

ISSUE 376 22nd October 2021

#### Ms Webster's October Half Term Letter

Dear Parent/Carer

As we approach the end of a very busy and productive half term, I want to share with you some of a few of our achievements.

It has been great to welcome our 240 new Year 7 students into the Sharples Family and to watch them settling so well into their new school. Our Sharples Tie Ceremony may have been virtual this year, but it was still a fantastic opportunity for us to welcome each individual student into our learning community. Despite the many challenges we have faced in recent times, Sharples continues to live by our motto 'Learn, Dream, Achieve' which we place at the heart of everything we do. Every day, across classrooms in all curriculum areas I see highly effective learning taking place and showcasing that Sharples is a caring, inclusive learning community where pupils achieve well.

In addition to our classroom provision, we have worked hard to ensure that our students have had access to high quality enrichment activities. This half- term 60 of our Year 8 students attended a History Trip to Styal Mill and many of our students have engaged in activities linked to National Space Week. We have also continued to make the most of virtual opportunities, with Sharples students attending a range of Good to Great Lectures hosted by prestigious guests. In addition, our Year 7 have now signed up to an extensive range of lunchtime clubs and are working towards the completion of their Sharples Baccalaureate.

Over the past few weeks, we have also hosted a number of open events to enable the families of Year 6 pupils to see our school in action; as usual our students did us proud and were great ambassadors for Sharples. Many families visited us for our Open Evening and their feedback has been extremely positive. I would encourage parents/carers to follow Sharples on Twitter and to read our weekly newsletter in order to keep up to date with the numerous opportunities which are provided to support and encourage our learners.

For those of you who have consented to your child being part of the on-going Covid home testing programme, we will be providing your child with additional test kits prior to the half-term break. We recommend that you maintain the twice weekly testing routine through the half-term break and that you continue to upload the results using 'TestRegister'. If you have consented to your child receiving the Covid vaccination, please be aware that the vaccines will be administered on Monday 1, November.

As we move into winter and the inclement weather sets in, it is important to note that your child will be outside at some points during the school day. It is therefore recommended that your child has a warm coat and an umbrella with them every day. In line with guidance from Public Health Bolton, we would also strongly recommend that your child has a face covering with them every day, which should be worn in communal areas e.g. corridors/school buses.

On a final note, I hope that you all enjoy a well-earned half term break and I look forward to welcoming our students back to school, ready for a prompt start to registration at 8.45am on Monday, 1 November 2021.

Yours faithfully

Ms Webster Headteacher Click here to view original letter (PDF).



#### **The Sharples Excellence System**



The Sharples Excellence System monitors students daily for their contributions to school life. All staff can give reward points to students for their positive conduct within and outside of lessons. It uses the acronym A.C.E, which stands for Academic, Community and Excellence. Academic points are for classwork and homework. Community points are for: attending clubs and extra-curricular events; for good manners and helping others; and for contributing to the local community. Excellence points are for going above and beyond inside or outside of lessons. Top students receive weekly, half termly and termly prizes.

This week, to mark the end of a half term, our top scorers from each year group have received a 'special breakfast' or a 'chill, games and treats session' with their head of year. The top form in each year group have received a big box of chocolates each.

Above are some of our Year 11 students enjoying their special breakfast, in which some received A.C.E badges and some were awarded A.C.E Bronze Badges.



#### **English Department's Work of the Week**

#### Year 7

Hannah Dyanamawala has explored imagery brilliantly in her English lessons this week (link).

#### Year 8

Maariyah Muhamad has created a brilliant poster of Willy Russel for her studies on Blood Brothers (link).

#### Year 9

Lili Hinchcliffe has written an excellent exploration on Hyde (link).

#### Year 10

Fatima Bagas has engaged brilliantly with her study of She Walks in Beauty (link).

#### Year 11

Zahra Suleman has created an excellent revision resource to compare the poems London and Living Space (link).

## **English Language Escape Room**

On Tuesday, our Year 9 pupils took part in an amazing and engaging English Language Escape Room challenge. Our pupils entered the Professor's Quarters to hear a lecture by the acclaimed author of Terrible Tales - Professor Scream who needed a mystery solved. Pupils explored each location where they interacted with a character who set up an English Language related task to deal with a series of circumstances and problems. Solving the mystery just in the nick of time meant that Professor Scream was saved!

An enjoyable and interesting experience was had by all. Below is some of the feedback from our pupils:

"It was educational, motivational and intriguing." Amelia Patel.

"It helped me to develop and embed my creative writing skills as I improved my vocabulary." Zakiyya Munshi.

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to take part in the escape room! I really enjoyed it and it was really fascinating." Aqueelah Ali.



#### Science Enrichment

#### **Zoo Keeper**

On Monday afternoon, our Year 9, 10 and 11 GCSE Animal Care students were enthralled by the tales of a former zoo keeper and now charity worker; Sami Shaw of Groundwork UK spoke to our students about the highs and lows of a career working with animals. Thanks to Miss Fairhurst for hosting this virtual talk.



# **Sharples Primary**







On Tuesday after school, Sharples Primary STEM Club visited our Science Labs to carry out flame tests (pictured on previous page). The Year 5 pupils practised the key scientific skills of using Bunsen Burners to identify unknown substances with Miss Booth and Mr Davies. The pupils had a great time and worked really well, we look forward to welcoming them back at the end of next term!

#### **Literacy in Science - Latin Binomial**

This week in Biology, Year 11 have been learning about the scientific naming of species with Mrs Heaton where each species receives a Latin name of two parts (bi-nomial), the first indicating the species and the second the specific characteristic.





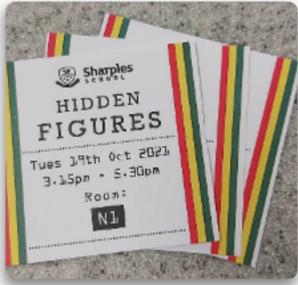
## **Black History Month**

This month is Black History Month and the Science team have been running a creative bunting competition for our younger students to celebrate the contributions of Black Scientists throughout history. See below for some of the fantastic entries so far, prizes to be announced after half-term! Please click the link for more information about Black History Month: https://www.blackhistorymonth.org.uk/

After school on Tuesday, our older students celebrated with popcorn while enjoying a screening of Hidden Figures, in association with Maths, following the Women in Space theme of World Space Week. Nominated for 3 Academy Awards including Best Picture, Hidden Figures tells the incredible untold story of Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan







and Mary Jackson - brilliant African-American women working at NASA who served as the brains behind the launch into orbit, a stunning achievement that turned around the Space Race. The visionary trio crossed all gender and racial lines and inspired generations. Please click the link to watch the trailer: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RK8xHq6dfAo





# Do Try This at Home!

Finally, from all of the Science at Sharples team, we hope you have a great half-term break, and if you are looking for something engaging and educational "Do Try This at Home" is a series of fun Science experiments with short demonstration videos and simple, step-by-step instructions that can be carried out using only household objects: https://www.iop.org/explore-physics/at-home#gref

Mr J. Harding - Science Enrichment Coordinator, Space Education Lead

#### **English - Accelerated Reader**



This week in English, 7S5 and 8P3 were crowned The Accelerated Reader Winners! They read the most books in their year group and completed the most quizzes this half term.

They were treated to a party with a movie, pizza, popcorn and chocolates.

The numbers have been reset, so next half term everyone will start on an equal footing. Students are encouraged to start reading in the holidays to help their class win next half term!



#### **Sports Report - Year 10 Football**

Year 10 were involved in an absolute thriller this week in the Bolton Cup against Smithills. The team started well but couldn't convert their chances and found themselves 2-0 down part way through the second half. It looked like it was going to be one of those days but the team showed great character and refused to accept defeat. The majority of the team have been completing a unit of work on sports leadership during Sports Studies and it looked like the players had taken the lessons on board, as the team went up a gear when faced with the challenge of coming back from 2 - 0 down. Josh Baker pulled a goal back and then Andy Craciun levelled when he fired his shot in off the post. Josh Dunne put Sharples in the lead when he converted from a corner and the team showed no signs of slowing down when Ashton Reegan danced past the defenders and slid the ball past the keeper and then Josh Baker secured the win in the last minute of the game with his second goal of the game. Overall, a superb team performance and a fantastic reaction from the squad when they looked like they were heading out of the Cup.

#### **Sharples Baccalaureate**



It has been brilliant to see the number of Year 7s enjoying the selection of clubs that have been on offer this half term at Sharples. Clubs have included: STEM club, running club, debate club, polyglot club, Star Wars club and many more! Each time a student attends a club, they earn a point which contributes towards their Sharples Baccalaureate award. Year 7's will receive their bronze, silver or gold award depending on how many points they have collated before the Christmas holidays; some students have already gained their gold award! Students will have the opportunity to experience a whole new range of clubs after the October break, including: dance club, chess club, Christmas cooking club, fashion design club, art club and many more! Please look out for posters around school which list the full range of clubs that will be on offer.



# Unbeaten run continues for the Year 9 Netball team

Congratulations to the Year 9 netball team who faced King's Leadership Academy on Monday, winning 18-8. It has been brilliant to see this team develop over the last couple of years into a strong and competitive squad. The unbeaten run continues! Well done to all of the girls involved. Special mention must go Jenna Clarke who got girl of the game.



#### Sports Report - Year 8 Football

The Year 8 football team lost out to a battling Rivington & Blackrod side in their Bolton Cup match on Thursday. The team showed great determination to pull the game back after being 3-0 down at half time with goals from Grace Grundy & Lawson Ferguson giving them a fighting chance.

It was a fantastic experience for the team and Mr Charlton was very encouraged by the performance and hopes this can continue in their future fixtures. The team represented the school in the best way possible, so a very big well done.

We wish the very best of luck to Rivington in the next round!

## **Grace Grundy selected for an England Pathway Discovery Event.**

Congratulations to Grace Grundy (Year 9) who has been selected to be part of an FA Women's England Talent Pathway 'Discovering Talent' Event for the North West Region.

Grace has been referred to this event by her local club and will be able to showcase her ability to a team of FA Staff who will be searching for Talent ID players.

This is a brilliant opportunity for Grace and we wish her the best of luck!





#### **Extra-Curricular after Half Term**

The PE Department's Extra-Curricular timetable has some exciting new additions being introduced after half term. Badminton is being introduced both Monday after school and three different lunch times for Years 7-10. There will also be a Fitness Suite offering at Wednesday lunch time (KS3) and Friday lunch (Girls only). The fitness suite will also be available after school on Monday (Girls), Tuesday (KS3) & Thursday (KS4).

Thai Boxing will take place on Monday after school for all year groups, Basketball will run on Wednesday after school again for all years. Dance Club (Year 7) will be introduced on Wednesday and Rugby Club (Year 7 & 8) will run on Thursday.

Swimming club will continue to run for Year 7 & Year 8 SHARP on Monday after school and then Year 7 & Year 8 P1LES1 on Wednesday.

You can see the full Extra-Curricular timetable for both lunch times and after school below.

After School Clubs (Oct-Dec)						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
Y7 & Y8 Swimming Club - (SHARP)	Y7 & Y8 Football Practice	Y7 & Y8 Swimming Club (P1LES1)	Running Club - All Years	Y11 v Staff Football		
Girls Fitness Suite  Badminton - All  Years  Thai Boxing - All  Years	Girls Netball - All Years	Y9 & Y10 Football Practice	Y7 & Y8 Rugby Club			
	KS3 Fitness Suite	Basketball Practice - All Years	Game On - Girls Football			
		Y7 Dance Club	KS4 Fitness Suite			

- Football Matches to be arranged throughout the term.

  Basketball Tournament every 2 weeks (U12)
  - **Lunch Time Clubs (Oct-Dec)**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHA  Y9 Football (New Astro) - JBA  Y11 Football (Sports Hall) - CCH  Y7 & Y8 Dodgeball (Upstairs Gym) - GBA	Y11 Football (Big Astro) - PGR  Y10 Football (New Astro) - CCH  Y7 & Y8 Badminton (Sports Hall) - GBA	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - JBA  Y8 Football (New Astro) - PGR  Y7 & Y8 Girls Football (Sports Hall) - GBA  KS3 Fitness Suite - CCH	Y10 Football (Big Astro) - CCH  Y7 Football (New Astro) - JBA  Y9 Badminton (Sports Hall) - SCU	Y7 & Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHA  Y9 Football (New Astro) - JBA  Y10 Badminton (Sports Hall) - SCU  Girls Fitness Suite -  Y7 Fantasy Football Club - CCH



#### **Attendance Figures**

Year Groups attendance this week:

7 = 95.16%

8 = 95.70%

9 = 94.82%

10 = 93.70%

11 = 93.54%

Best forms this week:

7P = 100%

8E = 100%

9S1 = 99.03%

10E = 99.04%

11S = 97.24%

592 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

#### **Dates For Your Diary**

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October -October Half Term Holiday

Sunday 31st October -Daylight Saving Time ends

Monday 8th November to Friday 19th November - Year 11 Pre-Public Exams (PPEs)

# Career of the Week: Photographer

Photographers take and process pictures of people, places, products and events.

Average Salary: £

£ £17,250 £45,000 Starter Experienced

Typical hours: (per week)



You could work:





#### Qualifications:

- You can apply for this job through a university course, college course, apprenticeship or working towards this role
- 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and a creative subject.

#### Skills required:

- customer service skills
- excellent verbal communication skills
- · to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- · the ability to work well with others
- knowledge of the fine arts
- · to be flexible and open to change

#### **Relevant Subjects:**

. English, Maths, Photography, Creative Media.

Information sourced from: https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/photographer

# YEAR 7 CLUBS

# **Maths in Art**

Monday Lunch NMC - G16

# **Homework Club**

Mon/Tues/Thurs Lunch JBU/RAS/LNO - N6

# **Polyglot Club**

Tuesday Lunch CLI - N11

# **Christmas Cooking**

Tuesday After School CTO/HFO - G83

# Geography in the News

Tuesday Lunch PFO/RPO - U37

# **RE at Sharples**

Tuesday Lunch PMC/NZP - U36

# **Dance Club**

Wednesday After School JWI - GYM

## **Art Club**

Wednesday Lunch JMY - G79

#### **Debate Club**

Wednesday Lunch HPA - U12

#### Mindfulness Club

Wednesday Lunch SJB - N4

#### Chess Club

Thursday Lunch KMC/MFO - G46

# **Game Design**

Thursday Lunch MCA - U40

# International Club

Thursday Lunch CLI - N11

# **Fashion Design**

Friday Lunch RAS - N6

# **School Production**

Friday Lunch AST - G67

# **Fantasy Football**

Friday Lunch CCH - G32





# FITNESS SUITE



All years welcome!
Every Monday 15:05-16:00
Full access to all of the equipment

