

# PARKLANDS CORE VISION

**P** POSITIVE

Ensure that Parklands students are inspired by means of a holistic curriculum, with a range of opportunities and experiences that will promote a love of learning, both within and beyond subject specialisms.

**A** ACHIEVE

Ensure a core expectation that achievement is realised by every one of our students, by means of a tailored and personalised curriculum.

**R** RESPECT

Ensure that every member of the Parklands community is safe, secure and valued and that behaviour standards promote this ethos of respect for the diversity of our community.

**K** KEY SKILLS

Ensure that our students are prepared not only in terms of excellent results, but also equipped to exercise those core skills in order to become successful adults in the 21st Century and beyond.

**L** LEARN

Ensure that learning excellence is delivered consistently, through our innovative teaching, our curriculum, our use of learning spaces and experiences, and our use of technology to support learning.

**A** ASPIRE

Aspire to be a leading edge school in every aspect of our work, with an outward facing profile that allows us to contribute and share our expertise at local, regional, national and international level.

**N** NARROW THE GAPS

As a comprehensive school, ensure that students of all backgrounds and abilities are supported to make good progress, overcome any barriers and achieve their potential.

**D** DEVELOP

Ensure that all of our staff are professionally developed, challenged and supported in terms of their roles, but also developed as leaders and innovators to ensure that the educational experience at Parklands is consistently the best that it can be.

**S** SUPPORT

Ensure that our support for students' welfare and wellbeing is inclusive, consistent, fair but also developmental in making them socially aware young adults, ready to make a positive contribution to society.

# PARKLANDS

Learn | Respect | Aspire | Achieve



## Summer 2014 Newsletter

### Message from the Headteacher

Welcome to our Summer newsletter. I am delighted that we have secured a significant amount of funding from the EFA to improve our facilities. During the Summer holidays and the Autumn term we will see a recording studio being added to music, a new roof for the whole school, new student toilets, an all weather pitch and at long last a new pavilion which will provide an exciting open teaching space for dance and drama.

I hope you enjoy reading about the life of our school community. As always it is very important to us that students have high quality, deep learning experiences both in and outside the classroom. It is this diversity that supports the development of the whole person and is at the core of everything we do.

*Mrs C. Hollister*



As we went to press, Learning Challenge Week was well underway. More on this in the Autumn newsletter...

## Why we won't hate Mondays next year ...

It was The Boomtown Rats who sang "I don't like Mondays" in 1979. Mondays can be such a drag can't they? Getting back into the swing of the week after chilling out at the weekend can be hard. Well, with effect from September, we've introduced a new aspect to our curriculum that we hope will make Mondays at Parklands one of the highlights of the week, combining fun with exciting and different educational experiences for our students.

As we've mentioned many times in the past, it's our duty as a school to ensure not only positive academic results for our students, but also to combine that with the skills and attributes needed by employers. We want to prepare our students to be successful adults in the 21st century and beyond. We've done that consistently in many different ways across our curriculum over the past few years, but we wanted to bring the programme together and introduce a specific time, as part of our curriculum, every week where we can focus specifically on skill development.

This is an important part of the National Curriculum: it will be "teaching that encourages participation, creativity, reflection and independence; assessment and feedback that values pupils' work and/or effort; and activities that develop teamwork, leadership skills and self-reliance." (OFSTED framework 2014)

The result of this new co-ordinated approach is our brand new SECURE programme.

It's a weekly programme of school events that take place over 2 hours every Monday afternoon. This dedicated time will involve our students following skills-based programmes, tailored to each year group. In Year 11, curriculum enrichment programmes (A Level Maths tasters, criminology and journalism courses for example) will sit alongside English and Mathematics exam reinforcement sessions. In Year 10, Careers presentations will be delivered by a range of employers and post-16 providers. At Key Stage 3, special projects in year 7 to 9 will develop skills such as how to research, conduct formal presentations and develop extended projects on a wide range of skills. The programme will also incorporate our popular RESPECT days, where we develop personal, social and health issues in greater depth, and our school assemblies. We've even planned in house events, key focus events such as Remembrance Day and cultural days such as the European Day of Languages.

All in all, we hope this will make Mondays one of the highlights of the week. All part of our commitment to ensuring Parklands students gain the very widest curricular experiences from their school life.

**Weekly Menu**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Main Meal Choice	Shepherd's Pie	Lasagne	Sweet & Sour Chicken	
Main Meal Choice	Chicken Schnitzel	Lamb Burger served on Bun		
Vegetarian Choice	Roasted Vegetable Lasagne	Vegetarian Quesadillas		
Vegetables & Potatoes	Mixed Salad Roasted Vegetables Peas Cous Cous	Mixed Salad Sweet Corn Baked Beans Jacket Wedges Cous Cous		
Dessert	Chocolate & Mandarin Sponge & Custard	Chocolate Treacle Sponge & Custard		

Snack Bar | Jacket Potatoes with Various Filling | Assorted Sandwiches, Rolls & Pastries

**Jacket Meal Deal**  
Jacket Potato with 1 filling, Juice Shot & Fresh Fruit Pot

**Sub Meal Deal**  
Plus ONE of the following:  
Cookie or Juice Shot or Piece of Fresh Fruit

**Homemade Soup & Sandwich**  
\*Sandwich to the value of £1.30

**Weekly Menu**

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
Main Meal Choice	Bolognese Pasta Bake	Chicken Fajitas & Savoury Rice	Beef & Chick Pea Balti	Roast Turkey
Main Meal Choice	Fish Cake	Savoury Mince with Yorkshire Pudding	Chicken Stir-fry with Noodles	Chicken Pie
Main Meal Choice	Lentil Dahl	Sweet Corn & Pepper Quiche	Quorn Lasagne	Cauliflower & Broccoli Bake
Main Meal Choice	Mixed Salad Diced Mixed Vegetables Sweet Corn Boiled Potatoes	Mixed Salad Roasted Vegetables Broccoli Florets Herby Potatoes	Mixed Salad Cauliflower Florets Baked Beans Jacket Wedges Brown Rice	Mixed Salad Carrots Sliced Green Beans Roast/Boiled Potatoes
Dessert	Chocolate Sponge & Chocolate Custard	Jam Roly Poly & Custard	Fruity Flapjack & Custard	Marble Sponge & Custard

Snack Bar | Jacket Potatoes with Various Filling | Assorted Sandwiches, Rolls & a selection of Subs | Hot Sweet



## Welcome!

As your catering provider we offer you a wide and excellent range of freshly prepared food for your enjoyment and dietary needs.

We have created an exciting range of nutritionally balanced tasty dishes we are sure you will enjoy, along with tasty snack items you will find irresistible! This is definitely the time to visit your catering facilities and enjoy good wholesome food . . .



### Morning . . .

Kick start your day with a toast and hot chocolate for breakfast.

Top up at Break with a variety of daily options, from hot sandwiches to toast, buttered crumpets, fresh fruit pots and a great range of drinks.



### Lunch Service . . .

Check out the weekly menu where all meals are made on site using fresh quality ingredients. Choose from a selection of Meal Deals.

Grab and Go items are also available, as well as daily sandwiches, jacket potatoes with fillings, salad bar and lots of home baked cakes.

Look out for our fun special days and special bars.



### Do you currently bring a packed lunch?

Ask the Catering Manager or your form teacher about a reduced price trial day, and get a meal deal of your choice for a reduced price!

We look forward to seeing you soon!



The Summer Concert took place this year on Thursday 3rd July and again featured musicians from all of the Music Department ensembles.

The audience of over 300 enjoyed performances from The Orchestra, Jazz band, Funk 'n' Soul, The Junior and Senior Vocal Ensembles, Year 7 & 8 Rock, the Staff Choir, the String Ensemble, Saxophone Ensemble and many more soloists covering over a decade of music. We were again raising money for two fantastic charities: Tymes Trust and A.Y.M.E., both of which support young people with M.E. We managed to beat last years' enormous raffle prize collection with an even bigger and better collection including a 5 foot teddy bear, an acoustic guitar, a flight simulator experience and many more adding up to over 50 prizes being valued at over £2500 in total!

Unfortunately the Summer Concert always has a tinge of sadness as we say goodbye to our extremely dedicated and outstanding Year 11 musicians. We will miss them and wish them all well in the future. They have certainly set the standard for our younger and future musicians.





## The new recording studio

I am excited to announce that building work is underway in the Music Department for a professional recording studio. The new space will be fully soundproofed and will house an Allen and Heath mixing desk, MacPro and professional standard microphones.

The plans for the new build are to create a professional specification Recording Studio featuring a Control Room and adjacent Live room. The new live room will be a multi-functional space that will accommodate groups of pupils with a range of instruments to record and practice. It will feature a bespoke acoustic window which will enable students to view activities in the control room and also live recording sessions. The professional recording equipment will enable pupils throughout the school to record, edit and contribute to the entire recording and production process. More and more students are choosing to study music technology and GCSE music each year and as a result, the department has struggled at times to accommodate all students' needs. Using a professional standard recording studio will equip our students to move on to study Music, Performing Arts and Music Technology at college with a higher level of understanding for the role they wish to pursue. The studio will be used by all students from years 7-11 including Music Technology and GCSE Music Students. It will ensure the professional quality of all students' recording portfolios and enable all our current musical ensembles to record professionally - so look out for our first album!

The building work commenced on 23rd June and you can follow the progress of all the work over the summer by visiting:  
[www.phsmusic.wordpress.com](http://www.phsmusic.wordpress.com)



Jada Uniform Suppliers have been working very hard behind the scenes lately to produce an ONLINE SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOP and we're almost ready to go!

The address is [www.jadauniforms.co.uk](http://www.jadauniforms.co.uk) and it will be available in addition to our existing services, including our late night openings. We hope it will make buying school uniform even easier for parents. Payment can even be made via Paypal!

Any and all feedback, positive or constructive (!) would be gratefully received. If you have any questions at all or would like to know more about it please just drop us an email or call 01257 271592.

Please can you ensure that any payments due to school are received in the school office by Wednesday 16th July.

Pupils must ensure that they have emptied their lockers at the end of term.

Any items left in lockers will be disposed of. We will be replacing some of the older lockers over the holidays - If you currently have one of these lockers you will receive a replacement in September.

We would like to introduce Taylor Shaw, the new catering provider for Parklands High School, who will be supplying pupils and staff with fresh, healthy and nutritious breakfasts, snacks and lunch time meals from the 1st September.

A total of seven catering companies applied for the contract, three were short listed and invited to present to a group that represented pupils, staff and Governors here at Parklands. There were also food tasting sessions in the dining room where additional pupils and staff were able to sample a variety of tasty savoury and sweet dishes from all three candidates.

Following discussions and scoring from the pupils, staff and Governors involved, Taylor Shaw were judged overall favourites and we look forward to working with Taylor Shaw in September.

We are also looking to introduce a cashless payment system for the dining room, possibly before Christmas and more details of this will be sent to all parents prior to the October half term break.

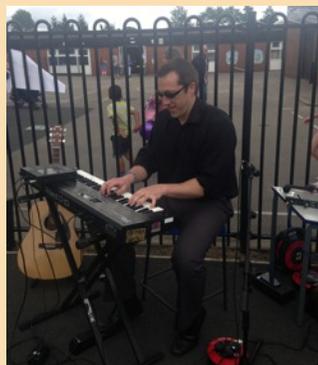
Our thanks to Martin Wilkinson, of Wilkinson/CA Foodservice Consultancy and Independent Audit for his advice and guidance through the tender process.



The Senior Vocal Ensemble were recently invited to perform at Balshaw Lane Primary School's Summer Fayre on Saturday 21st June. The Vocal Ensemble performed a mix of their repertoire including 'Mercy', 'Naive', 'This Love' and 'Somewhere Only We Know'. They were, as always, accompanied by Mr Penketh (pictured) who rocked the field in his shades. The Senior Vocal Ensemble is made up of four Year 10 girls: Emily, Jade, Charlotte and Ellis and feature vocal harmony in all of their repertoire. They were greeted by a fantastic reception and received great applause. Mr Willsher became the sound engineer for the day and, unfortunately, the DJ.

Mrs Glen from Balshaw Lane Primary School said "A massive thank you for the PA system and your brilliant Vocal Ensemble. They were amazing, lovely harmonies, perfect for the day and got loads of praise from fair goers. I would love you all to come back next year."

We're looking forward to it!



**CHORLEY  
FOOD  
FESTIVAL**  
May 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup>

Parklands pupils were given a fantastic opportunity to compete at the Chorley Food Festival and attend a Cooking Masterclass delivered by Aazam Ahmed at Holy Cross.

The Food Festival was a great event for Chorley and a fantastic community event for our pupils to be a part of. I was so proud of them representing Parklands High School - Paul Garlick and Arron Deacon were certainly winners for their enthusiasm and passion for cooking at such a young age! Their willingness to take part is what counts and I was so impressed with the support they got from their families.

We thoroughly enjoyed our morning at the Masterclass and this certainly inspired a few of our Catering students ahead of their practical exam the next week! Aazam's enthusiasm and style of delivery was so engaging for the pupils and he kept them focused for 2 hours which is quite a skill! This was something a little different for them - we're all learning outside the classroom at Parklands - offering our pupils opportunities they may not have otherwise had.

*S. Brookes*



It's been another very busy term for Europe House, and I am very happy to say that we ended on a high note after coming 1st place on Sports Day. I would have to say that our win was a culmination of the fantastic efforts from our athletes and the superb support from the rest of the House. The House Cup is still up for grabs, so there is plenty to play for.

This term we have once again appointed a Prefect Team to help run Europe House, and I am very proud of each and every one of them. I am especially pleased to have a number of Senior Prefects within Europe House and looking forward to them leading on all their exciting initiatives that they have been selected for next year.

Our Heads of House are Molly Whelan and Connor Hughes, both of whom are committed to supporting the team and myself, and I am excited for the year ahead working alongside the two of them.

Our Form Captains will be appointed in the new year and leading the team this year will be Molly Watkins and Georgia Gronback our new House Captains, who have already started making plans for what sounds like a very busy year of Interform challenges.

We unfortunately have to say goodbye to Mrs Brown our form tutor of Norway, who has a new responsibility within school, and would like to take this opportunity to wish her well. Luckily we don't lose her altogether as she will still be a member of Europe House. However, we are very happy to welcome Mrs Critchlow as the new Form Tutor.

In September we will be launching a very exciting initiative, by introducing a German speaking form, namely Deutschland. This form will replace the old Czech Republic - Mrs Radcliffe along with Miss Cosgrove will be running this new venture and I wish them every success.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and relaxed summer holiday, and come back refreshed and ready to welcome our new year seven pupils.

*Mrs Fox, Europe House Achievement Leader*

## WINSTANLEY COLLEGE "SUPERHEROES"

A group of Year 10s enjoyed a lecture at Winstanley College by biologist and TV presenter Simon Watt. He explored and explained the genetics behind real life "mutants" and we were fascinated by his entertaining explanations of unusual conditions such as Werewolf Syndrome and "Stretchy Skin" syndrome. The pupils were surprised to learn that sweetcorn has more genes than humans and were shown effective demonstrations of how genetic mutations occurred along the DNA molecule.

Simon left us pondering about the future of genetic engineering: such as with transgenic animals - inserting spider genes into goat DNA to produce silky milk - should we, just because we can?

*Mrs M. Berry*

There will be a number of teaching staff who will be leaving us in September, and we would like to thank all of them for their service to Parklands students, past and present.

Several long-standing teachers will be retiring, and we thank them for their long service at Parklands as well as wishing them a long and happy retirement: Mr Trezise, Mrs Ogden, Miss Fitzpatrick, Mrs Eastham and Mrs Hamblett will all be saying farewell as full time teachers. Mrs Hamblett will be returning as a teaching technician to support teachers with new technology in the classroom, and Miss Fitzpatrick will also be returning as a part-time science technician. There are also a number of staff who are leaving us to take up positions in other schools: Mr Woods, Mr Nassau and Miss Harker will leave with our best wishes for the continuation of their career elsewhere. Mrs Bala Carnes and Mrs Moore are retiring and we wish them all the best for the future.

There are a number of new teachers joining us in September, and all have taken part in a dedicated Induction Week in June. They are:

Mr Salisbury, our new Head of PE

Miss Barton, our new Head of RE

Along with a number of newly qualified colleagues:

In Science, Mr Parker, Mr Hoskins and Miss Penketh

In English, Miss Power and Miss Duffell

In Maths, Mr Swindells

In Geography, Mr Needham

In Technology, Mrs Critchlow

In RE, Miss Rhodes

In Languages, Miss Southworth and Miss Cosgrove

We will introduce our new teachers more fully in the Autumn Term newsletter.

We are also adding to our achievement support team, with new staff joining us to specifically support achievement within school:

Mrs Rhodes-Leader will join us in a Literacy support role, and Mr Cottrell as Numeracy support. Mr Cunningham and Mrs de Bruyn will join our Pupil Premium Support Team.

*The E-Safety Committee recently held their first meeting. The committee comprises staff, parents, governors and pupils. The agenda covered various points, from the use of social networking sites to cyberbullying. The Digital Leaders are going to play a big part in spreading the message about E-Safety to all pupils. The next meeting is scheduled for September. Anyone can get involved - helping to design posters or adverts - keep an eye on the bulletin for updates.*

## Wigan Warriors v St Helens match



On Friday 27th June, 16 pupils and the male PE staff travelled down to the DW Stadium to watch the reigning Super League Champions Wigan Warriors take on their local rivals and current top of the table St Helens. The game was a fantastic spectacle of rugby league with many pupils watching their first ever game of rugby league live. Unfortunately the 'Parklands Barmy Army' couldn't quite cheer on the Warriors to victory. Let's hope that next time Wigan can achieve a victory.

This year's Gillette Cup took place in blazing sunshine and the cricket did not disappoint throughout the day. This annual competition has taken place for over 40 years and is completed by Year 10 teams from all of the Chorley schools. Unfortunately, due to unforeseen circumstances, the Year 10 team were unable to play. In order to enter a team, the Year 9 cricket team stepped up and performed amazingly well to win the overall competition. A massive well done must go out to all of the Year 9 boys that competed.



*Mr Higham*



The Year 7/8 girls' football team competed in the Euxton Girls FC Chorley High Schools Tournament on Friday 16th May. We made it through the group stages without losing a single game and drew Holy Cross A in the Semi-Final, where we won 1-0 to make it through to the final. We were up against Bishop Rawstone A, who also hadn't lost a game all competition, and we kept to our

winning streak and won the final 2-0, therefore won the tournament and received the Martin Daniels Memorial Cup. The girls played really well, scoring some superb goals and credit to the defence and goalkeeper for not conceding a goal throughout the whole competition. Fantastic effort girls, well done!



As the winning team on the Year 10 Respect Day, Tim Pearse, Ewan Lomax, Jenna Carsley, Samantha Webster and Blanca Perez-Ramoz all represented Parklands at the Ryman's National Enterprise Challenge Final on 1st July, held at Trentham Hall, Stoke on Trent. They delivered their pitch 'dragon's den style', promoting their flip flop design 'Beach Walkers', aimed at the elderly target audience. The Parklands team competed against 57 other KS4 teams and were successful to be one of the chosen 100 teams nationally to attend.

The day was hosted by magician Ben Hanlin from CBBC's 'Tricked' and the pupils were lucky enough to participate in a question and answer session with Theo Paphitis of Dragon's Den.

The team represented Parklands well and gave a very professional performance on the day!





Jonathan (Jonny) Holt is the Youth Worker at LivingWaters, a local church in Chorley. His role is to oversee the development and involvement of the young people that attend. He has a background in both youth work and software development, having taken on his current role at LivingWaters two years ago alongside his role at the CCPAS (a child safeguarding organisation) as a software developer. He lives in Chorley with his wife Rebekah and young son Jacob. His interests are Liverpool FC, making stuff run on the web and BBQs. He believes that all young people, with the right support and encouragement, have the potential to lead and influence others in their areas of gifting and skill. Jonny will be in school every Tuesday.



Parklands has taken part in the Future Scholars Award which gives pupils the chance to visit a Russell Group university. Four pupils spent a day at Leeds University and were able to take part in workshops, tour the campus, see the accommodation and ask any questions. The visit gave pupils a good insight into the practical side of how to get to university and answered some common questions about qualifications needed to apply and the costs involved when attending university. Leeds University provided an excellent day for our pupils and were able to show us why they are considered to be one of the best universities in the country.



*Just a few images from the German castle trip. As you can see, the views are spectacular and the weather even more so!*

*Look out for the full display of photographs in school in the autumn term.*



# GERMAN CASTLE TRIP

## **Tuesday, 1st July**

Today we went to Burg Eltz. It looked exactly like Helms Deep from Lord of the Rings! We had a guided tour in English which was really cool as we saw lots of old weapons used in the 15th Century. After that we went into Cochem, where we did some shopping and had ice cream. *By Andrew Worswick*

The boat trip today was pretty cool. It was great to see the river Mosel, get some fresh air, and we enjoyed the shopping in Cochem where I tried different flavours of ice cream! I had raisin & mango, and caramel & pineapple. Burg Eltz was huge and very impressive. I liked the tour too. If you get the chance to come to Germany, then go! *By Lewis Sumner*

So far our trip is amazing because the area has great views and there is lots to do. Today I had curry wurst for lunch; it was a German Bockwurst (a type of sausage) with a curry sauce and chips. It was delicious! The ice cream here is fantastic, especially as it's hot. *By Brandon Moseley*

## **Wednesday, 2nd July**

Firstly we went to a big tourist city called Koblenz, where we initially visited a place called Deutsches Eck, which was a huge statue near where the rivers Rhein and Mosel meet. Then we went shopping, and I had to use my German to buy ice cream and a water pistol! Then we went to a nice little town called Rudesheim where we went on the cable car; the views were breath-taking and we saw lots of vineyards on the hills. Then we went round the town and I bought some souvenirs! Finally we had a huge water fight in the town centre and again later at the castle. My favourite part of the trip has been ...everything! *By Alex Fairhurst*

## **Thursday, 3rd July**

First of all we went to a vineyard. We got lots of information about the vineyard. After that we tasted the wine and the grape juice. It was great in my opinion as we found out lots of different facts and things I didn't know. Then we went to the outdoor pool and had a few hours there. It was very sunny and the pool was huge with 2 diving boards and a water slide. This trip has been very enjoyable because I have visited lots of different places which I had not been to before and I would like to visit them again in the future. *By Liberty Bryan*

This trip has been an amazing experience because of the amazing landscapes, beautiful castles and of course the food. My favourite bit has been Cochem, as it is very lively and a beautiful town. *By Sam Christian*

## **Sarah somersaults to success!**

Sarah Hoyle (Year 7) represented Great Britain at the USA IGC (International Gymnastics Competition) in Orlando, Florida on the 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2014. She competed in four events: Vault, Bars, Beam and Floor, qualifying for the finals of the floor. Out of 70 competitors from all over the world, Sarah came 7<sup>th</sup> with her floor routine and returned to the UK with two medals!

Sarah said, "When competing, my heart was pounding in my chest! I was so excited to be a part of such a big competition and really proud to be representing Great Britain. I was amazed when my name was called out for the floor finals! My winning score was 9.225!"

Sarah has been involved in gymnastics since the age of three and her success is the result of a lot of preparation, hard work and dedication. Her commitment to the sport is inspiring, training for up to two hours a day, four times a week.

We are extremely proud of her achievements and everyone at Parklands wishes her the very best for her upcoming competitions. Well done, Sarah!



*Sarah in action at the competition and after receiving her medal.*



## **More sports success ...**

Jack Durcan in Year 9 has been selected to represent England at the 2014 Commonwealth Poomsae Championships. Good luck Jack!

## Learning Mentor - Everton Williams - SkillForce

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Everton for all his hard work and support to our pupils over the last 3 years. He has worked continuously with our pupils, providing them with coping strategies in how to learn in the classroom, improve self-esteem and confidence, improve friendships, become involved in extra-curricular and more importantly to believe in themselves and be proud of all their achievements.

Everton has taken our pupils to the climbing wall in Preston and has completed three orienteering courses with pupils in Astley Park which all thoroughly enjoyed.

Everton has worked alongside the HAL and Intervention staff and played an integral role in supporting and caring for the well-being of our pupils. We will be sad to lose him but wish him luck in his role in other schools.

*Mrs N Fairhurst*



Throughout the year, Europe has been running a number of events to raise money for their chosen charity, The Lancashire Wildlife Trust. The LWT is a conservation charity that supports wildlife in Lancashire. It promotes environmental protection and raises awareness about issues that impact the world we live in, and how to reduce their severity. Europe feel that because Parklands has such high respect for our environment, and we are very dedicated to preserving it, we should have a charity that represents our views. This is why we chose the LWT.

After running several cake sales and other charity events including a Valentine's Day stand, Europe finally had a large enough sum of money to present to the LWT. On Wednesday 25th June, Ruth Gaskell, the fundraising manager, was presented with a cheque for £202.00

Ruth has said she is "extremely happy with this and is sure the LWT will put it to good use". As a reward for their efforts, Europe was presented with a certificate that will go up next to their house board. Let's hope this is just the first of many useful donations that Europe makes to their charity, The Lancashire Wildlife Trust.

*Katy Hempson*

I would like to start by saying goodbye and good luck to the outgoing Year 11's, the leavers assembly was a great success! Now looking forward to 'Results Day' in August. A big thank you has to go to all those that helped out with Sports Day either organising, competing or indeed both. There were some valiant efforts and amazing support from the rest of the House. Australasia are still fighting hard for a top spot in the house competitions, so please keep up your attendance and continued hard work. Finally I would like to wish you all a fabulous summer break and look forward to seeing you all refreshed and ready to do your best on September 1st.

*Mrs K Dewhurst, Australasia House Leader*



Pupils have been working hard all year and thousands of Achievement Points have been awarded. Congratulations to Jack who was the first person to reach the 100 Achievement Point mark! This is very impressive and demonstrates his consistent positive attitude. There are a number of pupils very close to the 100 mark and I wish them luck in the last few weeks of this year.

School now has an Aspire area open for pupils to explore career opportunities and consider what they would like to do when they finish at Parklands. A range of prospectuses are available as well as access to the Kudos website which provides guidance on what's needed for particular careers.

This goes hand in hand with the school's jobs board which displays apprenticeships and other work related opportunities for pupils giving them plenty of opportunity to consider their futures.

Our Careers Adviser is in school every week for one to one interviews. Pupils can also drop in at lunchtime or after school if they need help with CVs, application forms or any other careers-related queries!



## Parents – Some Key Dates for your diary - 2014 / 15 Academic Year

Please note that some of these may be subject to change, and notice will be provided via website and email where such a change occurs. Not all school events are included here.

Date	Year(s)	Event
1 <sup>st</sup> Sept 14	All	Return to school for all year groups
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sept 14	11	Introduction to Year 11 Evening for parents and students
4 <sup>th</sup> Sept 14	10	Introduction to Key Stage 4 Evening for parents and students
11 <sup>th</sup> Sept 14	All	Year 6 into 7 School Open Evening for prospective parents
26 <sup>th</sup> Sept 14	All	Staff Training Day: Students not in school
13 <sup>th</sup> Oct 14	All	African Child Choir Tour Concert, 7.30pm
15 <sup>th</sup> Oct 14	7	Year 7 Parents' Evening to meet form tutors
17 <sup>th</sup> Oct 14	All	Break up for October half term ( 2 weeks )

3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov 14	All	Return after half term
5 <sup>th</sup> Nov 14	11	Year 11 Parents' Evening (1)
13 <sup>th</sup> Nov 14	Ex-Year 11	GCSE Presentation Evening, 7.00pm start
28 <sup>th</sup> Nov 14	All	Music Concert in aid of Camps International, 7.30pm
8 <sup>th</sup> Dec 14	11	Year 11 Mock Exam Week
18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 14	All	Christmas Concert, 7.30pm
19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 14	All	Break up for Christmas Holidays ( 2 weeks )

5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 15	All	Return to school after Christmas
21 <sup>st</sup> Jan 15	10	Year 10 Parents' Evening
6 <sup>th</sup> Feb 15	9,10,11	School Careers Fair
11 <sup>th</sup> Feb 15	11	Year 11 Parents' Evening (2)
12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 15	All	Break up for February half term ( 1 week: NB Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> is training day )

23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb 15	All	Return to school after half term
25 <sup>th</sup> Feb 15	9	Year 9 Parents' Evening
2 <sup>nd</sup> Mar 15	9	Year 9 Options Evening
11 <sup>th</sup> Mar 15	8	Year 8 Parents' Evening
18 <sup>th</sup> Mar 15	All	3 day Dance Showcase begins, Wednesday to Friday
27 <sup>th</sup> Mar 15	All	Break up for Easter holiday ( 2 weeks )

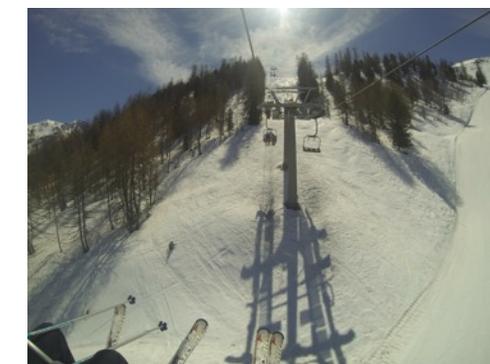
13 <sup>th</sup> Apr 15	All	Return to school after Easter
22 <sup>nd</sup> Apr 15	7	Year 7 Parents' Evening ( subject teachers )
4 <sup>th</sup> May	All	Bank Holiday
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	All	Break up for May half term ( 1 week )

1 <sup>st</sup> June	All	Return to school after half term
8 <sup>th</sup> June	All	5 house evenings over 3 days for new Year 7 parents starting in 2015
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	All	Staff Training Day: Students not in school
9 <sup>th</sup> July	All	Summer Music Concert, 7.30pm
13 <sup>th</sup> July	All	Learning Challenge Week
23 <sup>rd</sup> July	All	Break up for summer at 1pm



## Ski Trip 2014

During the Easter break, 31 pupils and 5 members of staff travelled to Pila, Italy to undertake this year's ski trip. The week was a fantastic success with pupils from all years showing the true Parklands spirit throughout! The pupils spent 6 days skiing on the slopes in glorious sunshine with all pupils making tremendous progress throughout. In the evenings, pupils spent their time bowling, at the disco, a pizza night, at the ice cream parlour, a games night and a shopping trip to Pila itself. All the pupils and staff had an amazing week. See for yourself by watching the ski trip video on the school website.



## Year 7 Netball Success

The year 7's have had an excellent start to their netball career at Parklands, winning the district skills tournament, and then coming second in the district tournament. I am really pleased that we have had a team of girls compete in the Leyland Sports Association League playing every Thursday night. The girls played tremendously and I hope their effort and commitment continues into next year.

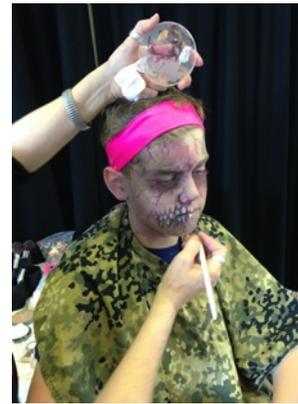


## Rounders Success

It has been another successful Rounders season for Parklands with Year 7 coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the tournament and remaining undefeated in their friendlies. Year 8s also narrowly missed out on 2<sup>nd</sup> place at their tournament with an unfortunate defeat against Albany.



Year 10 girls have been getting involved in rugby league training with Leyland Warriors providing some expert coaching. The girls have all signed up as they want to develop their knowledge and skills for the sport and over the four sessions have done incredibly well. Rugby league is notorious for being one of the toughest sports in the world and every single one of the girls has worked really hard and impressed the coaches. Those girls with the dedication and spare time are being encouraged to get involved in the Leyland Warriors Ladies team based at Moss Side in Leyland.



Scarefest preparations  
for Learning  
Challenge Week ...



Pupils were given instructions on applying theatrical make-up to create the scary faces you see above!

Miss Marr as you've never see her before ...

We once again entered the National School's Cheerleading competition this year, hosted by the UKCA at the Manchester Velodrome. We took a staggering 108 pupils, more than we have ever taken before. We entered 8 teams into various categories and were extremely successful in all areas. Our results are outlined below.

Year 7 Cheer Team - 1st

Year 7 School Pom- 2nd

Year 7 Candy Pom - 4th

Year 8 & 9 Cheer -2nd

Y 8 & 9 Pom - 1st

Y10 & 11 Cheer - 2nd

Y0 & 11 Pom - 4th

KS4 Street Cheer - 1st

We are hoping that Cheerleading is a popular option for many of our students again next year, watch out on the new extra curricular timetable to see when your training will be!! No doubt our new captains Toni Goldie and Gabby Blundell will be coming to see you and give you more information

Huge congratulations to all involved this year! I am so proud of you all! The hard work paid off!!!



Scary visitors at Parklands this summer ...



## TOWER WOOD 2014

A group of year 7, 8 and 9 pupils and staff set off for an action-packed, fun-filled weekend at Tower Wood back in April. Our leader was Matt from New Zealand who was friendly, patient and had an awesome sense of humour.

After arriving at Tower Wood we were impressed with the new build accommodation which will be available to use in September this year. However, we were happy to stay once again in the house.

After the girls and boys went to unpack, make their beds and explore the house, we all sat down to a hearty tea made by the chef.

Our first activity was to work as teams on the low-rope assault course which was great fun in the rain. This was followed by the orienteering activity around the grounds. After supper, all pupils retired to their rooms after organising their kit for the following day's activity which was ghyll scrambling in the Langdales. An early start for some who were used to a lie-in but it was a great day spent climbing up the ghyll with gushing water streaming down the valley. Everyone attempted this with great gusto including Mr Parker and Miss Williams. We also had an extra visitor, Mrs Fox, who came to see everybody in action. We had another fantastic instructor, Dave join us who was great fun.

We returned back to base to do some high-rope climbing activity on the Jacob's Ladder and Pamper Pole, which again, all attempted and reached their target. Mr Betney, Mrs Haslam, Mr Parker and I all encouraged each other to have a go so even we succeeded in our own challenge!

After another hearty tea, we settled down to the evening activities, tug of war, pass the parcel, food eating competition and quiz, followed by supper and an early night in preparation for Sunday's activities out on Lake Windermere.

Sunday was sunny and with some wind it was a first for staff and some pupils who had been before. The sailing boats came out and were mastered in no time! Everyone who wished to have a go on the kayaks and canoes were given the chance to do this. This was followed by those who were brave enough to jump off the pier into the lake.

The weekend flew by, the weather was kind to us and we all were given an opportunity to try something new, attempt a challenge and tackle our fears and most of all have lots of fun.

Well done to Niall Baldwin, Ebony Calderbank, Callum Cowell, Amber Crooks, Michael Denny, Ella Doherty, Awni Elhalhuli, Jack Fisher, Daniel Fishwick, Adam Fraser, Jack Gale, Lauren Grimshaw Brown, Reece Hagan, Jess Houghton, Josh Leeming, Caroline Lenardy, Joshua Ramsay, Lucy Simmonite, Alice Whittaker, Aimee Worrall.

Mrs Fairhurst



This year we have been studying a course called 'Groundforce'. We have built allotment beds from scratch. These are now providing great crops of peas, sugar snaps, broad beans, tomatoes and potatoes. We have developed a taste for eating fresh peas straight out of the pod!

We have also built bird houses and put these into Astley Park. We are hoping future groups will be able to monitor how well these are being used.

We are really proud of having made our school environment a better place!

It has been another excellent Term for Asia House who are still top of the House Competition going into the final weeks. Sports Day was superb and there was great commitment and effort shown by our team. Some stand out performances were Yasmin and Annabelle who were incredibly quick and Jamie and Reuben who competed fantastically to gain the team lots of points. In the end Asia finished second and we have first place in our sights for next year. Academically the House is achieving great things and the Year 11s we have recently said goodbye to in an emotional leavers assembly are set to achieve their potential. We are near the end of another successful year as Asia House and all the pupils should be proud of their efforts this term.

All the Best!

*Mr G Metcalf, Asia House Leader*

It's been a term of 'goodbyes' in Africa House. We said our final farewell to the Year 11s in an emotional Leavers Assembly. I would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment to school, both in and out of the classroom. Noah and Emily, our first House Leaders, have done a fantastic job. Jade and Olivia will replace them and with the next House Competition nearly upon us, will be busy!

Mrs L. Eastham and Miss Fitzpatrick will be retiring this summer after many years of teaching - I would like to thank both of them for their fabulous efforts as Form Tutors - you will be missed!

Looking forward, we've met our new Year 7 pupils, who seem to be great and I am hoping that they will be as enthusiastic as the current group - without, I am sure we wouldn't have achieved a very credible third place on Sports Day. A big thank you to Ben Hughes for his phenomenal wins! We're looking forward to challenging Asia to a tight race for the House Cup in the final week...

May I take this opportunity to wish all pupils and their families, a lovely summer!

*Mrs Haslam*



When I knew that you were bringing the girls in I was very excited as I enjoy spending time with all young children and I knew Isobel and Abigail would have their own special charm. I expected them to be smiley and talkative, as they were, and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience, it was a great learning curve and I really recommend it to other students, both in our school and in others. *Jasmine*

When we first found out we were going to meet the twins we were optimistic and looking forward to their visit. We had very little knowledge of DS and how it affected the girls. Despite this we both knew that it would be a great experience to meet Abigail and Isobel personally, as well as learning about them and their condition from Matt and Jodi.

When the girls arrived, we weren't expecting them to be quite as enthusiastic and energetic as they were! The family made us all feel welcome and before long we had settled down while Matt and Jodi talked about the princesses.

Before Matt and Jodi arrived we didn't know much about the condition except for what we had covered in class. But after they had left, we had learnt so much!

We feel personally that if we had someone simply describing the condition to us, then we wouldn't have learnt as much as we did actually getting a taste of what the condition is about and meeting the girls!

We thoroughly enjoyed the hour with Twincess, we had very little knowledge beforehand and felt that we learnt a lot about the condition. We didn't expect the girls to be as active and intelligent as they are, which surprised us as we thought they were going to be shy and less physical. Twincess was a wonderful experience. Thank-you.

*Sophie, Megan & Rachel*



After seeing Matt and Jodi and their lovely family on TV news I tuned in when I heard they lived in Chorley! At the time I'd been teaching my Year 10 Health & Social Care class all about factors in life that can affect development - we'd been learning about genetic conditions. I was really interested in their charity Twincess - being a little bit cheeky I decided to phone Jodi the next day and invite them to school!

How lucky we were they accepted and we were so excited about meeting Abigail and Isobel! The pupils worked in groups and planned questions to ask, writing them all down. One of Jodi and Matt's aims is to raise awareness of DS particularly with young people - 'the next generation'! The class were unsure of what to expect and like many a little naive about the condition Downs Syndrome. If I'm really honest I think we were all a little unsure of how it would go on the day - however Abigail and Isobel stole the show! They loved Parklands and I think they'd have stayed all day to play if they could!

A massive thank-you to Matt and Jodi and of course Abigail and Isobel for giving our Health & Social Care pupils such a great experience and answering all their questions so openly and honestly. You'll see from our pupil 'blogs' the huge impact on their understanding and learning as these are the lessons pupils will look back and remember about school!

*Sharon Brookes, Curriculum Leader, Health & Social Care.*

### **Blogs from Parklands High School Health & Social Care Pupils...**

We only knew about the hearing difficulty and lack of muscle co-ordination. The stereotype that we expected was they always have their tongue out, and would have problems moving about – this isn't true!

Friends of one of our families have someone with Down Syndrome in their family. We were very excited when we heard about the twins coming into school and we didn't know what to expect! We didn't think they would be as outgoing as they were, and expected them to be quite shy! Now we're more open minded about DS. It has made us realise that even though Abigail and Isobel have DS they're no different to any other 2 year old. Abigail and Isobel are bubbly, happy and confident. Yes, we think more people should know about DS and be more open minded! *Melissa, Olivia, Natalie, Rachel*

Before Twincess visited our school, I really had no knowledge about Down's Syndrome. I honestly expected the twins to be quiet, a little nervous and not very energetic, due to how their condition affects them. However, I was surprised to see Abigail and Isobel jumping around, exploring and saying "hello" to us all! Their lively, chatty characters outshone their condition, which completely changed my view on DS. Matt and Jodi are incredible, and their visit to Parklands was really beneficial to me and my Health & Social Care class. *Annie.*

This month the Digital Leaders have been busy spreading the message about our 4D room and TV studio. The Genius Bar has been relaunched as a Friday lunchtime 'drop-in' session in the studio, and the first of the new sessions was a great success. The Digital Leaders set up the 4D space and gave teachers a demonstration of the different ways in which the space could be used in lessons. Geography were particularly interested in ways to transport their students all the way to glamorous Las Vegas, and immerse them in the sights and sounds of the city!

The second session was a demonstration of the new Green Screen technology, which allows students to record themselves in front of any backdrop that they choose. The English department called in for a demonstration, and were particularly impressed when the Digital Leaders put them on stage in the Globe Theatre! The Genius Bar will continue to be open for weekly sessions throughout next year, helping the teachers to use technology to inspire and develop the students in their lessons. Drop-in sessions are also planned for Apple TV, iMovie and animation.

The Digital Leaders have also been working on a brand new website - 'For the students, by the students', which will be launched early next year. The website will feature regular updates from our new Student Leadership team, and will be packed with content made by Parklands students.

In school, we are committed to continuing to expand our use of technology - we are investing in another 20 iPads for use by departments, as well as installing Apple TV in several more classrooms. There are some brand new staff groups next year who will work on ways to develop and enhance learning through technology - it's going to be an exciting year!



## The Senior Student Leadership Team



*Congratulations to all the prefects!*



Pictured above are two of our SSLT members attending a Leadership Course

# crafty

## Uniforms

Helping People and Our Environment



### Open mid-July 2014!

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On Tuesday 1st July, 16 of our dancers alongside Elliott Preston, who is a young ambassador, attended the Lancashire Summer Games in Blackpool. The dancers firstly performed in the opening ceremony to celebrate the start of the games before going around the different activities in the competition to motivate and encourage the young competitors. Later in the day the dancers then led dance and cheerleading workshops to younger students from different districts across the country. The students then worked with Megan Hodge from the Sports Partnership to help lead Zumba routines before five of them got into the spirit of the day by becoming mascots. Despite the high temperatures and very busy day all pupils performed exceptionally and displayed superb leadership skills throughout the day.



**Pictured above are the members of the Senior Student Leadership Team.  
Feel free to chat to them about any ideas or issues you may have  
- they are all more than willing to help!**

## Literacy Update

This year has been an exciting one for literacy. Our paired reading scheme has gone from strength to strength with the number of student mentors expanding throughout the year. The Year 7 and 8 mentees have worked extremely hard and made fantastic progress with their reading! This spirit of working together and making progress is what our school is based on and it is fantastic to see this being reflected in our literacy. A big 'well done' to all.

A personal congratulations to Tyler Neild in Year 9. Tyler is the first student in our school to complete all five levels of Lexia! This is an amazing achievement and we are all very proud of Tyler's efforts. Tyler's ability to complete the software only demonstrates the progress he has made with his literacy over the last two years. The accelerated progress Tyler has made with his literacy should give him a brilliant grounding as he enters Key Stage 4!

The staff/pupil reading scheme has also expanded this year, with more of our pupils working for up to three hours a week with members of staff on their reading. Thank you to everyone involved for your time and effort. It is really paying off, with more and more of our students becoming increasingly confident and fluent readers.

Keep a look out for several new eye-catching literacy displays which will be going up all over school for September. These new posters will feature our very own Parklands pupils in a variety of unusual and exotic locations asking, 'Where will reading take you?'

Also in September we will be launching a new literacy campaign entitled 'F.L.A.R.E.' Can you guess what it could stand for? I'll leave you to ponder that one over the holidays...

Enjoy your summer break everyone and I hope you'll all be reading on the beach, in the park, in the garden, on the sun lounger....



Pupils have been given the opportunity to listen to professionals talk about their career paths. We have had visitors from a local Chorley business Mitie, a lecturer from the University of Central Lancashire and a coach for business leaders. Pupils were invited to ask any questions and really engaged with the opportunity to get a better understanding of careers on offer to them after they've left school. A big thank you to those volunteers who came in - there will be more to follow next year!

## WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

# What to do if you end up in the water

### Don't panic

The cold temperature of the water (even in summer) will make you gasp for breath, so focus on keeping your head above the water and not splashing water around your face.

### Get out

Once your breathing is a bit more controlled, climb out as soon as you can.

If you can't get out and the water is deep, there are two ways that you can stay at the surface:

- 1 FLOATING** – lie on your back, push your hips up, and make a star shape with your arms and legs
- 2 TREADING WATER** in order to tread water effectively:
  - Position your body in a standing or sitting position in the water
  - Kick your legs
  - Use your hands to push down on the water

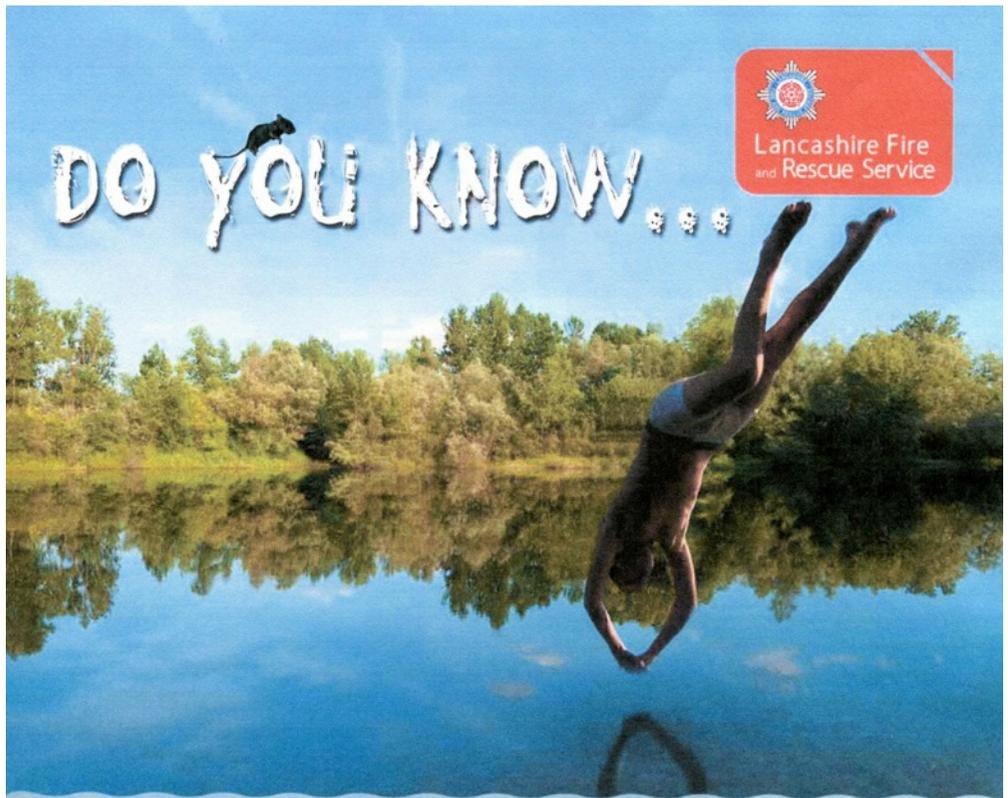
**Call and signal for help** – when floating or treading water it can be difficult to see or hear rescuers looking for you, so remember to regularly look for signs of rescue and shout for help.

To learn how to become a lifesaver, sign up for one of our popular lifesaving courses. Visit [www.rlss.org.uk](http://www.rlss.org.uk) for more information



[www.drowningpreventionweek.org.uk](http://www.drowningpreventionweek.org.uk)

**DO YOU KNOW...**



**Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service**

**WHAT LIES BENEATH?**

The only safe place to swim is in a swimming pool where the water is clean, safe and warm and there are lifeguards on hand if something goes wrong.

**DON'T TAKE THE RISK, DON'T SWIM IN OPEN WATER.**

Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service @LancashireFRS www.lancsfireandrescue.org.uk

making Lancashire safer



**Chorley & District Carnival**

**CERTIFICATE**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place Parade Entry Presented to

**Parklands High School**

Chorley Carnival 2014

Signed Paul K Wilkins Chairman

www.chorleycarnival.co.uk

8 June 2014

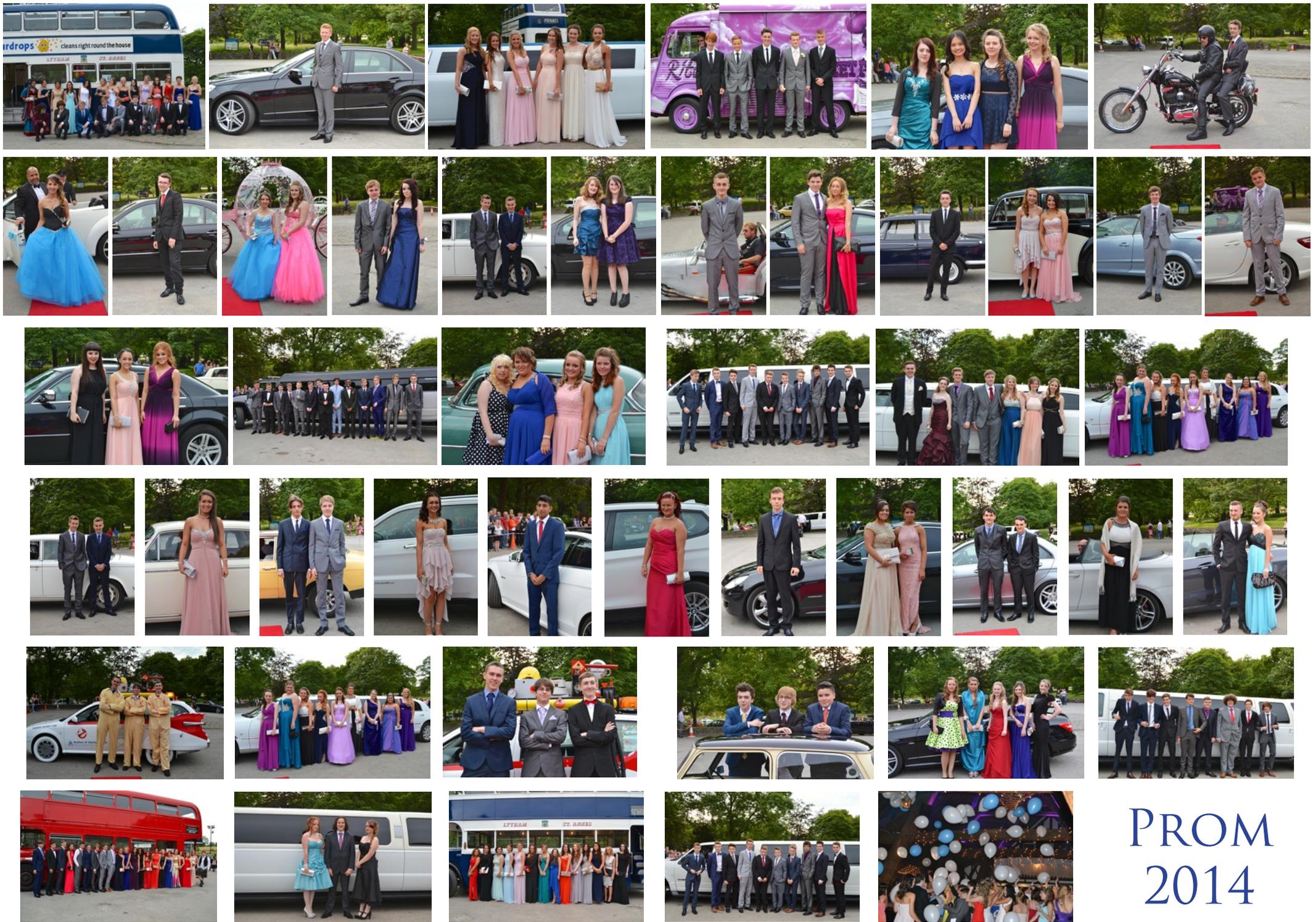


**Chorley Carnival 2014**



Despite the awful weather, Parklands danced on at the carnival!

Well done to everyone!



# PROM 2014