



Parkside House School

Newsletter Summer 2025

July 2025



Head Teacher End Of Year Statement



As we reach the endpoint of the academic year, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements of our pupils at Parkside House School. Each of you has shown remarkable resilience and determination in your learning journey, and I am truly proud of the progress you have made. It is a joy to witness your development.

I would also like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to our dedicated Team. Their unwavering support and commitment to creating a nurturing and inclusive environment have been instrumental in our pupils' success. I have spent a significant amount of time this year supporting other schools, and I am continually impressed by the professionalism and passion exhibited by our team here at Parkside House.

Thank you all for your ongoing support and partnership. Together, we are fostering a community where every pupil can thrive and reach their full potential.

Thank you

Belinda Young
Head Teacher

July 2025



Mental Health Week @ Ashington



Learners took part in discussions surrounding positive strategies that improve mental health. They identified being outdoors and at one with nature as having a significant benefit. Following this, they agreed to take part on a walk around the local lake to feed the ducks and take note of the wildlife.

During history lessons, we discovered creativity was an important outlet for many Second World War prisoners of war. We learned that there were prisoners who employed artistic skills as a means of resistance, and after used it as a way of sharing their experiences. We incorporated art into our history lessons to honour this.





Mental Health Week @ Backworth



This year's theme was 'Community'

The Community theme highlights the vital role that supportive and safe communities play in supporting Mental Health and wellbeing.

At Backworth, we began Celebrating our Mental Health Awareness week with a display poster explaining the theme and the importance of valuing the different communities we belong to.

The students and staff team began the week, with a collaborative task in each tutor group to complete a short question sheet, devised by Miss Towse, to get everyone discussing their communities. The task involved sharing what they found was important to them about belonging to a community and writing down the communities they belong to, both inside and outside school. Many students got involved, and the completed lists are part of Miss Towse's final 'Community and Connection' display.





Wellbeing Week

Wellbeing Week was a great success at Parkside House School, bringing students and staff together through a variety of fun and healthy activities.

During lunchtime, students from different groups mixed and connected while playing virtual sports on the Nintendo Switch, encouraging both teamwork and physical activity.

Tuesday morning, students enjoyed making their own fresh smoothies, learning about healthy choices in a hands-on and engaging way.

Staff also joined in the fun with a well-attended rounders game after school on Wellbeing Wednesday, which created a fantastic atmosphere and a real sense of community. Overall, it was a positive and enjoyable week for everyone involved.





A Day Out at Beamish

Set across 350 acres of land in County Durham, Beamish Museum has been our school learners' step into the past, engaging with activities at the 1940s farm, baking carrot cookies and learning about keeping safe indoors during the Blitz, as evacuees. Staff have, kindly, shown us around the farm; introduced us to the protagonists: Sally the pig and Pete the shire horse, explaining the key role that animals played, whilst the war was raging on the battlefields. We continued with visits to the Pit Village, the sweet shop and the 50s town, which is a new addition to Beamish, bringing back the nostalgia of a bygone era





Athletics Day @ Ashington

Our learners were invited to join an exciting athletics event, where they gave their best in the competition. The learners participated in a variety of events, including the long jump, high jump, shot put, individual races, and relay races.

The learners were full of energy, cheering each other on and demonstrated great sportsmanship. A few of the learners managed to secure medals and all learners took part in at least one event. It was fantastic to see all the smiles, laughs, and friendly competition.

Definitely a day to remember!





Sports Day @ Backworth



Despite the unpredictable weather, this year's sports day was a fantastic success! All staff and students took part enthusiastically, showing incredible team spirit and determination throughout the day.



There was no shortage of friendly competition, with students giving their all in every race and event. From sprinting to tug-of-war, everyone gave their best effort, and it was wonderful to see so much encouragement and support from the sidelines.



Above all, students had great fun, enjoying the chance to challenge themselves and cheer on their friends. The day ended on a high note with a lively water balloon fight, bringing plenty of laughter and a refreshing finish to an action-packed day. A huge well done to everyone involved for making it such a memorable and enjoyable event!





Pride Week @ Backworth

we embraced Pride Week with colour, compassion, and curiosity, uniting under the powerful theme *Love is Love*. Throughout the week, students engaged deeply with the origins of Pride, exploring its roots through storytelling and thoughtful discussions, including powerful conversations around the Stonewall riots. Creative expression flourished across the school—from striking artwork to impactful research pieces—and culminated in a moment of bravery and pride as one student shared a heartfelt poem on homophobia with the entire school community.

On Thursday, the school transformed into a vibrant celebration, with students and staff alike dressing brightly and taking part in a joyful mini Pride festival featuring tattoos, face painting, rainbow-themed snacks, and a lively photo booth. The week not only celebrated identity and inclusivity but also showcased the school's collective courage to listen, learn, and love openly.





Water Safety Week @ Backworth

We had a fantastic time during Water Safety Week, filled with creative projects, important learning, and exciting experiences that helped our pupils understand how to stay safe around water.

Throughout the week, pupils took part in a wide range of activities designed to raise awareness about water safety in a fun and engaging way. They showed off their creativity by designing their own swimwear, crafting eye-catching water safety posters, and inventing unique water safety mascots to help spread key messages.

One of the highlights of the week was a visit to the Tynemouth Lifeboat Station. There, pupils met the dedicated RNLI crew, learned about their vital work, and saw the impressive lifeboats and equipment used in real rescue operations. Back at school, we were honoured to welcome an RNLI speaker who delivered an engaging and informative talk about how to stay safe by the sea, in rivers, and around open water.

Water Safety Week was not only a fun experience for everyone involved but also an incredibly important one. Our pupils have come away with a deeper understanding of how to enjoy the water safely—and they've had a brilliant time doing it.





PTSD Awareness @ Backworth

The whole month of June is recognised as PTSD awareness month, with a specific focus on June 27th being PTSD Awareness Day.

Here at the Backworth site, of Parkside House School, after a Wellbeing Champions meeting, we decided to celebrate the day by initially putting up posters around school to remind everyone of PTSD Awareness with a brief description of PTSD.

Student Wellbeing Champion, Lucy Lamie was very keen to propose all students were given the option to wear their own clothes on the 27th of June, to symbolise being comfortable, confident and able to express their individuality.

Lucy also decided, of her own accord, to purchase a box of teal-coloured ribbons to give to students and the staff team on PTSD Awareness Day.

After a further discussion with Mrs Young, Miss Towse (Staff Team Wellbeing Champion) and Lucy it was decided the students would be given a teal-coloured PTSD ribbon if they wished to wear one and the staff team could voluntarily contribute £1.00 to the charity, PTSD Uk.

On the morning of Friday 27th Wellbeing Champions, Lucy, Simon and Miss Towse delivered the ribbons to each class during Tutor time and noticed some students and staff team were wearing teal-coloured clothes. Many of the children chose to wear a ribbon and the staff team raised **£24.55** to donate to PTSD UK.





Duke OF Edinburgh @ Ashington



We are thrilled to share the success of our recent Duke of Edinburgh Award expedition for the Bronze Award, where our pupils showcased remarkable resilience and teamwork as they walked from Warkworth to Felton and camped overnight. A heartfelt thank you goes to our dedicated staff members, Mr. Hinchcliffe, Miss Hewitt, and Miss Grey, whose unwavering support and guidance were instrumental in making this expedition a success. During the expedition, our pupils developed essential map reading and orienteering skills, and they even cooked their own meals using a Trangia! Their determination and spirit throughout the journey were commendable, and we couldn't be prouder of their achievements.



Flamingo Land: A Rollercoaster of a Trip



School learners attended the Flamingo Land trip, enjoying the end-of-year treat, alongside staff.

Flamingo Land is a theme park, zoo, and resort located in [North Yorkshire](#), [England](#). Owned and operated by the Gibb

Family since 1978, the attractions have changed considerably to cater for the new generations that come through their gates annually. Learners tried the 'scary' rides; visited the Mansion of Mischief and enjoyed the outing with their peers, expressing an interest for another visit





Reading For Pleasure @ Ashington



We would like to invite all learners to check our new additions, at the PHS Ashington Library; to enjoy reading in the classroom, at home and over the Summer holidays. Reading for pleasure helps us immerse in imaginary worlds as well as build our vocabulary and language fluency.

We are committed to acquiring more dyslexia-friendly books in the new academic year, similarly, building a varied collection of the well-known classics, supporting learners who consider studying for the GCSE Literature assessment. ***Bonnelecture!***



Achievements



Well done to a few of our pupils achieving their proficiency awards in trampolining, you smashed it!



Man of The Match at a Five-a-side Football Tournament



All those who took part in the Duke Of Edinburgh Expedition for Bronze award.



After School Clubs we have enjoyed this year....



Dog walking with Basil

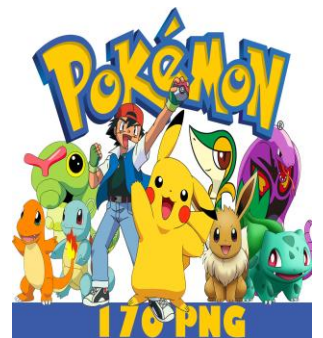


D & D every Thursday



New this year - Cheerleading

Pokémon



Mindfulness Mondays



End of Year Awards



100%

Daniel Cina
Callum Hill
Aurora Gigja
Dean Atkinson
Eoin Bloomfield
Chloe Walker
Scarlett Dearlove
Millie Clark

Gold - < 95%

Lilly Gormley
Lexi Dearlove
Jermaine McCalle
Leon Strain
TJ Redshaw

Silver – 90%- 95%

Rowan Longstaff
Jayden Pearson
Lakeisha Campbell
Macauley Knight
Amie Smith-Paul
William Woodhouse
Simon Van Vrouwerf
Layla Butler
Ella Martin
Libbie Mae McNestrie
Ruby Slater
Amy Leigh Thompson
Ollie Webster
Zavier Cleathero
Isabella Souter
Jacob Pallister



Pupil of the Year

Dean Atkinson
Isabella Souter

Sports Person of The Term



Jacob Layla Butler

Jacob Pallister

Helping Hands Award



Khai Hall

Most Improved Award



Jayden Pearson
Ruby Grist
Lacey Bryant





School Term Dates

Term and Holiday Dates

School Year 2025-2026

Holiday	School Will Close	Pupils Return <u>To</u> School
Autumn Term starts Wednesday 3rd September 2025		
Autumn Term	Friday 18 th July 2025	Wednesday 3 rd September 2025
Autumn Half Term	Friday 24 th October 2025	Tuesday 4 th November 2025
Christmas Holiday 2025	Friday 19 th December 2025	Wednesday 7 th January 2026
Spring Term Starts Wednesday 7th January 2026		
Spring Half Term 2026	Friday 13 th February 2026	Monday 23 rd February 2026
Easter Holidays 2026	Thursday 2 nd April 2026	Monday 20 th April 2026
Summer Term starts Monday 20th April 2026		
Bank Holiday	Monday 4 th May 2026	Tuesday 5 th May 2026
Summer Half Term 2025	Friday 22 nd May 2026	Monday 1 st June 2026
Summer Term End	Friday 17 th July 2026	Tuesday 1 st September 2026

Teacher Training Days – All Staff available for consultation

Monday 1st September 2025
Tuesday 2nd September 2025
Monday 3rd November 2025
Monday 5th January 2026
Tuesday 6th January 2026

