

# Parkhall News

## January 2022

### News In Brief

- Parkhall Integrated College donates to the selection box appeal
- Parkhall Integrated College takes part in Anti-bullying Week
- Pupils are enjoying getting back to school life
- Lots of events happening in school
- Parkhall Youth Club is in full swing

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## Macmillan coffee morning is a huge success

People all over the UK host their own coffee morning, and donations raised on the day are made to Macmillan. The official date is Friday 24<sup>th</sup> September, but it can be held at any time. The Parkhall Integrated College annual coffee morning took place on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October.



Every year, Macmillan raises over £10 million, and Parkhall are contributors to this. As usual, staff and indeed pupils baked and donated. Lewis Sands (9ML) created a masterpiece chocolate cake which did not last long in the staffroom. Miss Quinn's class, 10MQ, have collected the fantastic amount of £530. Well done, 10MQ.

Year 13 and 14 started the day off with chocolate doughnuts donated by Mrs White. Over £160 was raised just from this event. A total of £1223.80 was raised on the day. All money raised will make a difference to all in the local area who have accessed the services of Macmillan Cancer Support.



## The Principal, Mr Beattie, writes...

It is my pleasure to write to you as we reflect on what has been another busy and successful term here at Parkhall Integrated College.

As always, it is exciting to welcome a new batch of year 8 pupils, and we are delighted at how quickly they have settled into school life. This year, we were heavily over-subscribed with 201 applications in total. We currently have 177 year 8 pupils spread across seven form classes, coming to us from 24 different primary schools. Already, these pupils have been involved in Take 5, tracking assessments, study skills workshops, cyberbullying talks and other activities.

Unfortunately, Covid restrictions continue to impact on some of our normal activities, but we have been fortunate enough to see the return of many of our after-school clubs, breakfast club for years 8 and 9, Young Enterprise activities and our year 8 house competitions.

In terms of academic achievement, it is always a pleasure to see so many of our year 12 pupils from last year being recognised at a socially distanced Prize Day in October, and it was very satisfying to see that many have returned to our post-16 courses. We continue to be delighted to hear of the progress of last year's year 14 group as they make their way into employment, university or further education. It was also a great pleasure to see so many of our pupils rewarded during Prize Day, attendance assemblies or class prize assemblies. Details of Prize Day and all the other events throughout the first term can be found on our school website: [www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org](http://www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org).

The internal school exams were completed in November/December. The parent consultation meetings will take place throughout this term, and we will forward details of how we will be able to manage these in these difficult circumstances in due course.

The support of local businesses is greatly acknowledged through the continuation of our Business Community Partnership Scheme, which is supporting the roll-out of our whole-school rewards structure. On behalf of the pupils, I would like to say a huge thank-you to these companies.

In closing, I would like to thank you for your continued support and wish you a very happy and peaceful New Year.





## Excellence in Poetry

Schools and integrated education supporters accompanied the Integrated Education Fund at Lagan Integrated College in Belfast on 14<sup>th</sup> October to celebrate the winners of the annual Carson Awards. The founder and sponsor of the awards, Tony Carson and Baroness May Blood, presented Parkhall Integrated College with two awards for excellence in Poetry and Art reflecting the theme of integration. The Carson Awards, funded by Tony, are also a tribute to his father, the late comedian Frank Carson.



Drama, dance, and poetry were performed to a large audience, celebrating the inclusivity of integrated education. Creative pupils from integrated schools were presented with their Carson Prizes, and guests enjoyed a showcase of talent that had benefited from the Carson Bursary scheme.

Winners of the Carson Award for Poetry were Clarke Dalton, Emma Dixon and Oliver Johnston. Representatives from year 14, Leah McAdorey, Nyasha Zhangazha and Beth Whiteside, received the awards on their behalf and recited the winning poems at the event.



# Competitive Football Comes Home for the Boys in Parkhall Integrated College

After a long break from competitive action, the boys from Parkhall Integrated College were raring to go on their brand-new grass football pitches in October.

Not only was a long break from action imposed through Covid regulations, but October saw competitive action return to the school's own pitches for the first time in many a year. The boys have had to wait a very long time indeed due to the removal of the old pitches to allow for the building of the new school and the further delay of their new pitches being laid and ready for action.



In that time, the school teams have had to play many away games and use the Antrim Forum pitches as a home venue. The school would like to express its thanks to the Forum and, in particular, duty manager Ian Cameron for their hospitality and patience with the school through this difficult period.



The boys in all age groups have been attending after-school practice in great numbers with the staff at the college for weeks in preparation for the games and couldn't wait to start.

The year eleven team narrowly lost their hard-fought, competitive opening fixture to a very strong Cullybackey High School team.



## PE @ Parkhall

### Ethan gets bronze

Well done to our year 10 pupil, Ethan Winters, who competed for Antrim Phoenix DMT and Trampoline Club at the British Trampoline and Tumbling Championships in England, where he won a bronze medal in the 13/14 age category in the DMT (double mini trampoline).



### GP referral scheme

Year 14 Sports students on a visit to Antrim Forum to hear first-hand about the GP referral scheme they run. They heard a very insightful and relevant talk from Steven Trainer, one of the GP referral trainers. This excellent talk provided the pupils with real-life scenarios for the exam unit for their BTEC Sport course. Thanks to Jackie Fulton, the general manager of Antrim Forum for allowing us to visit and for organising the talk.

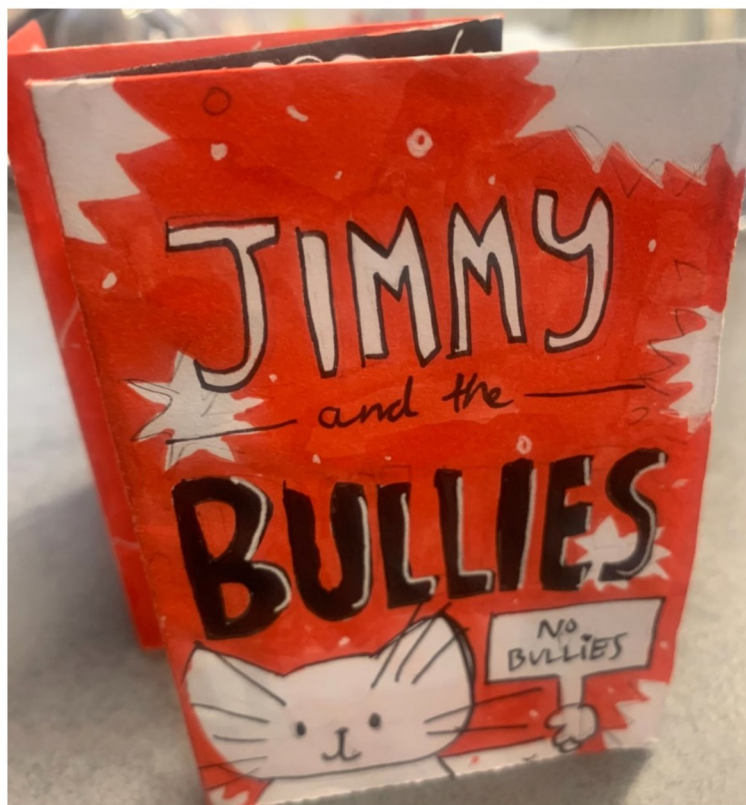


## Anti-Bullying Week, 15th-19th Dec

This year, Parkhall Integrated College joined thousands of schools, organisations and individuals in Anti-bullying Week, which runs from 15-19 November 2021, by getting involved in our 'One Kind Word' campaign.

The Anti-bullying week theme was co-designed with young people before being adapted by the UK's leading anti-bullying organisations, including *respectme*.

Kindness is perhaps more important today than it has ever been. The isolation of the last year has underlined how little acts of consideration can break down barriers and brighten the lives of the people around us. This year, we reminded ourselves of the power of kindness, and how it can halt hurtful behaviour in its tracks. Check out the pics of some of the activities that took place at Parkhall Integrated College.



To:

12IB

Kind word/phrase:

Good luck in your exams next week! You are all wonderful and I am very proud of you!



## Year 8 Student Council

**T**he Parkhall Integrated College student council is getting bigger each year. We announced the election results on 12<sup>th</sup> November for our year 8 pupils, and this is in addition to our already established year 9-14 council. This group of pupils will work together this year to speak on behalf of the student body. An exciting year lies ahead.

Well done to all the year 8 pupils who stood for the student council elections this year. It was very competitive, with many pupils putting themselves forward for nomination in September. Year 8 pupils were also involved in elections in October by voting for the person in their class who they wanted to be their representative, who they thought would do a great job of expressing the opinions of their class. Usually one pupil from each class is elected, but this year there were a few ties including 8IK and 8OM, where two members were voted onto the council as representatives for the class.

Well done to all those involved and to those elected. They have lots of hard work ahead in creating an action plan to focus on a whole-school project, giving our pupils a voice.



Elected members were awarded their student council badges by Ms Spiers in a special presentation during assembly. The pupils elected in year 8 were: Grace Johnston, Alex McCausland, Cameron Minto, Jack Boardman, Armimas Ruzgaitis, Reuben Johnston, Nikolas Pietruszczak, Aimee Bowden and Jensen Cullen



# Prize Day 2021





# Prize Day 2021



# New Prefects at Parkhall

Despite all the constraints with COVID, we were able to follow our usual selection process for prefects with application forms and interviews. This year, we were blown away with the quality of the pupils' interviews. As there were so many applicants who achieved such high scores and votes, we have created a different structure from ever before. We now have four deputies below our head boy and head girl, along with eight senior prefects and sixteen prefects. It will be an absolute pleasure to work with our head boy, Ben Cunningham, and Jorja Battishill in the role of head girl. Our prefects will work closely with the charity coordinator, Eco Club and representing the school at up-and-coming events.

Mrs Gourley (Senior School Prefect Co-ordinator)



Head Boy Ben Cunningham



Head Girl Jorja Battishill



Deputy Heads with Head Boy and Head Girl





Senior Prefects



Prefects



Head Boy, Head Girl, Deputies, Senior Prefects and Prefects



## Year 8 First Days





## Year 8 First Days



## MEET OUR HEAD BOY: Ben Cunningham



1) What is your #1 most played song?

**Touch the sky (Kanye West)**

2) What is one of your favourite quotes?

**“If you're going through hell, keep going” - Winston Churchill**

3) What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

**Making my bed**

4) What is your favourite form of exercise?

**Going to the gym**

5) If you could witness any event past, present or future, what would it be?

**Watch Northern Ireland qualify for the world cup**

6) If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

**To be a fully qualified electrician**

7) What do you miss most about being a kid?

**Nerf wars**

8) When you have 30 minutes of free time, what do you do?

**Practice the flute**

9) If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

**Buy a Ford Sierra RS Cosworth**

10) What was the last movie you watched?

**Home Alone**



## MEET OUR HEAD GIRL: Jorja Battishill



1) What is your #1 most played song?

**Billie Jean by Michael Jackson**

2) What is one of your favourite quotes?

**“Life is like riding a bicycle: to keep your balance you must keep moving”**

3) What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

**Ironing**

4) What is your favourite form of exercise?

**Rugby training**

5) If you could witness any event past, present or future, what would it be?

**2003 Rugby World Cup final, England vs Australia**

6) If you could learn to do anything, what would it be?

**Learn how to sing**

7) What do you miss most about being a kid?

**Having fun with friends and being curious about the world**

8) When you have 30 minutes of free time, what do you do?

**Spend time with family and friends**

9) If you won the lottery, what is the first thing you would do?

**Buy a horse for my mum and me**

10) What was the last movie you watched?

**Guardians of the Galaxy**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring Term 2022	
Wednesday 5th January	First day of term
Friday 14th January	Exceptional closure - pupils do not attend school.
Monday 14th - Friday 18th February (Inc.)	Half term
Tuesday 17th & Wednesday 18th March	Exceptional closure - pupils do not attend school.
Friday 8th April	Last day of term
Summer Term 2022	
Monday 25th April	First day of term
Monday 2nd May	May day holiday
Thursday 2nd & Friday 3rd June	Public Holiday
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Last day of term

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Parkhall Integrated College

## Contact us

Steeple Road

Antrim

BT41 1AF

TEL: 02894 462963

FAX: 02894 465620