



Harton Academy

NEWSLETTER

Your termly update

Christmas 2018

ISSUE 4



WELCOME

Welcome to the Christmas edition of Harton News, the termly newsletter for parents, students, staff, governors and members of the community.

The academic term leading up to the Christmas holidays has been exceptionally busy, with a huge number of festive activities, awards evenings and performances continuing to be a welcome feature of school life.

We break up at 12:15pm on Friday 21st December and all students return to school after the Christmas holiday on Tuesday 8th January 2019. Please refer to our 'Pastoral' pages for further information relating to the start of the new spring term 2019.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to everyone for your tremendous support which continues to make Harton the 'outstanding' school that it is.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a fantastic Christmas break with your families and I look forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Best wishes

Sir Ken Gibson
Executive Head Teacher



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HARTON SPORTS CENTRE

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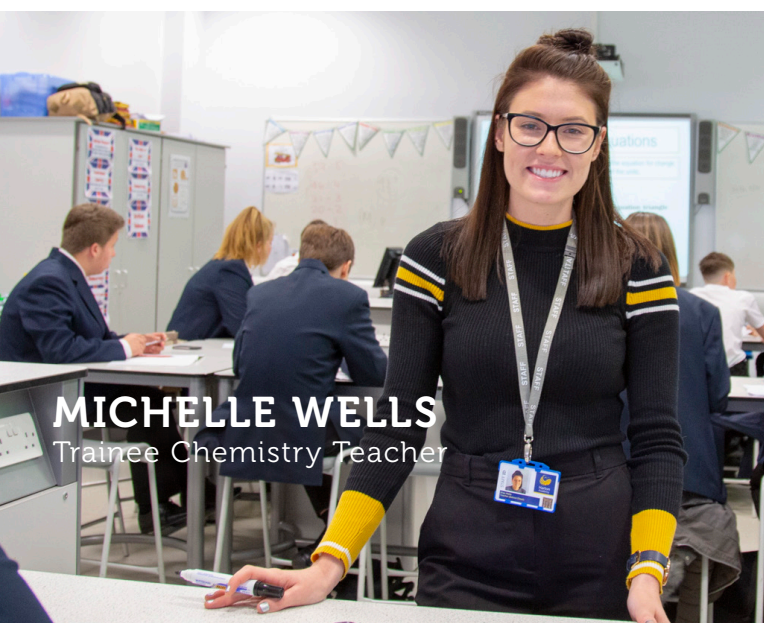


Thinking about teaching?

We would be interested to hear from you if you are thinking of becoming a teacher, or know someone who is. We are looking for people who have (or will have): a degree, a passion for teaching and a desire to inspire young people to fulfil their potential.

For more information visit:
www.hartonacademy.co.uk

Or email us at:
schooldirect@hartonacademy.co.uk



“Mr Speaker” Visits Harton!

We were delighted to welcome The Rt Hon John Bercow MP (Mr Speaker) to Harton Academy on Friday 30th November. Mr Speaker spent the entire morning chatting to a range of students in our Lecture Theatre. First of all he outlined his role as Mr Speaker and answered some excellent questions from our Year 7 and Year 8 students, along with approximately forty students from Harton Primary School.

After a short break, Mr Speaker then conducted a Brexit debate with Harton students from Years 10, 11, 12 & 13, together with invited 6th Form guests from Whitburn Church of England Academy, St Wilfrid's Roman Catholic College and St Joseph's Catholic Academy.

It was a fantastic opportunity for the students and staff who were fortunate to attend.



Christmas Card Competition

The Harton Academy Christmas Card Competition came to a close on Thursday 6th December when Sir Ken had the very difficult task of selecting the top entries from a fine crop of designs. This is a much-loved annual competition where students compete to win the chance of having their artistry printed and used as the schools' official Christmas Card. The Art department staff selected nominees from Years 7, 8 and 9 and, once again, the quality of the entries was extremely high.

Sir Ken was so impressed by the quality of this year's designs, that we are presenting four prizes instead of the usual three:

- **1st Prize** of a £25 gift voucher goes to Year 9 student **Bushra Rahman**, plus professional copies of her card. Sir Ken will also be using this card to represent our school.
- **2nd Prize** of a £15 gift voucher goes to Year 8 student **Humayra Miah**, plus a few professional copies of her card to give to her family.
- **3rd Prize** of a £10 gift voucher goes to Year 9 student **Ellie Oliver**, plus a few professional copies of her card to give to her family.
- **4th Prize** of a £5 gift voucher goes to Year 7 student **Lauren Kinson**, plus a few professional copies of her card to give to her family.

We would like to take this opportunity to pass on a huge 'thank you' to all students who entered the competition and for their hard work, both at home and in the classroom.

1st



2nd



3rd



4th



Runners-up





Samaritan's Purse - Christmas Shoe Box Appeal

A huge 'Thank You' to all of our students, staff, family and friends who have contributed to this year's Christmas Shoe Box Appeal which the school runs every year in conjunction with the Samaritans Purse Organisation. A small shoebox can have a big impact. Thank you for being a part of changing children's lives all over the world through the power of a simple gift.

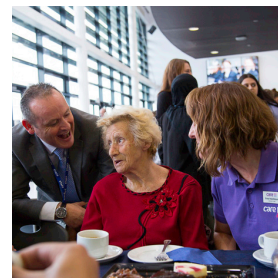
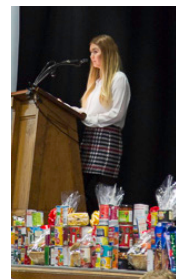
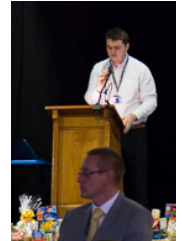
Find out more:

www.samaritans-purse.org.uk

Harvest Festival

The school has a long history of celebrating Harvest Festival. This year, on Friday 5th October, we held a series of assemblies in our main hall involving all year groups. We were delighted to welcome our guests from Cheviot Court Care Home. After the Harvest Festival assemblies they joined us for tea and cakes!

The response of students and their families to the appeal for Harvest Festival produce was, as usual, magnificent. Sixth Form students packed up and delivered over 200 food parcels. Amongst the beneficiaries were the Key Project Homeless Person's Charity and residents near to the school.



Remembrance

We recently commemorated the century anniversary of the end of the First World War. We are very proud of our record of remembrance and our Remembrance Day service is always a highlight of the year. On Friday 9th November, assemblies were delivered to every year group in the school. Our guests from Cheviot Court Care Home joined us again for the final assembly and refreshments and our students were thrilled to talk with guests about their wartime experiences!





The Addams Family School Production

On the 6th and 7th of November, everyone's favourite kooky family visited Harton Academy in a spectacular musical-comedy about love, friendship and, most of all, family. Both shows were a great success, with over 400 people attending the performances over two nights. The talent on display from our students was fabulous, and every single member of the cast should be incredibly proud of themselves. The hard work and dedication they showed throughout rehearsals, as well as the performances, really did pay off. Well done to everyone involved and a huge thank you to all the members of staff who also gave many hours of their own time - it really was a true team effort!





NCS Awards Night

On Thursday 7th November, staff members Will Green and Helen Astrop were invited to the annual NCS Star Awards evening in the wonderful surroundings of Durham Town Hall. Harton was given an award for having the highest number of students in our area take up the offer of summer activities with the NCS. Mr Green and Mrs Astrop were delighted to receive this award on behalf of the school.

Working in partnership with NCS, our school helped to promote the summer activities. As a consequence, 150 Harton students, many of whom are currently in

our Year 12, took part in the scheme. This is a far higher number than any other school in our area - a fantastic achievement!

This year, Harton Academy will once again welcome NCS into school and arrange special assemblies where the current Year 11 students can learn about the multiple opportunities that the NCS can provide. The great news is that the service has been awarded a Royal Charter and can exist independently of changing governments.

It was a wonderful event - Mr Green and Mrs Astrop were very proud to accept the award on behalf of the school.



SCHOLASTIC

Scholastic Book Club

Harton Academy has a book club with Scholastic. This allows parents to buy discounted books at great prices and receive free delivery to school (books can also be delivered direct to your home). With every purchase the school will earn Scholastic Rewards. Books can be ordered online at: <https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/bookclubs> and, just before the

payment page, please insert 'Harton Academy' - it's as simple as that! Scholastic Book Clubs are intended to encourage young people to develop a lifelong love of books and this is something we at Harton Academy also strive towards. Any queries regarding the book club or ordering, please contact Ms Wolfendale.



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STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Science Christmas Competition

Once again the Science Department ran their annual Christmas competition. Students from all year groups were asked if they could design a science themed Christmas decoration to 'cheer up' the department's Christmas tree. With over twenty entrants, all of which were a very high standard, three well deserved winners were chosen. Congratulations to **India**, a Year 9 student, who won **1st prize** with an outstanding atom design. **Benjamin**, a Year 8 student, won **2nd prize** with an out of this world rocket design and **Holly**, a Year 7 student, took **3rd prize** with a festive periodic table decoration. A big well done to all of the students that entered and a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Science Department!

Year 9/10 Students 'GIMME' Event (Girls in Monozukuri, Manufacturing and Engineering)

On the 4th of December, the Nissan Skills Foundation hosted the 'GIMME' Event - Girls in Monozukuri, Manufacturing and Engineering, an event created to encourage young women to think about Manufacturing and Engineering as a career choice. Students from Year 9 and Year 10 attended the event with Mr Reis, where they met a wide range of female staff at Nissan from different job grades, up to and including director level. Students had the chance to find out more about their roles and possible career paths. This was a great opportunity for our students to develop a better understanding of what Engineering is really like in the real world.

'I had an enjoyable time at the GIMME Programme today. It was a great experience to take part and learn about the different types of careers and jobs in the various fields of Engineering.' Lubana Hemayet, Year 10 student.'



Recycling News

Over 4,000 batteries were recycled and kept out of landfill by Harton staff and students.

We have also started a new 'stationery recycling scheme' in conjunction with Marine Park Primary and Bic. Once our box is full, we send to Marine Park Primary who then have a Bic courier collect the boxes with a view to recycling the pens and various other items of spent stationery. Items do not have to be the 'Bic' brand - they will accept any pen that is no longer working or used up. Please see the poster attached.

We are also collecting Heroes, Quality Street and Celebrations plastic containers for use in our DT Food department.

Accepted waste
pens, felt tips, highlighters, markers

Waste not accepted
Mechanical pencils and correction instruments (tape and fluid pots), fountain pens, ink cartridges

Please note, glue sticks are not accepted

Glue sticks Rubbers Rulers Pencils Sharp objects



Year 11 Trip to see 'Macbeth'

These two photographs show a recent Year 11 trip to see 'Macbeth' (National Theatre Company) performed at the Newcastle Theatre Royal on Saturday 17th November 2018. The students also got to explore Newcastle Christmas Market before the show. The two staff members who accompanied the students were Charlotte Greenan and Helen Astrop. Great trip!





NUFC Scholarship for Joe Oliver - Year 11 Student!

Meetings were held at St James' Park at the beginning of December and it is with great delight that we can confirm that Joe Oliver has been offered a scholarship with NUFC for the 2019-20 season onwards. Obviously, this is great news for all concerned and NUFC thanked all at Harton Academy for supporting Joe to this point. Massive congratulations Joe - well done!

Open Mic UK national singing competition

Year 8 student, Nicole Wingrove, participated in the Open Mic UK national singing competition. This competition has over 10,000 acts enter every year. Nicole was awarded silver level as an area finalist and bronze level as a regional finalist. This is a fantastic achievement.



Stagebox Elite Theatre Team

Year 8 student, Charlotte Harwood, has been selected to join the Stagebox Elite Theatre Team in Leeds. The Stagebox Theatre School is designed for exceptional young performers looking for their 'next step' in high calibre musical theatre training. Charlotte currently attends training once a week in Leeds which demonstrates a real commitment to the theatre school.

6TH FORM



'Othello' at The Northern Stage and The Bronte Parsonage

The Year 13 English Literature students had a very busy and appropriately literary week in November. Within the space of seven days, they attended a performance of Shakespeare's 'Othello' at Newcastle's Northern Stage venue and visited North Yorkshire's own site of literary heritage, The Bronte Parsonage and Museum in Haworth.

As a requirement of the course, the students are studying and enjoying 'Othello' and Emily Bronte's seminal Victorian text 'Wuthering Heights' in lessons; however, these two enrichment activities have certainly helped to build on their understanding of both texts, as well as hopefully helping to create memories for a lifetime.

Students attending the theatre production were particularly impressed by the actor playing Iago, a part that must surely be any actor's dream, and Abigail Carr described the performance as an "evening to remember".

The visit to The Bronte Museum was a long but productive day, including a five-hour round trip impressively handled by Mrs Astrop - in her first time driving the school minibus. Students were treated to a tour of the Bronte's home (the home in which 'Wuthering Heights' was written) and some of the surrounding areas that inspired the setting, as well as two very informative lectures about the history of the Bronte family and critical interpretations of 'Wuthering Heights'. Finally, a wander around the gift shop was capped by each student receiving the thoughtful keepsake of a 'Wuthering Heights' bookmark from the very generous Mrs Astrop.



Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award - Presentation Evening

It was great to see so many students receiving their certificates and badges after successfully completing the bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award. All the students completed the four sections of the award and demonstrated and developed many key skills along the way. It will certainly set the students up well for a successful future and hopefully many will decide to challenge themselves further and take on the next level. Well done to all involved!



Former Student Heads 'State Side' for Summer Camp Experience

We are delighted to hear that one of our former students, Syed Uddin, has been successful, after a long and competitive process, in being selected to work as a camp counsellor. He has been placed at French Woods Summer Camp in New York State where he will be spending his whole summer. We wish him well on this adventure and look forward to hearing about this great experience.

Year 12 Student, Barrah Albadry, Nominated for the Lord Glenamara Memorial Prize

The Secretary of State for Education, the Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP, wrote to us last month to inform us that Barrah Albadry has been selected

as a runner-up for the Lord Glenamara Memorial Prize which will take place in London on Monday 18 February 2019. This wonderful prize was established to reward academic performance, citizenship and an interest in history, politics, or public service from young people in the North East.

Barrah will be awarded a Certificate of Achievement in front of her Mother and our Head of School, Mr Amos, as well as other guests.

What a well-deserved achievement for a wonderful young woman!



PASTORAL INFORMATION



FIRST DAY BACK TO SCHOOL IN JANUARY

Tuesday 8 January 2019 - All Students' return to school after the Christmas break!



IMPLEMENTATION OF SCHOOL 'CASHLESS' SYSTEM

Harton Academy has operated an online payment facility called ParentPay for several years. Parents have been encouraged to use our e-payment system to credit their child's dinner money account and to pay for school trips and activities. The online payment system has been very successful and many parents use ParentPay for all their school payments.

The school has now made the decision to completely move to online payments. **From 1st December 2018 we will no longer take cash payments for school meals or trips.** All payments must be made online using the secure website called ParentPay. For those who do not wish to pay online, a PayPoint card can be issued upon request along with details of how to use it. (Requests should be directed to: accounts@hartonacademy.co.uk).

CONTACT INFORMATION AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS

Parents are reminded that it is their responsibility to inform the school about details of any medical conditions that their child may have. This is particularly important in the case of long term medical issues. We contact parents on a regular basis and need up to date contact details - address, phone numbers and e-mail. If you have any medical information to give to us, please contact Ms Mizen on extension 206. Whenever any of your contact details have changed, please contact Mrs Stobbs on extension 202.

CARE PLANS

When school is notified about a child's medical condition, we produce a care plan. Once the care plan has been produced we will ask parents to check it over and make any amendments. Such changes can include new conditions or allergies, or when an allergy stops. Please be aware that, unless you tell us that an allergy has stopped, our records will continue to show it. It is very important that we are kept up to date with allergy information.

ALLERGIES ALERT!

Please be aware that care plans are now linked to the tills in the dining hall and the kitchen staff will be alerted if a child tries to buy a product which contains an ingredient they are allergic to.

EMERGENCY EPIPENS

You may have read that schools are being asked to supply emergency epipens for use, in case a child's medication has run out. At Harton we are purchasing spares to hold in school but we are only allowed to use them where we have consent both from a parent and their GP. We have written to parents if their care plan has identified the need for this. Very important - if you don't tell us that your child has an allergy and provide us the details of the condition, we will be unable to put these particular measures in place to protect your child.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL

A reminder to all parents about student medication during school hours:-

- Medication **must** be brought to school by a Parent or Carer. Please note - we cannot accept medication of any type directly from a student.
- Parents/Carers are required to sign a Parental Agreement Form prior to the medication being administered to their child.
- We **are able to accept** medication prescribed by your GP, in the box that it was dispensed, with Pharmacy Label, child's name, dosage regime, date it was dispensed and the expiry date.
- we are **unable to accept** shop bought or over the counter medication.
- If your child is on a short course of antibiotics, 3 times a day, please note that it is acceptable to give your child a tablet in the morning, teatime (when they get home from school) and bedtime. In other words, such medication can be wholly administered at home.

Should you need to sign in medication, or for any further information, please contact Ms Mizen on extension 206.

ATTENDANCE

Parents will be aware of the government threshold for what is termed a 'Persistent Absentee'. This is now defined as any student with an attendance of less than 90%. We encourage parents to keep a regular check on attendance levels. Please contact the appropriate Head of Year if you are concerned.



LUNCHTIME ARRANGEMENTS

Our older students in Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 have the choice of remaining in school or taking lunch elsewhere. Some do remain on site but the vast majority do leave the school premises.

The situation is different for our younger students in Years 7, 8 and 9. **With safety in mind, they should remain on the school premises for the whole lunch break.** They have a choice of lunch, either a hot meal or to bring their own packed lunch. The only exception to this should be that they go home for lunch where they will be supervised by parents or another responsible adult.

We ask all parents to reinforce this message to their children and be aware of where they go for lunch. We operate a cashless system of paying for lunches. It is the responsibility of parents and students to ensure that there is enough money in the account to pay for their meal. The school will contact parents if accounts go into arrears.



USE OF BIKES DURING THE WINTER MONTHS

With dark nights (and days!) in mind, we would like to remind all young cyclists to stay safe this winter:

- All student cycles on the premises should be housed in one of our cycle bases. This increases our ability to supervise.
- Cycles should be secured using a substantial lock and chain. The owner of the bike should ensure that a spare key is kept in a safe place.
- All cyclists should disembark at the school gates and walk the cycle to the shelter. This is to enhance levels of safety for the many hundreds of pedestrians on the school site.
- We also advise that:
 - parents are satisfied that cyclists have a satisfactory level of competence and an awareness of cycling proficiency
 - to deter theft, the cycle is clearly stamped
 - regular checks are carried out with regard to the roadworthiness of the cycle, with particular regard to brakes and tyres
 - very important - a cycling helmet is worn
 - cycles are fitted with working lights. This is particularly important at this time of year.

This advice does not constitute school responsibility for cycles and cycling. The decision as to whether a child is competent to safely cycle to and from school rests with the parents and the school has no liability for the consequences of that decision. All cycles are brought onto the school premises **at the owner's risk**. Parents are advised to take out appropriate insurance cover as the school cannot be held responsible for loss or damage to cycles.



TRAFFIC AT THE SCHOOL GATES

We would like to pass on our appreciation to all parents who have responded to our request to ease traffic congestion at the school gates before and after school. We have all seen how congested the area around the school gates can become around 8:30am and 3:15pm and parental response has made a visible difference in easing the situation – many thanks to all concerned for your patience and understanding!

At those key times, other than the school buses, we now allow entry into the school grounds only for vehicles transporting disabled children. We ask that all other parents pick up and drop off children at a point well away from the school gates, to avoid the congestion which is as much an inconvenience for drivers as pedestrians.

May we also respectfully remind all drivers that the school gates (both on St. Mary's Avenue and Lisle Road) are areas of restricted parking and restricted stopping. There are clear signs and road markings to this effect and the Police have informed us that they will impose fines if necessary. Thank you once again!





IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!

We break up for the Christmas Holiday at 12:15pm on Friday 21st December.

All Students return to school on **Tuesday 8th January 2019.**

HOLIDAY DATES FOR THE YEAR AHEAD - 2018/19

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

Break up 12:15pm Friday 21 December, students return to school Tuesday 8 January 2019.

STAFF INSERVICE DAY

Monday 7 January 2019 (students do not attend school on this day)

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Mon 18 February to Friday 22 February 2019

EASTER HOLIDAYS

From Monday 8 April, return to school Tuesday 23 April 2019.

MAY BANK HOLIDAY

Monday 6 May 2019

MAY HALF TERM

Monday 27 May to Friday 31 May 2019

SUMMER HOLIDAYS 2019

Break up on Friday 19 July, students return to school Tuesday 3 September 2019

OCTOBER HALF TERM

Mon 28 October to Friday 01 November 2019.

SPORTING HIGHLIGHTS AT HARTON

England Girls' Rugby U18 Academy - Centre of Excellence Programme

We are delighted to report that April Ishida and Megan Martin Lawrence were chosen by scouts to attend trials for the 'England Rugby U18 Centre of Excellence Programme'. They took part in trials at Darlington Mowden Park in September and both received the amazing news that they were successful and selected for the programme. Essentially the programme replaces the previous Junior England Rugby Academy Programme, and therefore both girls are on the path to becoming a rose!

The Centre of Excellence Programme (CoE) is the next step on the player pathway and has been newly introduced for 2018, replacing the Junior Academy programme. It goes without saying that it is an amazing achievement for these two young ladies, flying the flag for Harton, but also for Women's rugby. Very proud teacher/coach right now!



U19/U16 Netball Tournament

The Under 16/Under 19 netball teams took part recently in the County Tournament. The girls were a credit to the school and played their socks off. Although the Under 16 team did not qualify and had a very hard section, they still managed to improve their performance with each game. Well done!

The Under 19s had four games against Whitburn, Durham High, Durham School and St Johns. First game was against Whitburn (our nemesis!!!) and we won by one goal with a score of 8-7. The girls went from strength to strength and were victorious in their next two games. The only game lost was against Durham High, however, it was the last game and the girls were shattered. As a result, we qualified as runners-up and the Under 19 Team are on their way to the regional round in January. The whole school is tremendously proud of the girls, they work so hard at school and at club and this recognition has been a long time coming! Well done! (Lisa Murphy - a very excited Netball Coach!)



U16 Team

Olivia Wright
Emma White
Libby Cleugh
Lizzie Swinbanks
Beth Nicholson
Jenna Carr
Grace Barron
Summer O'Brien
Holly Skiggs



U19 Team

Rebecca Atkinson
Olivia Ford
Elisa Smith
Sarah Ebuk
Elisabeth Davison
Mia Richardson
Lucy Iley
Brooke Amess
Millie Ramsay (Year 11)

Trampolining

In October 2018, we took 32 students to the South Tyneside Trampoline Competition and the following students qualified to the next round, representing South Tyneside at the Tyne and Wear finals which was held at AAA Sports in Sunderland in November 2018:-

Year 9 students **Ruby Dearden** and **Abigail Patterson-Wright**
Year 8 students **Cole Greener** and **Katy Bell**

Cole Greener was placed joint 3rd in the Beginner KS3 Boys' category and **Ruby Dearden** was placed 3rd in the Beginner KS3 Girls' category. All of the students performed extremely well - congratulations!



South Tyneside Schools' Cross Country

The schools' cross country competition was held on 1st November 2018 at Temple Park Leisure Centre, where approximately 40 of our students were involved in a variety of age groups. All performed very well and a number of our students have progressed through to the next round in the New Year.

Special mention to the following students who were placed in their age group:



SOUTH TYNESIDE SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY

Progressed to the next round:

Year 7

Matthew Oates
Jamie Storey
Kobe Moyse-Muhktar
Jazymn Glitz

Year 8/9

Josh McKenny
Daniel Waugh
Katie Bell
Charlotte Sibbald
Yasmin Bruce-Olley

Year 10/11

Josh Wilson
Kyle Tinmouth
Connor Metcalfe
Harry Scurfield
Joseph Wells
Nathan Kelly
Holly May
Holly Skiggs
Abbi Jones
Grace Ball

Schools' Indoor Sports Day

The schools' indoor sports day event was held on the 16th November 2018 at Temple Park Leisure Centre, where Harton entered one team in both the girls' and boys' competition. The event saw our school compete against other schools in the area including Mortimer, St Joseph's and St Wilfrid's. All our students performed very well, with both teams qualifying for the regional finals which are due to take place early 2019. Our boys' team finished 2nd in their competition and our girls' team finished up in 1st place! Well done to all!



FOOTBALL KIT SPONSORSHIP

Shaun Porter, Director of Education Network, has worked closely with Harton over the past ten years and has kindly sponsored our football team with a fabulous new kit for this season. Our Year 10 Boys have competed in the South Tyneside under 15's League and the Durham County Cups for their age group. The boys have always played with pride and commitment and are all delighted to represent the school across the North East - wearing their new kit!



www.theeducationnetwork.co.uk

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- Fitness Programmes
- Full Induction
- No Long Term Contract

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