



# Parkside House School

**Newsletter Autumn 2025**

December 2025



## Head Teacher End of Year Statement

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

As we head towards the end of 2025, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible achievements of our pupils at Parkside House School.

Over this calendar year, we have seen both Ashington and Backworth sites come together as one, where we have seen the development of the curriculum and the improvement in the resources, such as the Hairdressing Salon, Catering Room and Media Suite at Ashington, along with the MUGA and climbing frame at Backworth.

Our students have made excellent progress, in and out of the classroom. In the summer we saw students in Year 10 and 11 achieve some excellent examination results, alongside students gaining the self-confidence in heading off to College, Sixth Form and apprenticeships.

Creatively, we have seen outstanding performances from our Sports Team, a recent excellent visit to a Car Home to sing and perform Christmas Caroles, along with wonderful art, crafts and design work on Art and Technology.

I feel privileged to work at such an amazing school.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all: pupils, parents and our fantastic teams a very Merry Christmas and a Peaceful and Productive NewYear.

Thank you

Belinda Young  
Head Teacher

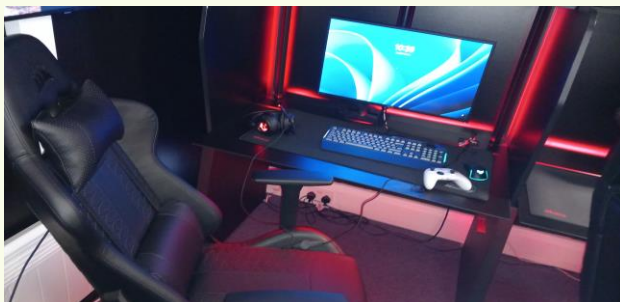


**We have been busy over the Summer holidays installing new facilities across sites**

**Pastoral Cabin @ Backworth**



**Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) and climbing frame @ Backworth**



**Esports & Multimedia Suite @ Ashington**



**Hair & Beauty Salon @ Ashington**





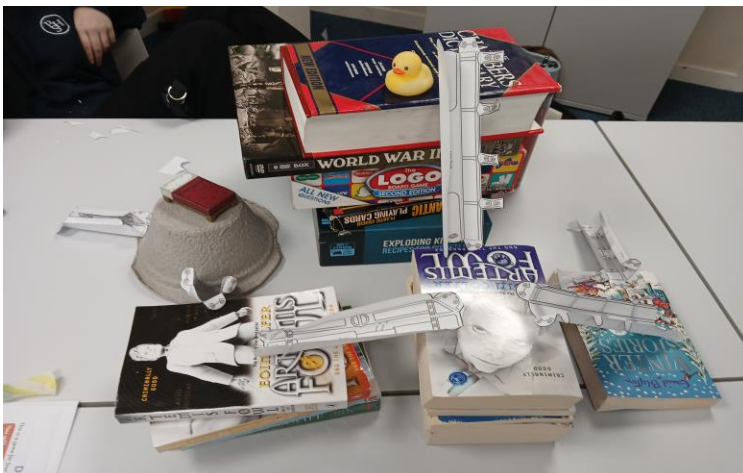
# Belonging & New Beginnings



To launch the term, pupils took part in a range of engaging activities, including scavenger hunts, team-building challenges, and Positive Sleuth sessions, all of which aimed to promote friendship, communication, and emotional reflection.

Throughout the first few weeks, pupils have taken part in a range of activities focused on:

- ✓ **Building relationships** – through team games, group challenges, and shared class goals
- ✓ **Expressing identity** – creating “All About Me” pieces and personal belonging boards
- ✓ **Setting intentions** – reflecting on new beginnings and what they hope to achieve this term
- ✓ **Exploring our school values** – recognising how respect, resilience, kindness, and curiosity help us grow together





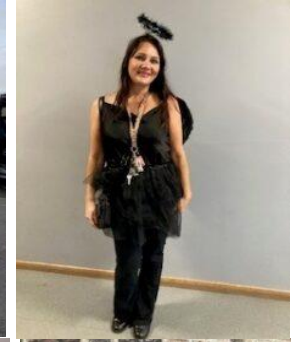


# We Celebrated World Mental Health Awareness Day

This year we celebrated World Mental Health Day supporting the 'Young Minds' campaign 'Hello Yellow' by standing up for mental health and wearing something yellow.







## Halloween @ Parkside







# Sporting Success @ Parkside



The Cross Country team delivered outstanding performances, placing first and second in the 16 and under boys' race and securing second place in the 16 and under girls' race. Students showed great sportsmanship, supporting their peers throughout the event, and a fantastic day was had by all.





# Wanderers U16 Football Tournament

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> of October, four pupils took part in the annual wanderers under 16 football tournament. The team did exceptionally well winning an amazing **6 games** and drawing **1**.

Parkside House School had the best results of the day! The team showed good sportsmanship towards each other and their opponents throughout the tournament and represented the school well.

Several teachers from other schools as well as the events organiser praised our pupils for their positive attitude and enthusiasm throughout the day.

## Well done team!







# Basket Ball Wanderers Competition



The Wanderers hosted an exciting school basketball competition at the Newcastle Eagles stadium on 11th of December, and our team rose to the occasion with an outstanding performance. Throughout the tournament, the students demonstrated exceptional skill, teamwork, and dedication—qualities that shone through in every match they played.

Both our school teams were in excellent form, winning **all but one** game in a series of fast-paced, competitive fixtures. Their determination on the court, combined with strategic play and impressive shooting, helped secure their place as one of the standout teams of the event.

## Well done team!







# We Celebrated Bonfire Night with Sparklers and Safety

**"The sparklers were amazing! I felt like a superstar holding it!"**

The students learned about sparkler safety, gaining valuable knowledge on how to handle sparklers responsibly. With their newfound knowledge, the pupils had the exciting opportunity to use sparklers, putting their safety skills into practice.

**"I loved making the slime, it was so sparkly!"**





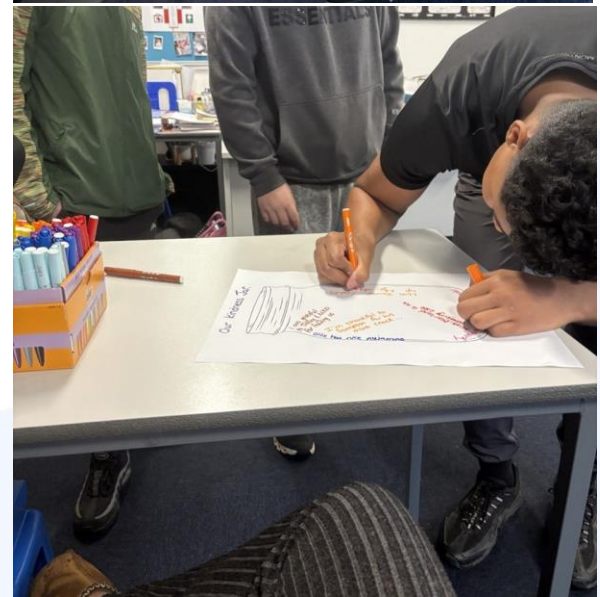
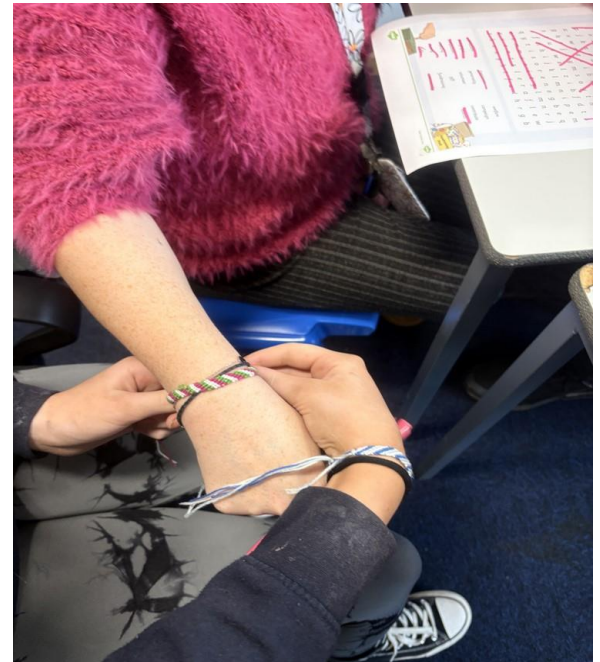


# World Kindness Day

We observed World Kindness Day on November 13th, across both of our sites by putting up displays and posters encouraging students and staff team to celebrate one of our school rules which is 'be kind'.

Staff and students were asked to consider some of their thoughts and actions whilst writing them down in an 'Our Kindness Jar' which they could chat about.

Some students showed their appreciation of 'World Kindness Day' choosing to celebrate, with a very kind gesture, making their own friendship bracelets, to share with students and staff.







# Children In Need 2025





## Highlights from the day included:

 **Pudsey-themed dress down day:** pupils chose yellow, spots, or Pudsey outfits to express themselves in a safe and supportive environment

 **Whole-school community atmosphere:** staff and pupils celebrating together to build connection and belonging

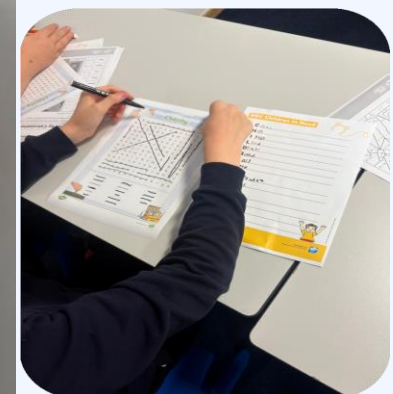
 **Pudsey-themed baking:** pupils worked together to create Pudsey-inspired treats, building practical skills, confidence and teamwork

 **English and maths activities:** engaging Children in Need-themed tasks helped pupils develop key skills through meaningful, real-world learning

 **Children in Need Quiz:** a fun, structured activity promoting teamwork, communication and confidence

Thanks to everyone's generosity, we are thrilled to announce that together we raised:

💛 **Grand Total: £ 61.81** 💛







# Christmas Jumper Day



A huge thank you to all pupils and staff at Parkside House School who took part in this year's Christmas Jumper Day on 11th December, in support of Save the Children charity.



Save the children works in the UK and around the world to make sure every child has the chance to grow up healthy, safe and with access to education. By taking part in Christmas Jumper Day our school has helped give children a brighter future.



Thanks to everyone's generosity, we are thrilled to announce that together we raised:



**Grand Total: £ 26.40**



# Centre For Life Visit

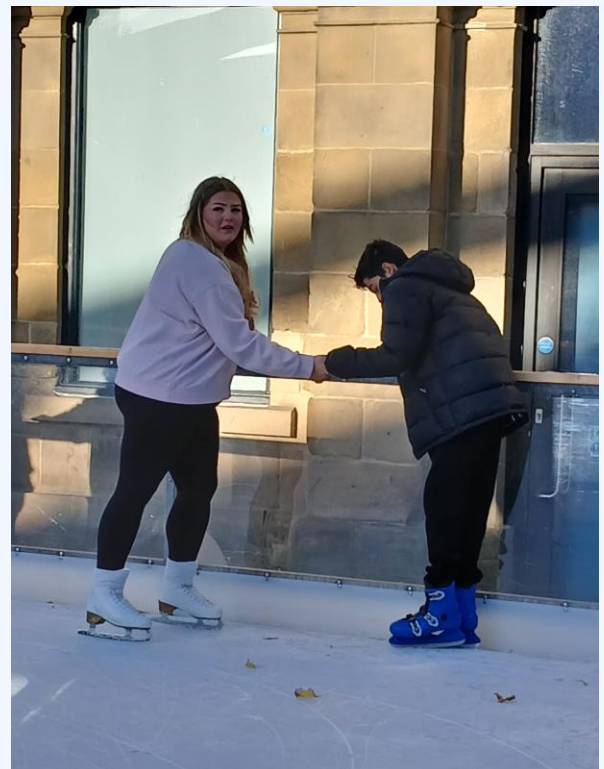


Pupils from both our Backworth and Ashington sites, coming together as one school across two sites, enjoyed a fantastic visit to the Centre for Life. The day was packed with exciting, hands-on science experiences. Pupils fully engaged in all of the interactive activities on offer, showing curiosity, resilience, and enthusiasm as they explored a wide range of scientific concepts through practical learning.

A real highlight of the trip was ice skating, where every pupil took part. Whether stepping onto the ice for the first time or building on existing skills, pupils encouraged one another and demonstrated great teamwork and confidence.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to our amazing parent volunteer, whose support helped make the day run so smoothly. Your time and commitment are truly appreciated.

The visit was a brilliant opportunity for pupils from both sites to learn, have fun, and share experiences together. Well done to everyone involved for representing our school so positively and making the most of this memorable day out.







# Spreading Christmas Cheer In The Community



Pupils from Parkside House School enjoyed a wonderful visit to a care home in Bedlington on 16th December, where they had the opportunity to spend time with residents and share some festive cheer. Throughout the visit, pupils confidently mingled, chatted, and built positive connections with the residents, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere for everyone involved.

The highlight of the day was a festive singing performance by the pupils. As soon as the performance began, residents' faces lit up, and it was clear how much joy the pupils brought to the room. Mrs Towse described the visit as "a wonderful day," noting how much both the pupils and residents enjoyed the experience.

To conclude the visit, pupils proudly handed out handmade goodie bags to the residents. Each bag included a Christmas tree decoration created by the pupils, along with a selection of chocolates, which were gratefully received.

*spread  
Christmas  
Cheer*



# After School Clubs coming next term.....

BEAUTY SALON



Tuesdays @ Ashington

Wednesdays @ Ashington



Wednesdays @ Backworth

Thursdays @ Backworth

**DUNGEONS  
& DRAGONS**







# School Term Dates

## Term and Holiday Dates

### School Year 2025-2026

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

#### Teacher Training Days – All Staff available for consultation

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



**And that's a wrap! What a great start to the new school year!**



**We Look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Wednesday 7th January 2026**

**Merry ChriStmaS  
and  
HaPPy New Year!**