



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

ISSUE 406
8th July 2022

Performing Arts Update This Year's Production: Grease



Another exciting and busy term for the Performing Arts department! We finally got to perform this year's school production Grease! The cast worked very hard to produce a high quality show, which had so many singalong favourites. Greased Lightning was a big hit with every audience up on their feet, singing and dancing along! There were so many amazing singers and dancers in the show and the cast thoroughly enjoyed every second on stage.

Eve (Year 9) said, "This show has been a really exciting experience for me, a real contrast to the serious nature of the tragedy Othello that we performed earlier this year at the Shakespeare Festival. It has been a learning curve to perform with new people from different year groups too. I have loved every moment!"

"This has been a great experience and also nerve-wracking because I haven't been in a big school production before. I'm really looking forward to the next one!" said Rebecca

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

(Year 7).

Watch this space for next year's school production announcement!

Fame the Musical



Year 9 students were invited to watch Fame the Musical at Bury College. Our students really enjoyed watching this exciting show and they were really inspired by the high standard of acting, singing and dancing. They were able to chat with the cast after the performance and learn about progression paths to university and the Performing Arts industry. Jozsef said "the show was brilliant! It was great to see college students perform so professionally. I am really looking forward to going to acting College when I leave school".

Music Examination Successes

Huge congratulations to Phoebe, Zayn and Josh for doing so well in their Trinity College music examinations in singing and drumming. Well done!

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Creative Arts Days



Year 5 pupils from Sharples Primary, St Paul's, The Valley and The Oaks all enjoyed creating art work, acting, singing and dancing on our chosen theme of the NHS, which had its 74 years anniversary on 5th July. Pupils produced some great work which celebrated the NHS and everything they do and was enjoyed by parents, families and friends at the afternoon performance. Well done to everyone who took part.

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Duke of Edinburgh Bronze Award Students complete their expedition



Last weekend, 47 students from Year 9 (pictured above) completed their Duke of Edinburgh's Bronze Award qualifying expedition with two days' walking in the Lancashire countryside near Clitheroe.

The students had to be self-sufficient in their teams of 5 or 6. They planned their routes, did all their own navigating, carried their own camping equipment and supplies, cooked their own evening meals on their camp stoves and put up and slept overnight in their own tents. They also carried out a project investigating the medieval ruins of Sawley Abbey. All 47 passed with flying colours.

The students had gained valuable experience and learned lessons from their training walks in the countryside close to school and their practice expedition in the Rivington area in June. Their qualifying expedition went smoothly as they put their experience to the test.

On the first day, teams walked from Sawley Abbey to Waddow Hall Campsite. Some teams pushed themselves further by starting at the village of Worston. On Day 2, we walked to Stonyhurst College via the fields, woods and riverbanks to the west of Clitheroe.



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter



Prior to their expedition, the students have been working on their Bronze Duke of Edinburgh's Award through year 9, organising and completing their own activities in three categories:- Skill, Physical and Volunteering, over periods of 3 or 6 months. Some of their activities have included running regularly with the school's Running Club, volunteering in childrens' sports clubs or in local primary schools or at mosque and learning a musical instrument or a foreign language in their own time. They have really had a varied experience.

Most importantly perhaps, the students have developed and repeatedly shown teamwork, independence and resilience, organising and planning their own activities, showing commitment in getting them done and supporting each other with smiles on their faces. They have persevered resiliently when things have gone against them and they will carry these qualities and maturity with them in their GCSE studies and in all that they do after that. They will also have the opportunity to complete their Silver Award in Year 10. Congratulations and very well done!

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Euro 2022 Old Trafford Trip



Over 25 students (see picture on next page), predominantly our sports leaders and a few others who have excelled in PE since the start of the year, travelled to Old Trafford on Wednesday night to watch the opening game of the Women's Euro 2022 tournament (pictured above). The majority of the students had never stepped foot inside a stadium and they were quite taken aback when they first caught a glimpse of the Theatre of Dreams! With over 68,000 in attendance, the atmosphere was brilliant (especially because we were in the Stretford End!) and the girls did their part cheering England on to a 1-0 victory over Austria! As a result of the girls taking part in the Game On leadership programme, the tickets were given to us as a reward for all of their hard work

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

organising football tournaments for local primary schools throughout the year. The girls seemed to have a brilliant time and were a credit to the school the whole trip!



Successful Karate Gradings

At the weekend Sharples student, Josh C was graded for his black belt in karate which he passed.

In addition to Josh's success, Sam graded for his next belt which he passed. Sam is now a purple belt in karate.

The school is very proud of both Josh and Sam.



Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk

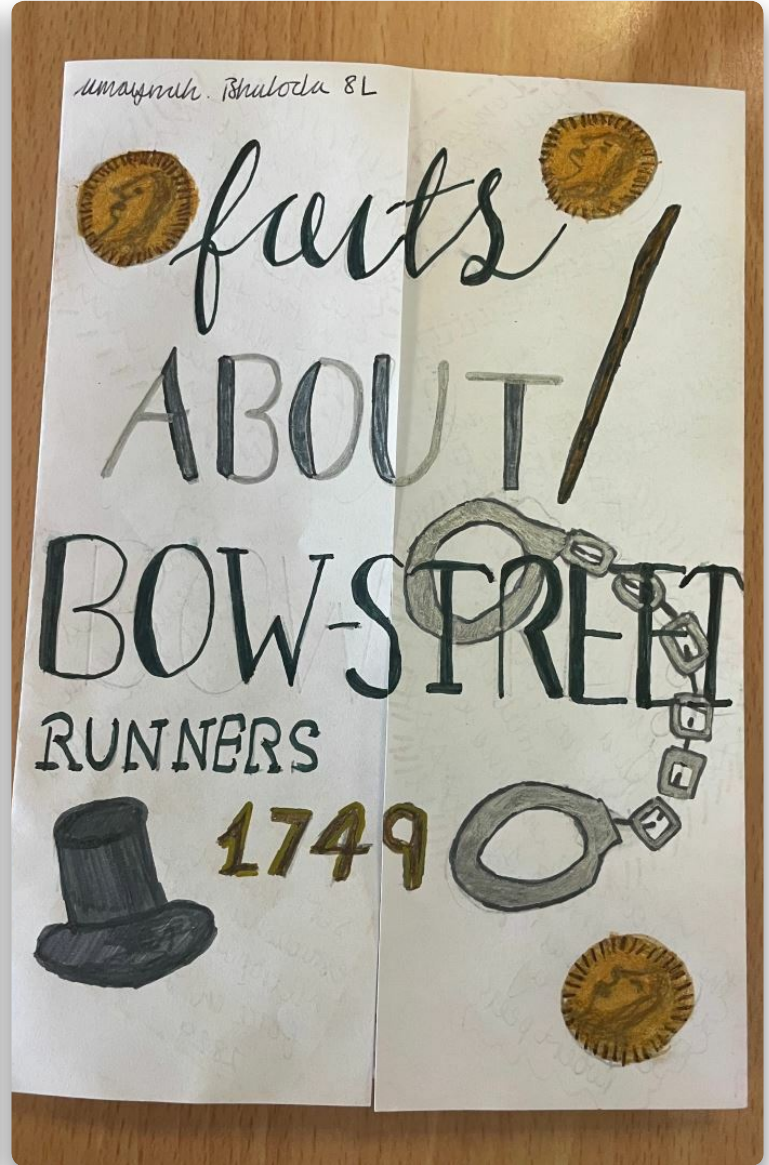
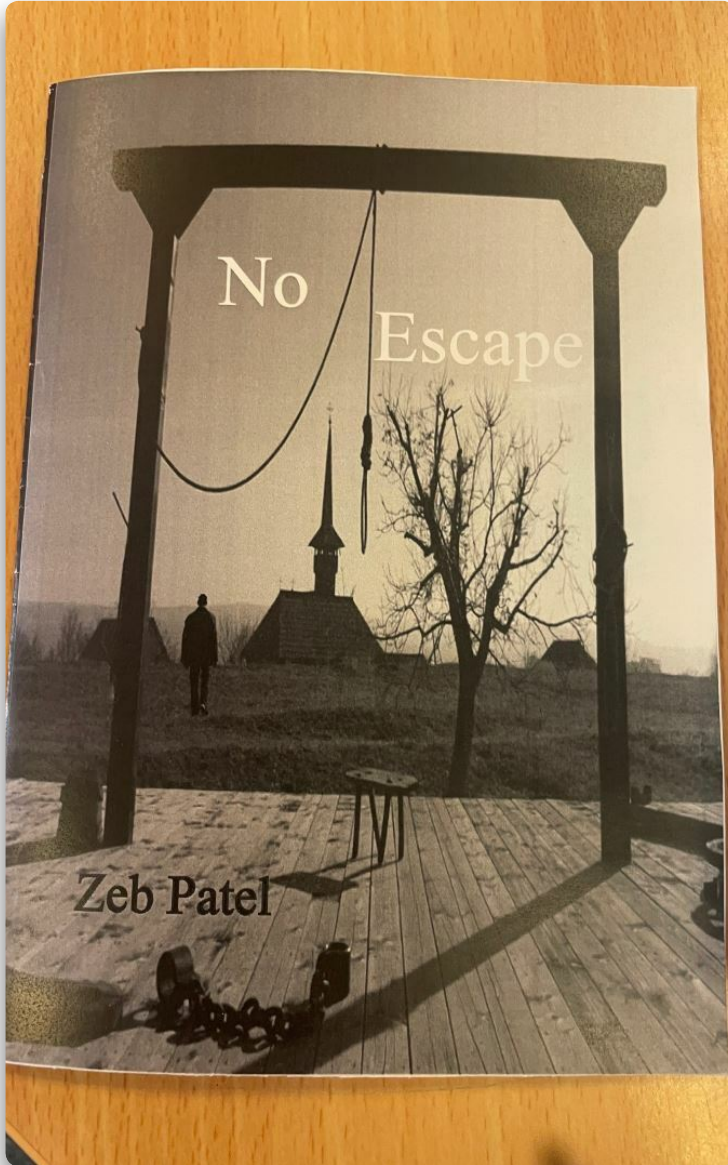


Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

English G2G Projects



Students submitted their G2G projects this week and it was lovely to see the quality and variety of submissions.

Last term, students created projects on children in literature, post-colonial literature and utopia/dystopias. This term, students created projects on diversity in literature, Greek mythology and the theme of crime.

Winners and prizes will be announced next week

A huge well done to all those who participated.

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Science Enrichment - Asteroid Day 2022



Yesterday, our GCSE Astronomy students observed Asteroid Day 2022, a UN-sanctioned global public awareness campaign, by working in teams to research and present to their peers what asteroids are, where they come from, what are the potential dangers of an impact with Earth and what defence systems can we design to protect our planet. The quality of the team presentations was exceptional and so it was certainly an educational and entertaining afternoon, congratulations to all of our Year 9 Astronomers!

If you would like to learn more about Asteroid Day, observed annually by the United Nations, please click here for more information (including an introductory video from British Astronaut, Tim Peake): <https://asteroidday.org/about/>

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

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Year 10 G2G Escape Room



This week, our Year 10 G2G students took part in an escape room based on Romeo and Juliet. The students had to work together to break out of Friar Lawrence's cell using initiative, their teamwork skills and communication skills. Each station had a different digit that would lead to their breakout and each station had a series of different puzzles. Take a look at the pictures above and below to see what the students got up to!



Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Hamzah M has written a brilliant speech. [Click here for the first page](#) and [here for the second page](#).

Year 8

Zainab A has written an excellent review on Ms Marvel. [Click here for the first page](#) and [here for the second page](#).

Year 9

Ayan A has written an excellent essay on the poem Hawk Roosting. [Click here for the first page](#), [here for the second page](#) and [here for the third page](#).

Year 10

Josh Baker has written a great description on an abandoned house. [Click here to view the work](#).

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Safiyyah I for passing the most Accelerated Reader quizzes this term.

Year 8

Isa H for regularly quizzing this term.

Year 9

Kiza C for reading up on Black History month and showcasing her reading.

Year 10

Elisha R for reading and editing her narrative.



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Sports Report - Cricket and Boxing



The Year 8 & 9 cricket team (pictured top left) travelled to Thornleigh this week for their first friendly of the season. It was a thrilling contest that went down to the last over and nothing could separate the teams on the day; with the game finishing as a draw. Sharples won the toss and opted to bowl first and despite a couple of early boundaries, Sharples started well and began to take some wickets. The team brought in younger player Zak from Year 7 after his impressive performance last week and he didn't disappoint taking 4 wickets. Josh M performed really well, bowling and he also impressed with the bat. The game went down to the final over, with Joseph W needing 5 runs to win from the last 2 balls. Amazingly, he hit 4 runs off the first ball to level the score but then was bowled out with the last ball of the game with what was a dramatic end to the match.

It was lovely for the school to welcome back Samir Aftab (pictured top right), this week, when he came back to school 5 years after leaving to speak to teachers ahead of his first professional boxing fight on the 16th July. The school wishes Samir all the best in his contest and some of our staff will be at the Bolton Whites Hotel to cheer him on.

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Year 9 & 10 Rounders Team make the Semi-Finals of the Bolton Town Tournament



A huge well done to our Year 9 & 10 rounders team (pictured above) who travelled to St James's on Tuesday afternoon to take part in the Bolton Schools Town Tournament. With 14 teams entered, the girls knew they had to perform well in the group stages to give themselves a chance at making the final 4. After 3 comfortable wins against Kearsley (62-43), Harper Green (56-41) and Smithills (62-38), the last match of the group stage would decide the winner of the group. Up against a strong St James's side, the girls narrowly missed out on the win, losing 62-64 which made us runners up of our group. Onto the semi finals where we faced Bolton School A team. The girls were up first to bat and managed to score some excellent rounders courtesy of Cherie U and Grace G. When it was our time to field, the girls demonstrated some excellent teamwork and the game went down to the very last bowl. With the last bat for Bolton, the score was 53-52 in our favour. Unfortunately, with the last hit, Bolton were able to score a rounder which secured them the win with Sharples just falling short of a finals spot, losing 53-58. To make it to the semi finals out of 14 teams across the borough and to so narrowly miss out on a finals spot is a fantastic effort from the girls. This was a great way to end the rounders season for a team that has continued to improve week after week. Brilliant effort, girls!

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Another Semi-Final spot for Sharples!



A massive well done to the Year 7 & 8 rounders team who like the Year 9 & 10 squad on Tuesday night, made it through to the semi-finals of the Bolton Town Rounders tournament on Thursday. With a brilliant display in the group stages, once again Sharples progressed through to the semis where they faced a strong Canon Slade side. After a closely fought match with some excellent fielding from Agnes M and Alishia V, the girls just missed out on a finals spot, losing 31-21. A brilliant effort from the girls who managed to get to the final 4 out of 14 teams!

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharpleSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Attendance Information

Reporting an absence:

If your child is too ill to attend school, please contact the school before 9.30am with full details of your child's illness/symptoms. The attendance email is the easiest way to contact school as the phone line can get very busy.

The school attendance email is: attendance@sharplesschool.co.uk

If we are unable to make contact and you do not provide a reason for your child's absence, this absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Attendance Data

Year Groups attendance this week:

Year 7 = 92.71%
Year 8 = 93.37%
Year 9 = 91.66%
Year 10 = 92.78%

Best forms this week:

7S = 95.31%
8S1 = 96.32%
9H = 94.23%
10H = 97.59%

96 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

Date for your Diary

Monday 11th
July - Year 10
Geography field
work trip

Tuesday 12th
July - Year 10
Maths Escape
Room Trip

Thursday 14th
July - Sports Day

Friday 15th July -
Year 7 Picnic

Children and young people aged 18 years and under who have a positive test result

It is not recommended that children and young people are tested for COVID-19 unless directed to by a health professional.

If a child or young person has a positive COVID-19 test result they should try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for **3 days after the day they took the test**, if they can. After 3 days, if they feel well and do not have a high temperature, the risk of passing the infection on to others is much lower. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.

Children and young people who usually go to school, college or childcare and who live with someone who has a positive COVID-19 test result should continue to attend as normal.

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter



Lunch Clubs (April - July)

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------------------------------|---|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM & CCH | Y9 Football (Big Astro) - PGR & AHM | Y9 Football (Big Astro) - JBA & AHM | Y7 Football (Big Astro) - CCH & AHM | Y7 & Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM & CCH |
| Rounders (SH/Field) - GBA & SCU | Cricket (SH/Field)- JBA & CCH | Cricket (Field) - CCH & PGR | Cricket (SH/Field)- JBA | Cricket (Field) - JBA |
| Cricket (Field)- JBA | Yr 7/8 Dodgeball (Upstairs Gym) - SCU/GBA | Just Dance (Sports Hall) - SCU & GBA | Rounders (Field) - SCU & GBA | Rounders (SH/Field) - GBA & SCU |



After School Clubs (April - July)

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|----------|
| KS3 Swimming Club (SHARP) | Yr 7/8 Football practice | Running club- all years | Sports day | No clubs |
| Yr 7/8 Cricket practice | Rounders practice- all years | KS3 swimming (PLES1) | | |
| | | Basketball practice all years | | |

Week beginning 11th July

Sharples School, Hill Cot House, Hill Cot Rd. Bolton, BL1 8SN

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

www.SharplesSchool.co.uk

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about DISCORD

AGE RATING

13+

Servers and channels marked as 'NSFW' require users to be 18 or older to join.

Discord is a free app which allows users to communicate in real time via text, video or voice chat. Available on desktop and mobile devices, it was originally designed to help gamers cooperate – but has evolved into a more general networking platform for a range of online communities, discussing topics like TV series, music, Web3 and more. Discord is organised around closed groups, referred to as 'servers'. To join a server, users must be invited or provided with a unique link. It's a space for users to interact with friends, meet others with shared interests and collaborate privately online – but it's also a place where young people can be exposed to risks if the right precautions aren't taken.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CYBERBULLYING

Discord's easy accessibility and connectivity, unfortunately, makes it an ideal place for cyberbullying to occur – especially as audio and video streams disappear once they've ended, meaning that bullying could take place without leaving any evidence. Closed groups can also be created, giving young people the opportunity to exclude their peers or send cruel messages without adult oversight.

DIFFICULT TO MODERATE

Like many private communication apps, Discord's real-time messaging can be difficult to control. The system enables content moderation through each individual server – so different groups can set their own rules for what's acceptable, and some groups may not monitor for unsuitable content. Anything that happens in an audio or video stream is also virtually untraceable once the stream has concluded.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Discord mainly hosts private groups, making it easier for unsuitable or explicit content to be shared on channels. Pornography, racism and inappropriate language can be found in some groups. Server owners are required to add an age-restriction gate to channels where 18+ content is being shared – but this solution isn't foolproof, as the platform doesn't always verify users' ages when they sign up.

ACCESSIBLE TO PREDATORS

On many chat platforms, users can lie about their age or true identity – and Discord is no exception. Predators have attempted to abuse the platform by using it to contact and communicate with underage users – by initially chatting with a child on an age-appropriate channel, for example. While Discord has improved its safety settings, some users will still try to bypass them for malicious reasons.

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Discord does have strict Terms of Service and Community Guidelines to protect its users – but, sadly, not everyone adheres to them. Criminal activity including grooming, hate speech, harassment, exploitative content, doxing and extremist or violent material have all been found on Discord servers over the last two years. In 2020, Discord received almost 27,000 reports of illegal activity on the platform.

Advice for Parents & Carers

REVIEW SAFETY SETTINGS

Discord has a series of safety settings, enabling users to choose who can direct message them or send them friend requests. Your child's experience on Discord will be much safer if the app's privacy and safety settings are configured to only allow messages or friend requests from server members. This will minimise the chances of potential predators from outside the group contacting them.

EXPLAIN AGE FILTERING

While Discord requires users to be at least 13 to sign up, many servers geared towards older users are flagged as NSFW (not safe for work), which indicates they probably contain material that's inappropriate for children. It can be easy to click through settings without properly reviewing them, so ensure your child understands why age filtering is important and that it's there to protect them.

SCREEN OUT EXPLICIT CONTENT

In the privacy and safety settings, Discord users are offered the ability to filter direct messages for inappropriate content: a setting that should be enabled if your child uses the platform. Discord automatically tries to flag images that are explicit, but the setting must be manually enabled for text. If a young user is sent explicit content in a direct message, Discord will scan and (if necessary) delete it.

MONITOR ONLINE ACTIVITY

It's wise to regularly review your child's activity on Discord. This can include checking their safety settings to ensure they're correctly enabled, talking about which servers they've joined and reviewing some of their friends and direct messages. Ask if anything has made them feel uncomfortable or unsafe. Things can change quickly online, so plan routine check-ins and follow up frequently.

DISCUSS GOOD ONLINE BEHAVIOUR

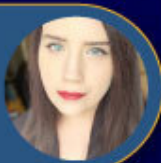
The anonymity offered by the internet often leads people to communicate more openly online and behave differently than they would at school or home. It's crucial to bear in mind, though, that every internet user is still a real person. Talk to your child about the severe and lasting consequences that cyberbullying or exchanging inappropriate material online can have in the real world.

HAVE CANDID CONVERSATIONS

It can sometimes be awkward to discuss topics like grooming, pornography, racism or explicit content with your child – but it's important to ensure they're aware of the harms these things can pose. Talking openly about these subjects is a great way to help your child feel more comfortable about coming to you if they experience an unwanted encounter on Discord (or anywhere else online).

Meet Our Expert

Coral Cripps is a Canadian-born, London-based tech journalist at gmw3.com: a website specialising in all things Web3, gaming and XR (extended reality). With a focus on brands and culture, she researches and writes about the ways that our current innovations – including the metaverse and Web3 – are impacting people, places and things.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.defendyourmind.com/blog/dangers-of-discord-6-steps-ensuring-teens-are-protected-from-app/> | <https://support.discord.com> | <https://endsexploitation.org/articles/discord-is-a-haven-for-gamers-and-sexual-exploitation/> | <https://kasku.com/discord-deleted-thousands-of-violent-extremist-and-crim-184923284>

Our specialist music teachers offer weekly music lessons in your school

Would you like to play a musical instrument?



You can have instrumental or vocal lessons in school and also hire an instrument by visiting us at:

www.boltonmusicservice.com/parents-and-pupils

Would you like to join a band or choir?

- You can join one or more of our bands, choirs and orchestras at Mere Hall and other venues after school
- You do not need to have lessons with us to be a member of our ensembles
- There is something for everyone and you can start right now



For further information, visit our website or call our team on:

01204 333533

