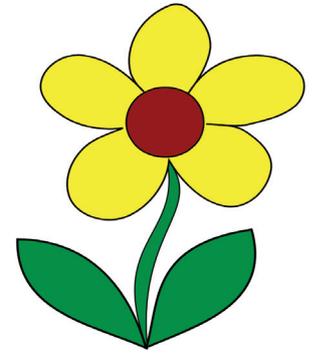


Catcote Newsletter



July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Catcote Academy and Catcote Futures continue to grow and demand for places is greater now than it has ever been. Our offer of life-long learning is attracting great interest from across the region and we always ensure that the diverse needs of the children entering the school can be met.

We have been exploring and planning some significant changes to our provision for well over a year and I am delighted that I am now able to share with you all some very exciting news.

We have taken over the lease for what was Warren Road Adult Services Centre from Hartlepool Borough Council and are looking to occupy the building from September. Catcote Futures and all our vocational areas will be based within this building which will then free up space in both the main school and the Brierton site to better meet the needs of our 11-19 population. Between now and September we will be carrying out extensive refurbishment of the Warren Road and Catcote sites.

As a school, we are not alone in facing funding cuts which continue to challenge us as an organisation. It might be argued that now is not a good time to expand our service and this is a major commitment for the school, but if we are to meet the current and future needs of our children and young people we simply have to grasp this opportunity.

At Catcote we continue to take practical steps to support and encourage our students to realise their potential and raise their aspirations, to continue their learning and be able to make considered career choices.

Following on from the success of our Vestry Café within the Christchurch Art Gallery we have recently opened a shop within Middleton Grange Shopping Centre. This will give our students the opportunity to gain valuable work experience in the retail trade. We are selling goods and crafts made by our students alongside Fairtrade items. There is a training room above the shop to allow students the opportunity to work in an environment away from school. Information about our Academy and Catcote Futures is available alongside displays and quality goods.

I know you will give us your full support in this venture as you always do, it is greatly appreciated.

Kind regards,

Alan Chapman

School Attendance

This term we have been monitoring each class' attendance and we have a 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

Well done to Class 4 (Mr. Ash) with 98.62 % attendance and for coming 1st place.



2nd place goes to Class 10 (Miss Boyd) with 98.40%



3rd place goes to Link 2 (Mr. Kitson) with 98.39%



Zoo lab

Catcote Academy had a fantastic visit from their favourite critters Zoo lab this year. A range of animals from shy hermit crabs, fluffy rats, slithering snakes and even a bearded dragon made an appearance. All students and staff had a lovely time, asking a lot of interesting questions about the animals as well as being given the chance to hold some of them! A fun filled day was had by all.



Bamboozle

This term, Catcote Academy has had some very special visitors. Bamboozle are a theatre company that use intensive interaction techniques to engage all complex students.

They told a story based on Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' through music, dance and performing arts.

STORM was performed to two small groups



of students from the Academy as well as two small groups from our feeder school Springwell.

It was exciting and moving to watch a group of students completely immersed in what they were watching, without the constraints of having to sit still. Some students chose to climb on the set, while others got up close and personal with the actors.

The movements and actions of the students



influenced the way the performances developed, and what fascinating shows they were!

I think the students' favourite parts were the 'monster' waking up, acting silly and the magician practicing magic. We hope Bamboozle will visit us again to work with even more of our students.



Choices Event

Catcote Academy held their annual 'Choices Event' in February 2017. The Academy holds this event in addition to many other initiatives, to help students to think about their future.



Students from Years 9 to 14 had the opportunity to explore and to discuss their future career options and to find out more information about opportunities from a variety of outside agencies. This included training providers and colleges from across Tees Valley. Key employers, including McDonald's, J & B Recycling and Ashbank Laundry Services, also attended the event. They spoke to the students about employer expectations and specific job roles within

their organisations.

The event also served to promote further education and vocational options for students aged 16 to 19 in Catcote Academy, including horticulture, catering, performing arts, forest school, childcare, business and enterprise,



hair & beauty and woodworking.

Parents and carers attended the event and had the opportunity to speak to providers and employers about options that are available for their children upon leaving school.

Refreshments were provided during the afternoon by Catcote Academy's own catering department.



Easter Fayre

Catcote Easter Fayre took place on Wednesday 5th April 2017.

Stalls included a tombola, cake stall, flowers, craft stall, hot dog stall, candle stall, milkshakes, refreshments and many more!



Staff and students have been very creative working on individual class projects. The turn out by parents, carers, family and friends was fantastic and you were all very generous with your donations and spending.



This year we raised £1208.87

A big well done to all staff and students!

Wheelchair Basket Ball

In the Spring term students from Class 5 have been taking part in wheelchair basketball sessions. Students really enjoyed the sessions and in March they took part in a town trial at Dyke House school. The students will attend a further trial and some will be chosen to go forward to a competition in Darlington to represent Hartlepool in April.



The students have been working really hard towards this and are looking forward to the next trial.



Fairtrade

Fairtrade activities reached new heights this year in an effort to raise awareness. Barry Currell abseiled 164 feet from the Middlesbrough Transporter bridge to launch the 2 weeks of activities involving both Catcote Futures and Catcote Academy.



Hartlepool has been a Fairtrade town since 2005 and has successfully renewed its application every 2 years thanks to the efforts and contributions of Catcote Academy and Catcote Futures. This year Catcote helped to organise a town wide baking competition to bake the best Fairtrade biscuit to enjoy during your Fairtrade break. Competition was intense and lots of classes practised their recipes to ensure theirs was just right for the day. A town wide selfie competition was also launched inviting people to send pictures of themselves enjoying a 'Fairbreak'. Catcote Futures invited parents to their Fairtrade coffee morning creating lots of fun activities, including a very popular fun photo booth. This was also a great opportunity to judge our own biscuits before we entered them into the main competition at the Academy the



following week.

On Friday 10th March, Catcote Academy held their own Fairtrade coffee morning which was open to other schools and the general public. Primary schools and other groups from across the town turned up with their selfies and of course their very own Fairtrade cookies. Hartlepool Mayor and Mayoress Mr and Mrs Cook came along to enjoy the morning and complete the difficult task of judging the competitions. The number of entries was overwhelming. Judging took a really long time and the Mayer Rob Cook said "Literally any one of the entries to the biscuit competition could have won. They all looked fantastic and tasted great" After long deliberation it was decided that first place should go to Catcote Futures student Rosie Scott from CF7. Well done Rosie.





The best selfie competition was equally as difficult to judge. Again after lots of studying of the pictures, the winning picture came from Clavering Primary school. It showed more than 20 students along one huge table all wearing homemade Fairtrade hats and enjoying their Fairtrade break. A big thank you and well done to Clavering.



Finally it must be said that this years Fairtrade events were some of the best ever held at Catcote Academy and it would not be FAIR if we did not thank the amazing staff who made it happen. Without the hard work of Lisa, Jackie, Diane, Kay (and I know an awful lot more too many to mention), the coffee morning just would not have happened. Thank you to everyone who has helped to support Fairtrade.



Grease

Mr Kitson's Performing Arts class have wowed audiences with their performances of the West End musical Grease!

The students had been preparing for it since November and their hard work showed in their fantastic performance!

Brinkburn 6th Form College welcomed us into their theatre, which was packed to the rafters (over 400 people) for two fabulous performances.



A huge well done to all the performers and a big thank you to the support staff. A big thank you to everyone who came to watch and support the students. We'll see you again for a new show next year!



Hip Hop

Our students - Catcote Crew - have been learning hip hop styles of dancing with Zac from Ruff Diamond during their healthy living lessons and competed in the Hartlepool Hip Hop championship 2017.

They were given some great comments from the Ruff Diamond judges and the Mayor of Hartlepool.



They were awarded a special judges' award, the "crowd favorite award" and came 5th in the competition.

It was an amazing achievement for our students to take part in a whole town competition alongside the rest of the secondary schools.

We would like to thank everyone who came to support us during the event. We are very proud of them.

Sing and sign

This year, Catcote Academy has been working closely with Eldon Grove Academy to make signing more accessible in their schools. Catcote's sing and sign group decided to join together with some of the year 5s and 6s from Eldon Grove to perform a song. Eldon Grove came to look around the school and perform to our assembly group. We then joined forces to learn a song together to perform at the Strawberry Fayre.



This was a great success and all students had a fantastic time. Thank you to all of the staff and students who give up their breaks and free time to make this happen!



Space 2 Learn

Class 8 took the TARDIS for a spin at Space 2 Learn this term as part of our cross-curricular topic of 'travelling through space and time'. When we visited Space 2 Learn (a high-tech immersive learning environment).

They arrived in what looked like Trafalgar Square in London and soon heard the recognisable noise of an arriving TARDIS. They went into the TARDIS and travelled through a vortex.

The afternoon involved the students landing on the moon and working in teams to create giant constellations on the floor. Next they travelled back to the Roman Empire where they got to show off the amazing Roman shield they had been making. The final stop for the TARDIS was ancient Egypt where the students explored the sarcophagus of Tut enkhmun and bravely explored Canopic jars filled with his 'organs'.

The students thoroughly enjoyed the experience and were very impressed by the epic journey we had made in one afternoon!

Supported Internship Programme

Catcote Futures students Christopher Scott and Rosie Scott are the first two students to participate in our Supported Internship Study Programme.

The Internship programme is for young people aged 16-24 with a Learning Difficulty Assessment or Education, Health and Care plan. It provides a personalised and flexible study programme tailored to meet individual needs and increase the chance of sustaining paid employment upon completion of the programme.

The programme links up with employers to give students with Special Educational Needs the chance to prepare for employment.

Chris has been carrying out his Internship with Hartlepool Borough Council's Centre for Excellence in Teaching & Learning (CETL) where he has gained so much confidence during his time there. He has acquired many new skills, including preparing lunches, buffets and meals for a range of catering functions and events. The invaluable skills and experience have certainly set him in good stead in looking for employment.



Staff at the CETL were delighted with his progress and say he has become an integral part of the team. Chris is going to complete his Internship working in the Coffee Shop in school. Rosie has been working in Footprints Day Nursery, where she delights in the contact with the young children there. She is using her knowledge of Makaton signs to support the communication of children for whom English is a second language. She is beginning to widen her knowledge and skills of the varying work of a Nursery Assistant. Both students attend Catcote Academy on Fridays and are working hard to complete accreditation specific to their placements. Chris is working towards Level 1 in Hospitality and Rosie is working towards Level 1 in the Care Sector.



World Book Day

Lots of our classes have been involved in celebrating World Book Day. This is an international event, which took place this year on the 2nd March. In our school Classes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, S5 and CF7 have been celebrating our love of books and stories in assembly each Monday this term with our big celebration taking place to coincide with World Book Day.

We also joined forces with our friends at Summerhill and we had a fantastic afternoon.



Class S5 and C1 were invited to lunch with lots of important people to open the new wheelchair access path to the woods. Our students participated in lots of different activities during the afternoon based around our favourite stories. Lots of our students went on a hunt in the forest to find some characters from their favourite stories.

Mr Ash told the students a sensory story, which everyone really enjoyed



At the end of the afternoon all of the classes went in to the woods and enjoyed a drink and a biscuit around the campfire. All of our friends from Summerhill said they had had a great time and so did we. We would like to say a big thank you to Mr Pounder who helps us all with our outdoor learning at Summerhill, to all of the staff at school who made such a wonderful lunch, to Mr Ash for telling such a great story and to all of our friends at Summerhill who have worked hard to make the woods accessible for all of our students and people who use wheelchairs. We really enjoyed World Book Day 2017



Blue Reef Trip

This term the students in class 2, 3 and 4 have been exploring the topic of Water. As a reward for all their hard work,



we visited the Blue Reef Aquarium in Tynemouth. Students had a fantastic time looking at all the different fish, seals and the very smelly otters!



Well done everyone!



Class 10

During the Summer term Class 10 completed a project with Dogs Trust. The students researched the Trust and investigated how dogs were cared for. The students had the opportunity to visit the Darlington Centre and met Alison who gave a tour and explained the procedures. The students had a fantastic afternoon and enjoyed meeting the dogs and interacting with the staff.



Class 10 received funding from Parents and Friends to complete a 6 week wheelchair basketball course. The students (and staff) had a great experience and thoroughly enjoyed the sessions. The students developed an understanding and appreciation of what being in a wheelchair was like while developing their skills of the game.



Duke of Edinburgh Award

DofE students completed their Bronze Award, camping at Abbots Farm, Goathland and canoeing from Ruswarp to Whitby along the river Esk.

The students also set up camp, cooked their own meals, navigated a walk around the area, practised first aid skills and checked health and safety around the campsite.



All this was completed despite the swarm of midges that surrounded our campsite. DofE leaders Mr Pounder and Miss Gofton and the DofE assessors were full of praise for students who all worked well as a team helping each other throughout the Expedition. The students will now start their Silver award in the new term. Well done everyone!



Award Multi School Sports Event

Students in Class 1 and 4 attended a sports event for Teesside schools at Marsh House Sports Centre in Billingham.



The students were challenged in a number of different activities including Boccia, Messi Football, Kurling and Table Cricket.



The students did extremely well and enjoyed all the different activities.



Bishop of Durham's Prayer Walk

The Bishop of Durham and his entourage called into The Vestry to meet Catcote students on his recent Prayer Walk through Hartlepool. He has since sent this letter which we would like to share with you :

The Bishop of Durham
Right Reverend Paul Butler

Bishop's Office, Auckland Castle, Bishop Auckland, County Durham, DL14 7NR

T: 01388 602 576
W: www.durham.anglican.org
E: bishop.of.durham@durham.anglican.org



Mr A Chapman
Headteacher
Caticote Academy
Caticote Road
Hartlepool
TS25 4EZ

12th June 2017

Dear Tony,

Re: Bishop's Prayer Walk – Hartlepool Thursday 1st June 2017

I write to give my thanks for the warm welcome and hospitality received during my brief visit to the Vestry Café as part of the Hartlepool Deanery prayer walk.

I thoroughly enjoyed meeting you and the students. It is clear to see the high level of dedication given towards the future vision of the café. In particular, I was struck by the way in which the café is seen not only as a place to enjoy refreshments and view artwork in the gallery, but a space for students to develop their own culinary skills and confidence in the catering and hospitality services.

It is such an encouragement to see the local Council giving the opportunity for projects such as The Vestry to grow and develop in a beautiful setting of a former church.

May the vision of the Café continue to flourish in the coming months and years. God's blessings be upon all that you do.

With prayers and best wishes,



Rt. Revd Paul Butler
Bishop of Durham

 Diocese of Durham Blessing our communities in Jesus' name 



Erasmus - Romania

The 'My Work is My Future' Erasmus project is due to end in August. We have been working with schools in 5 countries across Europe for the last two years and the final school visit took place in May, with Mrs Wharton, Mrs Straker and Mr Waites travelling to Lugoj in Romania.

This project is focused on supporting students with autism and learning disabilities to learn new skills using video modelling and picture instructions. Besides Catcote, there are schools from Slovakia, Croatia, Turkey, Romania and Poland.

During the 3 day meeting we enjoyed a tour of the host school, a visit to a centre for children with Autism and looking at therapy using horses.

Our staff have learned a lot from the other teachers and schools involved in this project and we hope to be able to maintain the excellent links we have established with European schools.



Gamecon

This term Class 8 have transformed their classroom to look like it has been taken over by characters from the video game universe. Lessons have been designed to include everything the children love about gaming. As an end of term treat, the class teamed up with Hartlepool College of Further Education, who helped them host Class 8's Gamecon 2017.

A team of staff and students from the college brought a wide range of games consoles, games, prizes and challenges. All of the students had a fantastic day working as a team to build levels on 'Mario Maker', battling it out in 'Super Smash Brothers Brawl' and trying to become the driving champion in 'Mariokart Wii'. We have never seen the class get on with unfamiliar adults the way they did during Gamecon. Let's hope Gamecon 2018 can be even bigger and better!



Fairtrade Fame

Once again Catcote led on an activity involving town schools to raise awareness of Fairtrade. A celebration event took place at the Art Gallery and involved schools showing and sharing the work they have been doing around Fairtrade. Hartlepool Mayor, Councillor Paul Beck attended the event and gave out certificates.



He praised the work by Catcote saying that we are a credit to the town. Joe Harrison, Fairtrade Foundation, from the who travelled from London to be involved in this celebration, also attended the event



Year 7 Transition Programme

We would like to welcome our new Year 7 students who will be joining the Academy in September.



The students have taken part in weekly lessons with some of our teaching staff, visited Summerhill and stayed for school lunch.



Sports Day

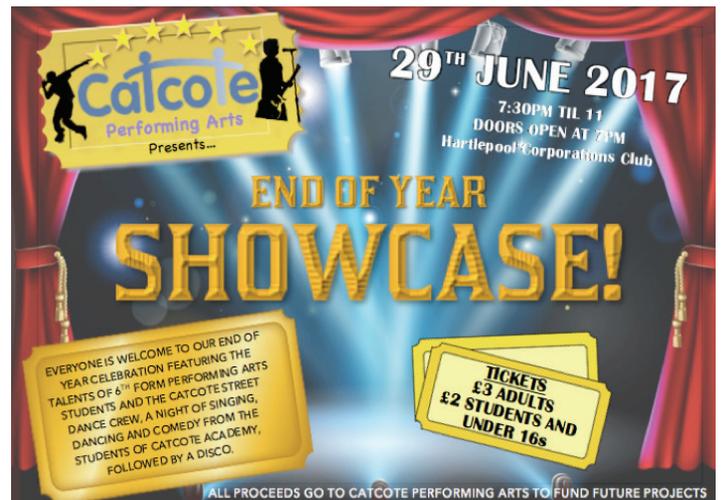
Catcote Academy sports day ran on Wednesday 12th of July. How lucky we were with the weather the sun shone all day. Students were able to take part in various races and throwing events and also the high jump. This year, for the first time the Academy's new MUGA (Multi Use Games Area) was turned into a sensory experience. Students really enjoyed the activities which included a bubble machine, water and sand

area, parachute, boccia. They especially enjoyed the water pistol shoot out area! All the students tried their hardest in activities and there were some outstanding performances. Students showed determination but also great encouragement and sportsmanship towards others throughout the afternoon. It was fantastic to see parents again at the event supporting the students involved



Showcase!

Mr Kitson's 6th Form Performing Arts group put on a wonderful performance in their End Of Year Showcase! The 14 students sang for a crowd of over 200 and everyone had a wonderful night! Hartlepool Corporation Club was the venue where the students celebrated our biggest and best year yet. Ticket sales and a raffle managed to raise £500 to go towards future Catcote Performing Arts projects. A huge thank you to everyone who came to support us and a massive well done to all the performers!



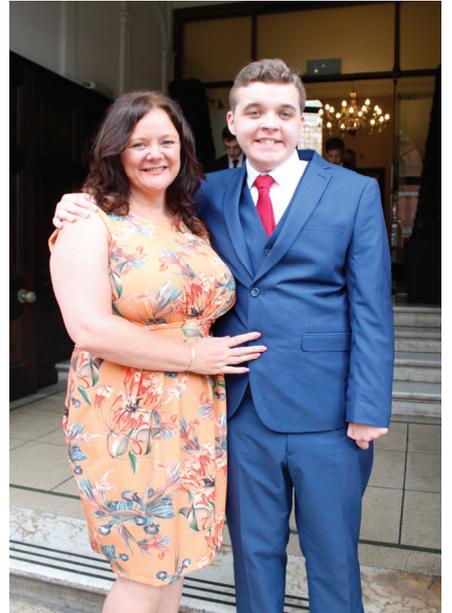
Link 2 Alton Towers

Link 2 have enjoyed a wonderful trip to Alton Towers. We stayed for 3 days and 2 nights and enjoyed lots of rollercoasters and rides. We also ate a ridiculous amount of food! All the students behaved extremely well and had a brilliant time.

Mr Kitson is very proud of all of his students and is really going to miss them next year!



Summerball





Calendar 2017-2018

HARTLEPOOL ASPIRE TRUST CALENDAR 2017/2018

	2017	AUGUST 2017	SEPTEMBER 2017	OCTOBER 2017	NOVEMBER 2017	DECEMBER 2017
Monday		7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Tuesday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31	1 8 15 22 29	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Wednesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30	8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Thursday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 27	9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Friday	4 11 18 25	8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25	10 17 24 27	8 15 22 29
Saturday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26	11 18 25 28	9 16 23 30
Sunday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	1 8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27	12 19 26 29	10 17 24 31

 Bank Holiday
 Holiday
 PD day

2018	JANUARY 2018	FEBRUARY 2018	MARCH 2018	APR	MAY 2018	JUNE 2018	JULY 2018
Monday	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	2 9 16 23 30
Tuesday	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	3 10 17 24 31
Wednesday	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	4 11 18 25
Thursday	4 11 18 25	8 15 22 29	1 8 15 22 29	5 12 19 26	10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	5 12 19 26
Friday	5 12 19 26	2 9 16 23	2 9 16 23 30	6 13 20 27	1 18 25 28	8 15 22 29	6 13 20 27
Saturday	6 13 20 27	3 10 17 24	3 10 17 24 31	7 14 21 28	2 9 16 23 30	9 16 23 30	7 14 21 28
Sunday	7 14 21 28	4 11 18 25	4 11 18 25	8 15 22 29	3 10 17 24 27	10 17 24 31	8 15 22 29

Return Dates

Catcote Academy start: Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Catcote Futures start: Wednesday 3rd January 2018