

Athletics

On Wednesday 29th June I went to Monkton Stadium with some of my friends Holly, Kaitlin, Freddie, Abbie, Danny, Harley S, Joshua and Leslie-Ann to take part in an athletics competition. There were lots of different events going on like running, high jump, long jump and the shot putt. I asked if I could do the running which was 800m, football dribble and shot putt. I was very nervous at first but after a few goes at the shot putt I started to really enjoy it and believe in myself that I could do it. I actually came forth out of my group. My next event was running. I made it round the first lap but was starting to get tired on my second round so the other Emma (LSA) ran around with me and although I found it tough I pushed myself through and never gave up and I am super proud of myself for finishing the race. I am so looking forward to the next event! - Emma, 9W



Emma gave the Shot Putt her best effort and Zoeya shows her medal



At the beginning of the summer term, Shayne in year 10, agreed to learn to ride a two wheeler bike. After lots of hard work balancing, steering and pedalling with support he successfully made the massive leap and set off round the playground by himself with 'massive smile' on his face. What a fantastic achievement Shayne, well done!



Newcastle United Foundation

On Friday afternoons we have been having some training from Lewis who works for the Newcastle United Foundation. We go down to the all weather pitches at Walker Riverside

Academy to play because it's a bigger and better space than the grass area we have here. Before we start, Lewis goes over some rules of the game which are:

You have to pass the ball (you can't iust keep it to vourself) No slide tackles. Be nice and support one another Be a good sport When we get there

we have a 20 minute game of footie then 20



NUFC Foundation training has been a huge hit with students!

minutes of football training. We do things like dribbling the ball between cones and then at the end you have to 'shoot' at goal! Another thing we do is passing the ball back and forwards. We finish up with another 20 minute game and we try and use the skills we have practiced. I am really enjoying the training and my passing of the ball has im-

Panathalon

In June we went to a Panathlon which is a bit like a sports contest. There were three teams. Red, yellow and grey. We were on the yellow team. We played different games and scored point's for our team. Some of the games were: throwing sticky balls towards the target basketball and the standing long jump. My favourite was where you had to see how many jumps you could do in 60 seconds. Damien, 8B









In humanities, we have been learning about the rainforests. There are seven rainforests in the world. There are lots of trees and plants in the rainforests and they make up different layers. The top layer is called the emergent layer and at the very bottom is the undergrowth or

the forest floor.

There are loads and loads of animals living in the rainforests, timeline because she is the grand old age of 102. She had a and insects as well. You would often find monkeys and snakes picture in every decade. - We celebrated with a whole school street party at the end in the rainforest and different types of frogs and even of the week in the heart and were treated with a visit from leopards. We also talked about the animals being predators the gueen; Mrs Guiliani was our gueen for the day. We had fun and hunting other kinds of animals. and cheered for the queen.

We had the 'Bugs 'n Stuff' man called Guy, in school. He brought animals and insects into school. When Guy was getting the animals out he gave us some rules like we had to

be guiet and calm. He then showed us all the animals and talked about them while he was passing them round talking about what they can do and whether they were dangerous or if they were a predator, and also about what they eat. Guy brought a stick insect into school and when it stays still it is camouflaged and you can't

really see it. He also

brought in a scorpion, but

we could only look at it we



The aptly named 'aiant leaf insect'

couldn't have it on our hand in case it stung us. He also brought in a snake. It was just a baby one. And there was a millipede too but it was a really big one, not like the little ones you get in a garden here.

I was really brave and held the millipede and I was touching the snake's tail, it was guite dry and not slimy like you would think.

My favourite bit of 'Bugs 'n Stuff' was looking at big spider. - Ryan, 9W

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



We celebrated Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee in June. Each year group had a decade and the school had a timeline in the heart. Year 7's decade was 'the noughties' and we stuck pictures of key events along the time line. Staff stuck pictures of themselves as babies in the decade they were born. Mrs Anderson's great Aunty Frankie started the



Queen Elizabeth has been queen for 70 years. The party in the heart was really good. We sang the national anthem and had other songs from all the different years. We also found out that the queen has four children of her own and lives in Buckingham Palace but sometimes stays at Windsor Castle. - Thomas & Zara, 7BK



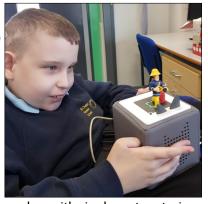
We had great fun during our Jubilee street party and were so pleased the Queen could make it

Sir Charles Parsons School



Latest News from The Friends of Sir Charles Parsons School

At the beginning of the year 'The Friends of...'were gifted £290 of Amazon gift vouchers from Steve Henson and his company in Germany. They asked that we use it towards reading materials and books for our young people. After looking at many options we decide to



purchase two 'tonie' boxes along with six character stories to go with them. We decided to purchase these instead of only books as students with complex needs are able to interact with them more meaningfully. The boxes allow students to play stories, as well as develop their understanding of cause and effect (by moving the character to start and stop the story). It also means that students are able to be more independent when accessing stories.



In February, our year 11 students decided to make and sell Valentines crafts to raise money for the charity. The sale of handmade cards. scrabble tins, cakes and biscuits raised nearly £250.

At Easter, we were unfortunately still not able to hold our coffee mornings, so instead we held an Easter

raffle. This was very successful, being supported by parents, carers and friends, as well as staff. This raffle raised £896.

Throughout the year we have continued to use the 'Rag Bag' scheme to recycle textiles. Since December when we last updated you, the donations that you have made have allowed us to raise a further £94.80.

We were delighted to be able to hold our first real summer fair since December 2019...over two and a half years ago! We had over 150 people attending which was one of our best turnouts yet. It was lovely to have some volunteers to help out at this event, parents, grandparents and some of our staffs' relatives. A big thank you goes to Zachary from 7BK's family. Not only did they volunteer on the day, but they visited school before hand, and planned and sourced their own stalls.

Please get in touch if you would like to get involved with future events, it really does make a huge difference!

We were also extremely lucky that we had some fantastic prizes donated to the raffle to go alongside crafts created by students. In addition to this, school staff were very generous with their time creating and preparing items at home, from cakes, to hand grown plants. All of these donations enabled us to raise a whopping £2923 which is our best yet!



In April, a theatre company came along to our school. M&M productions performed 'Oliver Twist' an hour long show for our key stage three students. This was made possible thanks to a very kind donation from 'Happy Days Children's Charity' who funded the performance. Béfore Christmas, in our English lessons we have been learning about Oliver Twist. So we were all excited and happy when we found out that we had a theatre group coming into school. When we went along to the hall we were surprised to see it was completely different. There was a stage, there were bright lights and the Oliver Twist tune was playing. Then the actors came on. First was Oliver Twist himself. He was in the workhouse. Then Mr Bumble came out. He is a nasty character, he shouts and stamps his staff pole on the ground and he nearly lifted Oliver up by his ear! Mr Sowerberry came on next, he was a nice man, he wanted to take Oliver away from the workhouse to live with him. Dodger was another boy and he wasn't very kind to Oliver and took him to Fagan's house. Fagan was an evil old man, who looked terrifying and scary, he wanted Oliver and Dodger to steal money from people's pockets. Nancy was Fagan's assistant and didn't want Oliver to do this so she took him away from Fagan's house. Nancy had a boyfriend who was called Bill Sykes who was a bad man and a bully. He got angry when she tried to take Oliver away from Fagan's place. Eventually Nancy arranged for Mr Brownlow (who was Oliver's grandad) to come and meet her under the bridge where she told him where Oliver was. He went and told the police so that Oliver was rescued from the bad people. It was a very happy ending. We all thought it was excellent and good. The best bits were that the stage kept switching every time a bit of the story was finished. The songs were great and so was the acting.

- Javid, Chris and Ryan, Year 9



Student Employment

This half term we have been able to re-introduce 'Student Employment' into our lunch time routines. Ibrahim applied for one of the roles and after an interview was appointed to 'Lunchtime Assistant'. "I wanted to get the job because I like to help people by asking them what they want. So, I go around and give the juice out. I remove used glasses from the table and put clean ones out. I wipe down any tables once people are finished to make it clean for the next students coming in. I also take empty plates away for those students who find it hard to take their own. Some of my friends from KS4 also work. There is a rota so that we know when we are working, like which days and which half on lunch time. But, because I like doing the job so much I look on rota each day to see if anyone is absent and I cover their shift. I get paid in school credits which I am saving up to buy a football from the Argos catalogue." – Ibrahim 10G



Ibrahim using his elbow grease to get Fatima's table looking spic and span!



Sixth Form Hub - In the last week the building of our new modular classrooms has been completed. The 'Hub' houses four classrooms. Three of these will be the base for our current sixth form, whilst the fourth will be a more specialist sensory area.

Work Experience

"I have been doing my work experience at Sir Charles Parsons school since the Easter holidays. I do it on a Monday for the morning. I start at 9.30 and then finish at 12.20 when I head back to Walker Riverside for my lunch.

I have been working with Ms Chalder-Wood, she teaches food technology. I help all the classes that she has on a Monday morning. There has been twice when I have been able to 'take over' and give the instructions to the students. But most of the time I am there to help all of the students.

The topic that we have just been doing is food from around the world. My favourite bit was helping the students to make 'pain au chocolate' because it was a bit fiddly for some of them.

I have really enjoyed being with Ms Chalder-Wood, she has helped me to get better at using kitchen equipment and has also helped me to be more confident. - Rebecca SCPS @WRS year 1

Rebecca demonstrating how to use the hob



Some of out other students have also been doing work experience. They shared their thoughts: **Demi -** My work experience was brilliant. I loved helping in sensory lessons with Miss Grahamslaw. Brandon - I enjoyed my work experience. Helping in forest school with Tom was good. I enjoyed hunting for bugs with students in year 8. **Denise** - I really do enjoy my work experience. I like playing games with the students and helping with the music. I like making the students smile and I enjoy working with Ella.

Year 10 D of E Expedition Training

Some of our students in years 10 and 11 have been completing their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award this year. They have been working very

hard to achieve all four sections of the award. To gain your certificate you must dedicate 1 hour a week for 3 months carrying out volunteering work, 1 hour a week for 3 months learning a new skill and 1 hour a week for 6 months improving your physical fitness. Towards the end of their award students must undertake an expedition. They will camp overnight and journey for 12 hours over two days. Our pupils have begun to learn the navigation and camping skills they will require to complete this challenge. We started by navigating a simple route in Walker close to the school and have just completed a training walk in Chopwell woods. Year 10 students completed a route known as 'the old railway footpath' at Chopwell Woods, which is a 1.5 mile circular walk through mixed woodland.

During this walk they demonstrated that they were able to navigate the correct route, stay together as a team and walk at a pace that was suitable for the whole group. They represented the school really well. We explored different plants and trees and stopped for a moment to watch a squirrel running up and down a tree. Those who were feeling adventurous tasted a woodland plant called wood sorrel which tastes like apple skins.

Here are some thoughts from our students... Harley - "It was so beautiful to get out with all my friends and look at the trees and woods". Jake - "The only time I've been to the countryside was to visit my uncle, it was good to be back. I liked laughing with my friends about the smell of the horse poo".

Lesley-Ann - "It's not strict in the countryside, more people are happy to say hello". Rene - "I want to try a harder route next time". Andrew - "The apple leaves were delicious".



Year 10 DofE students in training for their big expedition in the new school year



Year 11 D of E Expedition

This year students in year 11 have been undertaking their bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. One of the required sections is expedition. This involves two days of journeying and one overnight

camp. I am pleased to say that all of our students have now successfully completed their full bronze award. What did we do for our expedition?

Students helped to plan two days of walking. The first day took us from Segedunam roman fort in Wallsend to the millennium bridge at the quayside, following the Hadrian's Way cycle route this journey totalled 8km. The second day followed the old Bowes Railway footpath from Tanfield all the way to the Angel of the North. This journey totalled 7km.

We spent a night in tents at a campsite called Birkheads Wild, near Tanfield. The group cooked their own dinner and breakfast, sang songs around the campfire and enjoyed feeding the goats.

This is what Richard had to say about the experience ...

What did you have to do for you expedition? "We were dropped off at the location and had to follow signs and a map to do a really long walk, then we got the bus to our campsite, set up camp, and made a suitable warm meal. We did another walk the second day which was shorter but on more rocky roads. We finished at the Angel of the North and celebrated".

What was your favourite part?

"The walk because it was really enjoyable, I got to know my friends a bit better and it was good exercise". What did you cook?

"Noodles for tea and porridge and banana for breakfast" How was it?

"the porridge was a bit watery but the noodles were nice". How was it sharing a tent with your friends?

"Difficult getting to sleep, we were excited after the campfire and Connor had too much sugar. It's my first time camping with friends and it was pretty good". How do you feel to have achieved your full bronze award? "Really excited to get the certificate, it's emotional to get to the end in one piece".



Year 11 DofE expedition, taking in the iconic 'Angel of the North' and resting up at camp





We all have some things that are the same as others as well as things that are different. LGBTQ+ stands for 'Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Questioning' and + It's almost the end of the summer term already - another stands for lots of different identities and types. school year has flown by. June is the month of Pride. We have been learning about As always there has been lots going on, but I think what this means. We learnt that in the 1930's people were everyone in school would agree that the best part of the sent to jail for loving someone of the same gender. In the year has been 'getting things back to normal'. After two 1960s people had to meet in secret. We looked at different years where covid dominated every decision and event it's people who had stood up for what they believed in, to say been wonderful to get back to focusing on making sure the they were gay. They should not have had to as it should not students are enjoying, learning and achieving and making matter. The month of Pride comes from the word 'proud' and the most of every day they are with us. it encourages everybody to be proud of themselves. The very sad news of Cameron Wraith passing away in May, Everybody is different and this should be celebrated. really brought home to everyone how important it is for us Imagine a world where we all looked the same and liked the all, but for our students in particular, to make the most of same things it would be very weird and boring. Be proud of every minute we have. who you are and embrace it. Differences should not matter. It's been lovely to have parents and carers back in the - King John, 11A



Our 'Pride Rainbow' Artwork

In Art Award we visited the Biscuit Factory. We took a look Building the new teaching rooms meant that the school lost at a variety of Art including abstract pictures and realistic some of its outdoor space, in particular the area used for portraits. Some of the pictures showed different emotions cycling. We are very lucky to have a large amount of by the way they were drawn and the colours used. outdoor space and hope to continue to develop and make We were all quite shocked by the prices of the art. Some the most of it. Over the summer we hope that the final pieces cost a few thousand pounds! phase of the building work will be carried out which will We would like to go again to see new art work. It was a good provide space for using and storing the school's fleet of afternoon. bikes. This will allow us to store and maintain the bikes By Year 11 Art Awards safely and will also provide a safe and secure cycle trail on group the school site for use by all our students using bikes, trikes and other accessible cycle equipment. We are very grateful to the local authority who have funded the building work and are supporting the school to ensure that as we grow we still continue to provide the best learning spaces and opportunities we can for our Our year students. However, building a fantastic cycle trail would be 11 Årts useless if we didn't have the equipment to allow the Award students to access it. We continue to be immensely students; grateful to everyone who supports our fundraising efforts, in whatever way they can. Our school is a wonderful place James, to be a part of part of, and part of what makes it Magda, wonderful is the community that it sits within, the King John, community created by the students and staff and their Connor, families, the local people and businesses who support Jake F, us - thank you to all of you for helping to make Sir Charles Richard, Parsons the wonderful school that it is. Andrew and I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I'm looking Holly forward to showing you all the new classrooms and outdoor spaces in the autumn term. Karen Hamilton

Letter from the Head



building for parents evenings and the summer fair was possibly the best attended event in the history of the school! Students have been taking part in city wide events such as the climate change summit and the singing competition. These type of events are incredibly important for supporting our students to gain confidence, to develop their communication skills and learn about the world outside of school - and also for letting the wider world know about our students and how amazing they are. During two years of lockdowns, restrictions and covid, the school has continued to grow and expand with building work almost completed now on the second - and last - of the new classroom blocks. As well as the Learning Lodge, we now also have the Learning Hub. The Hub is a block of four classrooms designed to be our new 6th form base. The buildings are complete and the last of the groundworks should be completed over the summer holidays ready for use in September.



Nosy Questions Adam & David C interviewed Office Kath on her retirement plans...

Q1. So, we know that you are going to retire today, but how long have you worked at Sir Charles Parsons? A: 18 Years! I started back in 2004.

Q2. How are you going to spend your free time now? What

are you going to eat and drink when you retire? A: I can do anything I want to do! I'm going to eat fish and chips, and maybe drink a gin and tonic! I like to read and knit, too. Although, I'm not that good at it! We've got a granddaughter as well, and another on the way. I'll bake and bring cakes in for you, too!

Q3. Where are you going to go on holiday first? A: I'm going to Majorca on Sunday. I'd like to go to America next year as well ..

Q4. What is your favourite thing that you have learnt to do on the computer here?

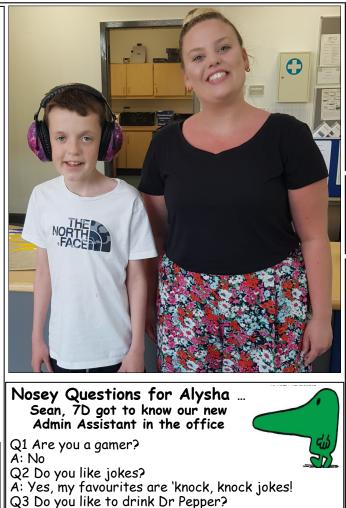
A: Ah yes! How to lock your computer! You press the Microsoft key and L! Easy. I learnt how to do it last year! Q5. Who are you going to spend all your time with now? A: My husband, Andy. The rest of my family as well. Q6. We are going to really miss having you here. Will you miss us too?

A: Of course, I will miss everyone! Especially after that performance in the hall from Barry and the ice-cream men this afternoon. Yes, I'll miss all the students and staff here, and I'll come back any time!

Barry serenaded Kath with medley of Maria Carey's 'All I want for Christmas is you! (her most hated song), followed by two of her favourites, Barry Manilos 'Copacabana' and Elton John's 'I'm Still Standing.' After

all of that singing and dancing Mr Browell and his sidekick John arrived in the Ice-Cream cart with ice cold treats for all





A: Yes but my favourite fizzy drink is diet Coke. Q4 How old are you? A: 23 now, 24 in September. Q5 Where did you used to work? A: 'Clarity Informatics' a doctors and nurses service. Q6 Where do you like to eat out?

A: Burger King because it's very tasty. I usually get a 'whopper meal' with all the sauces and extra gherkins. I also have mayonnaise with my chips. Q7 Do you have any pets?

A: Yes, I have two cats, Echo and Boomer. Q8 What is your favourite TV show?

A: Stranger Things. My favourite character is Will. Q9 Do you ever like to have a lazy day?

A: Absolutely! I like to sit in the garden if it's sunny and read a book. Or sit in my pyjamas eating sweet treats and watching tele.

Q10 What do you like about working here? A:Seeing everyone's smiling faces.

Q.11 What kind of holiday do you like?

A: I like a camping holiday. I love a hot holiday in Turkey. But camping is my favourite. I just love the camp fire and the smell of it. I like to take my little brother and make 'smores.

Q12 What do you like to do in your spare time? A: I like to dance and sing. I actually teach dance in my spare time.

Q13 What is your favourite ice-cream?

A: Salted Caramel in a tub, and sometimes I treat myself to a flake, and sometimes even sprinkles and red sauce if I'm having a Mr Whippy.

Q14 What was your favourite lesson in school?

A: Performing Arts

Q15 Who is your favourite singer or band?

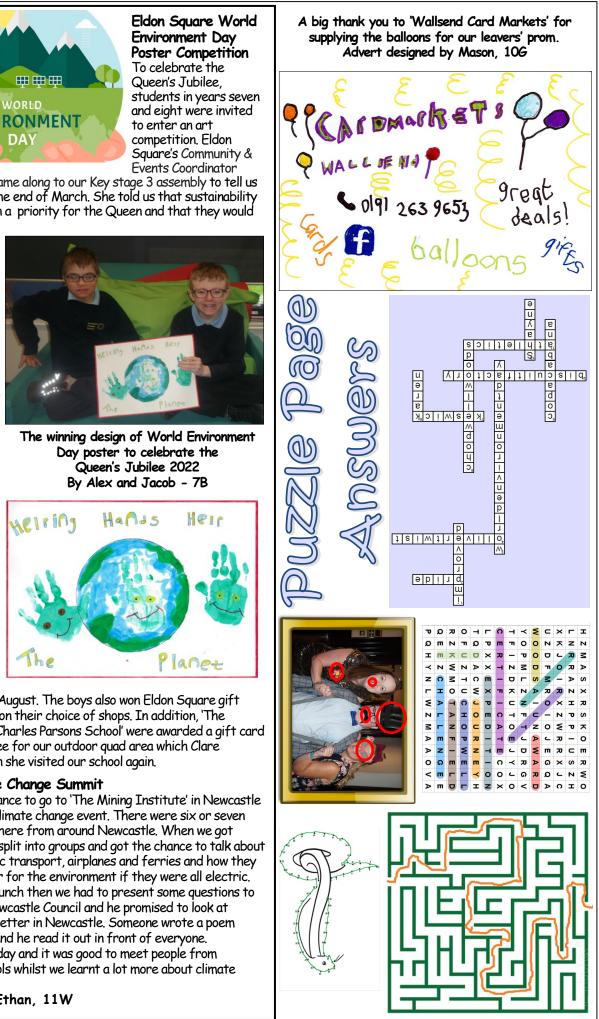
A: The Venga Boys.



Environment Day Poster Competition To celebrate the Queen's Jubilee, to enter an art competition. Eldon Square's Community &

Clare Cannon, came along to our Key stage 3 assembly to tell us all about it at the end of March. She told us that sustainability has always been a priority for the Queen and that they would like us to

design some posters to help raise awareness of World Environment Day on 5th June. At the beginning of May, we got a call to say that Jacob and Alex from 7B had won!



The posters entered in the competition were displayed on their Facebook page, and the winning design by Alex and

Jacob will be

featured on

Eldon Square

Gift Card

throughout

wallet



June, July and August. The boys also won Eldon Square gift cards to spend on their choice of shops. In addition, 'The Friends of Sir Charles Parsons School' were awarded a gift card and an apple tree for our outdoor guad area which Clare presented when she visited our school again.

Youth Climate Change Summit

We had the chance to go to 'The Mining Institute' in Newcastle for the youth climate change event. There were six or seven other schools there from around Newcastle. When we got there we were split into groups and got the chance to talk about things like public transport, airplanes and ferries and how they would be better for the environment if they were all electric. We had a nice lunch then we had to present some questions to the head of Newcastle Council and he promised to look at making things better in Newcastle. Someone wrote a poem about the day and he read it out in front of everyone. It was a great day and it was good to meet people from different schools whilst we learnt a lot more about climate change.

- Holly and Ethan, 11W

Calvert Trust Lake District

In March we went to Calvert Trust in Keswick for a five day residential experience along with lots of other sixth form students from our school. This was the first residential trip for any students away from school for three years because of Covid. We had an amazing time even though we all felt a little homesick at times. We did some great activities which were challenging but really good fun.

We went kayaking. Before we went onto the water, we got our waterproofs and life jackets, and split into two teams. To make the kayaks more stable, two kayaks are 'logged' together so they don't tip. We kayaked down the lake having a race with lots of splashing each other's boats. We got to the shore and had a cuppa and a rest. Then we got back into the boats and had some team games racing to collect balls in the water on our way back to the boathouse.

We went on the climbing wall and prepared for climbing by putting on harnesses and helmets. We climbed the climbing wall using different routes and grips to get to the top. Some of us abseiled through the hatch in the celling into the sports hall which was scary but fun.

Up in the trees at the back of the centre was the high ropes course. Here we tried to balance through the trees on different obstacles. We were tied on by ropes so if we slipped it would catch us and we could try again. After this we went to the zipwire and ziplined down from the trees back to the center. The zipline was really fast and a little bit scary, but we loved it.

The swimming pool was amazing, it was warm and relaxing, it had lights, music and a projector that put great pictures and videos onto the wall. It was a good way to end our days after being so busy, it was very relaxing.

On a night walk we walked a hillside path in the dark with torches, listening for wildlife and looking at the stars. It was a little bit scary at first, but we had a fun time. We had to wrap up warm as it was chilly but when we got back, we had hot chocolate. Our favourite activity was ghyll scrambling which is where you go walking through rivers. This was really exciting, we climbed up the rocks and waterfalls in the river, going through deep pools and getting very wet. We helped each other to get past hard bits and slippy bits. At the top of our climb, we crawled through a watery tunnel to get to the finish. It was great fun and a good laugh.

- Josh S and Domingos, 6th Form



Kira has a go at ghyll scrambling



Up, up, up Katie goes!

Jamie loved horse riding



Holly, Josh S, Robbie and Domingos had a great time kayaking across Bassenthwaite Lake



On Friday 15th July it was our prom night. Everyone got dressed up. Most of the males at the prom event were wearing a suit with a blazer and waistcoat. I wore a three piece suit with a green rose in the jacket chest pocket. I went with my pastoral teacher. When I got there, the first thing I saw was the

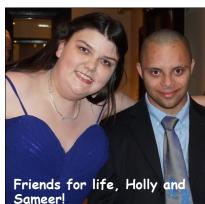
Leavers Prom

entrance which was really nice and interesting with flags on the

outside. I saw Mr Isaac and he opened the door for me. We walked upstairs together and I was greeted by Mr Bevan and he offered to take a photo, I said 'sure'. After my photo I went



around saying hi to people then I sat down with Amber, Terry and their families, and King John came and sat with us too. After a while we had food, then we had an award ceremony. My award was for 'walking confidently round school', or with a 'mega strut' according to Mrs Anderson. Then as I was standing up to get a drink I got dragged on to the dancefloor by Janine and Marsha and some other



fellow staff members. My favourite dance of the night was with Mrs Anderson. I left at about 10.15pm. My dad picked me úp and . took some pictures of us at the entrance. If I had to give it a mark I would give it 10/10. Shah, 11A



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Newcastle Singing Festival

Our school was invited to take part in the Newcastle singing Festival. There were also 18 other schools participating. First, we went to the Laing Art Gallery to



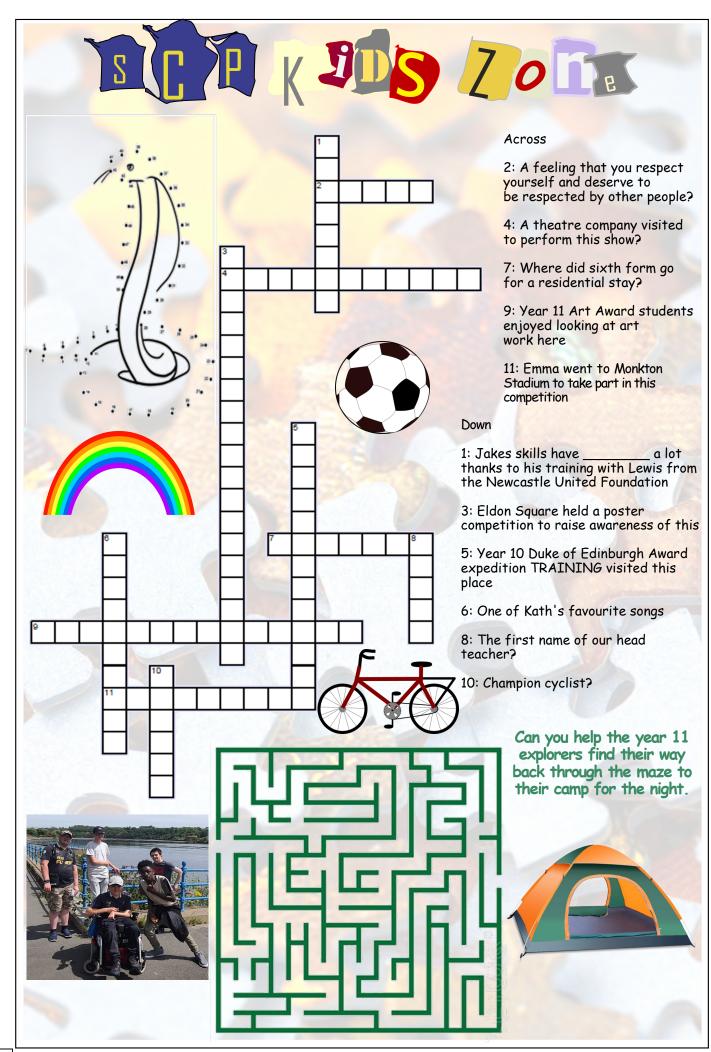
perform then to Newcastle City Library. Students from year seven went in the morning and year eight went in the afternoon. We sang and signed to three songs that were; 'One Call Away,' 'Cover Me in Sunshine' and 'I Love My Life.' Word went around we were so good that the organiser, Miles, came to see our last performance in the afternoon. It was lovely to see so many parents and carers come along to watch us and Mary from the SALT team as well as the general public. This was our first performance since lockdown and it was brilliant! - Freddie & Joe, 8H





The 'RagBag' textile recycle bin is situated at the front entrance of school. It takes any clean, wearable clothing, as well as bags, belts and paired shoes.

If you would like some bags sent home, please let the school office know. Or alternatively use your own bags, tied and clearly marked 'RagBag'.



Mrs Anderson, David and Lindsay?



JOURNEY

TANFIELD **EXPEDITION**



RZ K W M O T A N F I E L D QE EZCHALLENGEE P Q H Y N L W Z M A A O V A

7