated College. She has been selected for the Regional Excellence Programme, which is run by the IFA and is made up of girls who have been selected to represent their county. This excellence programme is used to streamline girls into the Northern Ireland development and international teams. Aimee also plays for Glentoran ladies' under-15 team.



Sports Hall Athletics Co. Antrim Team

Parkhall Integrated College representatives on the U13 and U15 county teams are:

U13 Team:

Danielle Olliver,
Adrianna Drysdale,
Rylee Shaw,
Callum Lyndsay,
Daniel Moorman

U15 Team:

Aimee Johnston,
Hannah Adams,
Ross McCausland

Junior Girls' Rugby

Parkhall Integrated College has been extremely lucky to have Davy Chambers on board in the school this year. Davy is a coach for Ulster Rugby and is trying to improve the sport in our local area. He has been coming in to school to coach girls and boys during Games lessons but has also come in on a Wednesday afternoon to coach full contact rugby to our girls for the first time.

We have had a great turnout, and the girls have thoroughly enjoyed it. As a result of this, some of the talented girls who play have joined local clubs Randalstown RFC and Ballyclare RFC.



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Katie Woods - GB Team - DMT (Double Mini Trampoline)



Parkhall Integrated College year 9 pupil Katie Woods is one of the rising stars of British gymnastics, representing Great Britain in the unique event that is double mini-trampoline (DMT).

In this event, she has to coordinate her body between two mini-trampolines that have been joined in the middle. The first section of the apparatus is set at a slight angle and called the mount. From the mount, skills are performed onto the second section of the apparatus. This second section is called the spotter and is where skills can be performed back onto the trampoline bed or as a dismount onto the landing mat.

Double mini-trampoline can be likened to a combination of athletics, trampolining and gymnastics. Competitors sprint down a carpeted track and hurdle onto the apparatus before performing double and triple somersaults with the same precision required on a trampoline. The only difference is that gymnasts have to land on a trampoline bed less than a quarter the size of a trampoline before performing a dismount onto a landing mat.

This is a highly technical and difficult sport, and Katie has a tremendous talent in this event, reaching the top of this sport for her age group. Her most recent event was with the Great Britain junior DMT team at the Loulé Cup in Portugal on 5th-6th October.

In the team event, Katie and the other junior girls won the gold medal, competing against nations from all around the world.

In her individual event, Katie was lying in third going into the final round after she had performed two great passes in prelims. Unfortunately, she had a mishap in the final round, keeping her out of the medals, but did amazingly well to make her first international final for GB on her first outing. In the end, she was placed eighth overall.

Katie has also been awarded a Mary Peter Trust Award and went along in May to collect a cheque to help with her training and progress to the world championships.

She also competed at the end of May in the Northern Ireland Championships and achieved the following:
Northern Ireland champion for FIG 13-14-year-old girls in DMT

Second place in FIG 13-14-year-old trampoline

Second place in women's open trampoline

Winners of the team FIG group section

Katie also attended the British qualifiers in May and secured a place in the final, coming home with a bronze medal in the DMT 13-14-year-old group. Katie now needs to place in the finals and achieve the qualifying score for a chance at the World Age Group competition in Russia.

Parkhall Integrated College would like to congratulate Katie on her tremendous achievements and to wish her all the best for the rest of the season.





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Morgan Hannah - Football

Morgan Hanna is a year 8 pupil in Parkhall Integrated College. She currently plays football for Crusaders and the Northern Ireland 2006 squad. Her main position is centre midfield. Morgan trains with Northern Ireland every Monday, Tuesday and Sunday at Jordanstown. Alongside this, she fits in training with Crusaders two nights a week and matches on a Saturday in the South Belfast Youth League. Last Season, Morgan was Crusaders' youth player of the year. Morgan is continuing the long line of girls from Parkhall Integrated College who have represented Northern Ireland. Congratulations and well done.



Year 12 Boys Put Through Their Paces by The Royal Marines

On Wednesday 11th October, Mr Martin took sixteen of our year 12 pupils to Palace Barracks in Holywood to have a day out with the Royal Marines.

This was no normal day out as the boys would agree; they were certainly put through their paces and given a small insight into what life may be like as a marine.

The boys took part in rifle shooting, zip-lining, fitness training, team-building exercises and the highlight of the day: the armed and unarmed physical combat display, in which the marines certainly showed their ability to disable a combatant.

At the end of the day's activities, all of the boys agreed that they had hugely enjoyed their day and got a great insight into what daily life may be like in the armed forces.



SPORTS DAY



SPORTS DAY



East Antrim U13 Hockey League



Away – Larne – drew 0-0.

A mix-up on leaving school left the girls with only eleven players to start the game with and no substitutes. Regardless of this, the girls played their hearts out and were very unlucky to go down to ten players early on, as one of the team took unwell. The remaining ten battled hard and should have easily won the game, as they forced several penalty corners and had numerous shots cleared by last-ditch defending. Larne were only able to penetrate the circle twice in the whole game. This was a decent start to the league campaign in what was only their second ever 11-a-side game.

Away – Ulidia – drew 1-1.

The girls got off to a very slow start and conceded a poor goal. At half time, after a stern talk from Miss Huey, the girls upped their game and had the bulk of the possession. Ellie Johnson scored a great goal from a penalty-corner strike. Rachel Shiels had a goal cleared off the line and Ellie had another penalty corner strike just miss the post. A much improved second-half performance.

Away – Downshire – won 1-0.

An excellent game from the girls. They all played brilliantly from start to finish. All the things they have been practising they took into the match. They could have won by five or six more goals had it not been for some very good goal-keeping from Downshire. The goal eventually came from some excellent individual work from Rachel Shiels in the right-hand corner of the circle.

Away – Carrick College – won 2-0.

Another excellent game from the girls. They fought tirelessly on the thick gravel at Carrick. They had 99% of the ball in Carrick's half of the pitch for the whole game but couldn't turn their possession into more than two goals. The first goal was a scrappy goal mouth scramble which Laura Barancova converted. The second was a penalty corner strike from Ellie Johnson.

Home - Glengormley High – won 5-0.

A mixed game despite the large scoreline. Glengormley were a weak team and let us get away with lots of silly mistakes, but not to take away from the girls, they kept working hard and could have scored more goals. The goals came from Ellie Johnson, Hannah McGrath, Danielle Olliver (2) and Laura Barancova.

East Antrim U15 Hockey League



Away – Larne – won 3-0.

A mixture of year 11 and year 10 girls came together to play Larne. The team settled well into a good game for Parkhall, where they created numerous chances and could have had a larger score line than the 3-0 win. Katie McBride (year 10) scored two very good goals, coming off the right wing to pounce at the back post. Emily Byrne scored the third goal after some good attacking play down the centre of the pitch by Nicole Clyde. Niamh Faulkner was unlucky on two occasions, as were Nicole Clyde and Katlyn Rooney. A good team performance to start the league campaign off with.

Away – Ballyclare – lost 8-0.

Ballyclare Secondary school have won the league for the past three years and have been NI High School champions. This was going to be a very difficult task. The girls stuck to their tasks as best they could and defended for their lives, keeping the score below double figures.

Home – Downshire – lost 4-1.

The first half was very competitive and was end to end with lots of shots on target. The score at half-time was 2-1 to Downshire, with the Parkhall goal coming from Ella Thompson. During the second half, Downshire had more opportunities than Parkhall and were more clinical in their finishing.



NEBSSA HOCKEY



U13 – Home – Slemish – 1-0 win.

The girls' first game after a long Christmas break. A great 1-0 win following a brilliant strike from Ellie Johnson at the top of the circle. They could have scored five or six but for the Slemish goalie.

U13 – Away – Magherafelt – MINIBUS ISSUE

U16 – Away – Ballyclare High – 3-0 loss.

A very good game was played by this team comprised of a mixture of year 11 and year 12 girls. This was the first match for the year 12 group. Both sets of girls gelled well and played a very good game of hockey. They competed with the Grammar girls exceptionally well, and the only difference was in the quality of the finishing. Parkhall had lots of chances and were in the Ballyclare circle lots of times but couldn't capitalise, whereas Ballyclare had fewer chances and were more clinical.

U16 – Home – Ballymena Academy – 4-0 win.

A very good game was played by the girls, with some excellent running off the ball and interplay between the midfielders and forwards. Goals came in both halves from Emily Wilson, Katie Ann Bailie, Charley Robinson and Nicole Clyde. Zoe Kilpatrick made her debut in goals and made some very good saves.

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NEBSSA Finals Day - Wednesday 20th June

This year our U13 and U14 teams both qualified for the NEBSSA league finals, which we hosted at our own Parkhall multi-surface pitch.

Our U13 girls were one of three teams to qualify along with Slemish College and Magherafelt High.

The results were as follows:

Parkhall 1 - 0 Slemish

Parkhall 1 - 0 Magherafelt

Magherafelt 0 - 1 Slemish

Following two wins, the Parkhall girls were outright winners, with two very well deserved goals from Ellie Johnston. The girls played really well as a team, and all of them earned their gold medal.



Team – Elli Watkins, Cassidy Douglas, Maria Garvin, Danielle Olliver, Katie Mitchell, Hannah Carson, Ellie Robinson, Chloe Hanna, Rachel Shiels, Chloe Rainey, Hannah McGrath, Becki Freeburn, Ellie Johnson (C).



Team – Kailyn Manson, Charlie Anna Ramsey, Jodie Anderson, Sian McMurray, Abbie Wilgaus, Ella Thompson, Jorja Battishill, Ellie Robinson, Jessica Davis (C), Jessica Rivers, Rachael Fleming, Amy Fullerton, Anais McCreight, Leah McAdorey.

Our fourteen girls made it through to the final against Slemish College but were beaten on the day by a better team. However, the Parkhall girls did themselves proud. They fought hard, and at half-time the score was 0-0, which gave us a boost of confidence, but in the second half, although our girls tackled and defended well, Slemish came out and battled hard. Ellie made some fantastic saves in goal, but Slemish were quick on the rebound. The girls were unfortunate to lose 3-0 overall.



Notes



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