

# Parkhall News

## January 2020

### News In Brief

- Parkhall Integrated College donates to the shoebox appeal
- Parkhall Integrated College takes part in Cash for Kids NI events
- Lots of outings for pupils so far this year
- Prize Night enjoyed by parents and pupils
- Parkhall Youth Club is in full swing

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## Lyric Theatre visits Parkhall Integrated College

**P**arkhall Integrated College were proud to host a Lyric Theatre production called “Blackout” by Davey Anderson.

In association with the Department of Justice NI and Hydebank Wood College, this progressive project is aimed at reducing crime and antisocial behaviour by developing awareness in young people of the possible consequences of taking drugs and alcohol.

Our senior pupils watched with interest as the amazing actors showed how drugs, grief and bullying lead to a frightening downward spiral with shocking consequences.

“Blackout” doesn’t tell you what to think; it just asks you to imagine if all that happened to you, what would you do?

The actors were so believable in their roles, and all who watched it found the production incredibly compelling and thought-provoking. The performance was on the assembly hall floor, surrounded by the audience on three sides. This gave a feeling we were all part of the action.



There was a Q&A session at the end when pupils could ask questions about the issues raised, further developing these themes, including experiences of custody and coping with life afterwards.

Thank you to the Lyric Theatre and the sponsorship organisations for visiting us with this powerful production, the main message being, if you are going through a difficult time, please talk to someone.

## 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 249 applications in total. We currently have 199 year 8 pupils spread across eight form classes, our biggest intake ever, coming to us from twenty-seven different primary schools. Already, these pupils have been involved in Big School Day, tracking assessments, attendance workshops, cyberbullying workshops and other activities.

This term has seen the completion of our sports pitches, and these new facilities will be able to be used in the new year. We have also launched our new school website in the past month and in the next term we will begin the use of SIMS Parent App for easier communication with parents and guardians.

In terms of academic achievement, it is always a pleasure to see so many of our year 12 pupils from last year returning for Prize Night in October, and it was very pleasing to see that many have returned to our post-16 courses. The guest speaker, Mr Walter Lambe, former Head of Rathmore Guidance Centre, entertained a large audience, and it is always a delight to see so many of our pupils fulfilling their potential. This was particularly the case this year where 79% of our pupils gained at least five A\*-C grades, with a large number of pupils gaining 8, 9, 10 or 11 A\*-C grades. Details of Prize Night and all the other events throughout the first term can be found on our new school website: [www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org](http://www.parkhallintegratedcollege.org)

The internal school exams were completed in December, and reports will be issued towards the end of the month. The parent consultation meetings will take place throughout the second term, and we will forward details 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.



## EVENTS IN SCHOOL

### Film Club opens to Rave Reviews

**P**arkhall Integrated College's latest club started with rave reviews!

Film Club started for the first time this September with the support of INTO Film, with twenty-six members from years 8 to 12. The members have been watching films and critiquing them and have even made their own films.

The twenty-six members meet every Wednesday in English 2 with Miss Beckett. The club has so far watched the comedy "Fighting with my Family" in September, and October was spent focusing on the Marvel Universe and in particular Avengers: Endgame.

Pupils from all year groups were involved in making their own wrestling-style introductions, which were edited and produced using movie-making software and iPads.

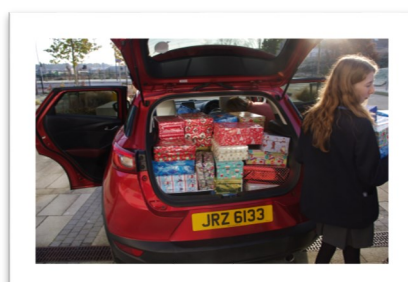


### Shoebox Appeal

**T**he pupils and staff at Parkhall Integrated College are once again to be congratulated on their efforts and involvement in the world's largest children's Christmas project: Operation Christmas Child.

The school's junior prefects did an amazing job, overseeing the entire project from start to finish, and they were totally overwhelmed with the school's response to it: one hundred and twenty shoeboxes, filled with thoughtful gifts and beautifully written messages, as well as monetary contributions, totalling £1200 worth of donations. The shoeboxes will be distributed to children in Belarus in Eastern Europe.

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



# Events In School

## Cash for Kids NI Schools Challenge

On 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019, we were selected as one of twenty schools in Northern Ireland to compete in the Cash for Kids NI Schools Challenge. Our challenge was to raise as much money as possible throughout the month of October, and all money raised was guaranteed to be invested into our school. We had several events such as a quiz night, bingo, soak the teacher, bun sales, a big breakfast, the list goes on... Our aim was to raise £2000 to support the development of a sensory room in our school to provide a safe environment for all pupils when they are feeling overwhelmed or struggling with their emotions. We smashed this target and raised a whopping £4472.88. Amazing work from everyone, and we are extremely grateful for all contributions received.



## Magilligan Field Trip

Our year 11 GCSE Geography students travelled to Magilligan on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October to take part in a study of the Curly Burn river. On arrival, we were greeted by our field officer for the afternoon, Natalie, who gave us a health and safety talk before we changed into our outfits for the day's activities. We were taken by bus to four sites along the river where we measured and recorded the width, depth and speed of the river, as well as the size and shape of the load. This information was then taken back to school, where it will be used to create tables and charts for use in our unit 3 exam. Thankfully, we had dry weather for our outing, and a great day was had by all.



## Out and About

### Year 14 Visit Queen's and UUJ

**Y**ear 14 students had the opportunity to attend open days at both Queen's and Ulster Universities. They were able to get a real feel for what it would be like to be an undergraduate, attend informative course talks and check out facilities such as the sports centres, libraries and accommodation. They could ask questions of the staff and student guides about topics such as course content and entry requirements. They left keen to face the challenges of their last year at school and excited about where their futures might lead.



### Year 8 Shared Education

**Y**ear 8 Irvine and O'Neill took part in a Shared Education induction day alongside our partnership schools, Antrim Grammar School and St. Benedict's College, on Wednesday 2nd October. They participated in workshops which were facilitated by UberHeroes, Young Enterprise and Flexible Teaching. The pupils had the opportunity to be reunited with some old friends from primary school and also to begin to build new friendships.

On Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November, we travelled to St. Benedict's College for our first LLW Shared Education lesson.

Pupils got to know more about their peers in their group and explored the theme of individuality, goal setting and the importance of being yourself. We are already looking forward to our next meet-up.



## Out and About with the Art Department

### Art Pupils Visit Belfast

**O**n Thursday 26th September, year 13 and 14 Art and Design pupils travelled to Belfast to visit both the University of Ulster Art College and The MAC Gallery to meet with senior curator Hugh Mulholland and view the work of local artist Mark McGreevy. Our pupils also spent some time photographing local landmarks and street art from Culture Night in the city centre.



### Art Pupils Decorate Starbucks

**O**n October 18th, our year 13 post-16 Art and Design pupils had the honour of decorating the windows of Starbucks at the Junction for the Spooktacular celebrations. They planned out the decoration in groups and completed the work on a fun Friday afternoon out of school bringing art into the community. The pupils did an outstanding job and had great fun interacting with customers and representing our school.



# Prize N

We held our annual awards ceremony on Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> October with over five hundred pup





# ight 2019

ils, parents and guests attending the event. Walter Lambe MBE was our guest of honour.



# Antrim and Ballymoney Cúchulainns Celebrated



To conclude this year's Cúchulainn Initiative and as part of Good Relations Week, Ulster GAA president Oliver Galligan hosted the Antrim and Ballymoney Cúchulainns who participated in the programme in 2019 and represented Ulster at the All-Britain Competition in London in July.

Speaking from the event held at the ECOS Centre, Ballymena, Ulster GAA president Oliver Galligan said: *"We are delighted to recognise the efforts and commitment of the four schools, Parkhall Integrated College, Crumlin Integrated College, Dalriada School and Our Lady of Lourdes School to the Cúchulainn Initiative. This is the first time that we have included a girls' team in the initiative, and we are delighted how well they have embraced the ethos of the project. The schools, the boys and girls and their parents have all shown real leadership and commitment to good relations. The Antrim and Ballymoney Cúchulainns have represented themselves, their schools and their towns with distinction throughout the Cúchulainn Initiative and also in London at the All-Britain Competition."*

Congratulating all those who took part, the mayor of Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council, Councillor Sean Bateson said:

*"The Cúchulainn Initiative is an inspiring example of good relations in action, and I was delighted to have this opportunity to meet with some of the recent participants. Taking part in sport encourages young people to develop life-long skills and values including team work, communication and resilience. This project goes beyond this by bringing people from different*

*backgrounds together, developing shared objectives and showcasing the unifying power of sport.”*

Also, in attendance, the deputy mayor of Antrim and Newtownabbey, Councillor Ann Marie Logue said, *“It was an honour to attend this event to celebrate the achievements of the programme. We are extremely proud of those pupils from Parkhall and Crumlin Integrated Colleges who represented our borough in this inspirational programme. It’s fantastic to see our young people from different community backgrounds coming together and building relationships.”*

Ulster GAA’s Cúchulainn Initiative is supported by The Executive Office through the Central Good Relations Fund, and speaking at the event, Andy Cole, director of Good Relations & T:BUC Division said, *“Young people are a key focus of the executive’s Good Relations strategy ‘Together: Building a United Community’. One of its main aims is to create the conditions where young people can play a full and active role in building good relations. The young people who participated in the Ulster GAA Cúchulainn Initiative are putting into practice that vision of reconciliation through sport.”*



## PE

### U18 Girls' First-ever Hockey Match for the School

**P**arkhall Integrated College played their first-ever under-18 hockey match.

The team was made up of girls from the newly formed post-16 group of girls. They took to their home pitch to play Carrick Academy in the East Antrim League. The focus for them was having fun and getting active and trying to recapture some of their skills from under-16 matches a couple of years ago. Under the leadership of Rachel Douglas, the following girls turned out superbly for the school's inaugural game: Hollie Kane, Ellie McFadden, Amy Adams, Amy Francis, Jade Brownlee, Rachel Douglas, Zoe Kilpatrick, Nicole Clyde, Katlyn Rooney, Emily Wilson, Kiah Sullivan, Jessica Graham-Matthews, Charley Robinson, Katie Hunter, Katie Wilson.



The game turned out to be very competitive and full of end-to-end play. The final score was 4-2 to Carrick but a good start to the under-18 campaign, considering some of our girls had not played hockey since year 10. The girls ran for every ball and competed in every tackle as if they had been playing every week. The Parkhall goals came from Nicole Clyde in the first quarter and Jessica Graham-Matthews in the final quarter. Well done to all involved.

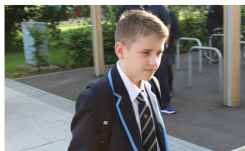
### Boys' PE Review

**A**s usual, it has been a busy start to the school year with the boys cramming a lot in. They have really bought into the after-school programme this year, with up to sixty turning out for football practice and forty for rugby.

The football teams have been busy with all three teams reaching the third round of the NI Cup and all doing well in the Mid Antrim Leagues and Cups as well as the East Antrim Cup.

On the rugby front, the boys have been busy practising with the Ulster Rugby Regional Development officers. The year 8s have been particularly busy playing Antrim Grammar, and attending a blitz at Ballyclare Secondary, where they competed against six other schools, but the highlight so far has been a trip to the Kingspan Stadium, where they had a tour of the stadium and played in a blitz tournament with schools from around the province. In the new year, the boys will be involved in their respective competitions so will be playing in more competitive games.

# Year 8 First Days



## MEET OUR HEAD BOY: JACK KIRKPATRICK



1) What is your #1 most played song?

**'Little Lion Man' by Mumford & Son**

2) What is one of your favourite quotes?

**'I am the master of my fate: I am the captain of my soul' by William Ernest Henley**

3) What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

**Ironing**

4) What is your favourite form of exercise?

**Playing hockey**

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

**To witness Queen playing at Live Aid in 1985**

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

**Learn how to speak Mandarin**

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

**A lot less course work**

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

**I have no free time with A-levels**

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

**I would buy my granny a new house**

10) What was the last movie you watched?

**'The Joker' - the best movie I've ever seen**

## MEET OUR HEAD GIRL: ZOE KILPATRICK



1) What is your #1 most played song?

**'Drunk in love' by Beyoncé**

2) What is one of your favourite quotes?

**'Don't feel guilty for doing what's best for you'**

3) What chore do you absolutely hate doing?

**Hoovering in work**

4) What is your favourite form of exercise?

**Playing football**

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

**I would love to have been at the stadium to watch the second leg of the Champions League semi-final between Liverpool and Barcelona.**

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

**I would learn to dance**

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

**Playing all day in the street with my friends**

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

**I go on my phone**

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

**Buy the Las Olas apartment in Tenerife for my whole family to use**

10) What was the last movie you watched?

**The Princess Switch**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring Term 2020	
Monday 6 <sup>h</sup> January	First day of term
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> January	Exceptional closure - pupils do not attend school.
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February (Inc.)	Half Term
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Exceptional closure - pupils do not attend school.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Last day of term
Summer Term 2020	
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April	First day of term
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Public holiday
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May	Exceptional closure - pupils do not attend school
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> June	Last day of term

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