



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 459
1st December 2023

PEARSON
NATIONAL
TEACHING
AWARDS

The Award for
MAKING A DIFFERENCE -
SECONDARY SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

GOLD AWARD

SHARPLES RECEIVES TOP AWARD AT THE 'OSCARS' OF THE TEACHING PROFESSION!

Sharples School has been announced as the gold winner of the Award for Making a Difference - Secondary School of the Year at the 2023 Pearson National Teaching Awards in recognition of their dedication to students in education.

Sharples School in Bolton has been announced as the gold winner of the Award for Making a Difference - Secondary School of the Year at the 2023 Pearson National Teaching Awards, considered the 'Oscars' of the teaching profession.

Sharples School was nominated and selected as the gold award winner amongst thousands of nominees based on their inspirational teaching, contributions to their pupils and impact throughout their community, as assessed by judges.

Ms Webster, Headteacher, commented; "Our staff and students are incredibly proud to have received the gold award for Secondary School of the Year which recognises the many successes of our vibrant learning community. At Sharples we live by our motto 'Learn. Dream. Achieve.' and every day we go above and beyond to make a positive difference to the lives of all of the students in our care."

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

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www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



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Science Enrichment Newsletter

Educake Top Scorers

Well done to all the students who completed their home learning task this week. And a particular congratulations to the following highest achievers, who all scored 100%.

Year 9: Amaan B, Mohammed P, Huma L, Abdullah H, Thomas D, Kiah-Louise D, Kale D, Dylan F, Rayhan D, Henry R, Abubakar C, Samaarah C and Huzaifa A.

Year 10: Mantasha M and Jasmine K.

Year 11: Travis P, Hafsah K, Ramna HB and Joseph W.

STEM club

This week in the STEM club, pupils were investigating how the wing length of a paper helicopter affected the time taken for it to fall to the ground. Using scissors to cut out the helicopter design, pupils then folded and crafted the shape (as pictured). After timing how long it took for the helicopter to fall 2 metres, pupils then cut off 1cm from each wing. This cut off paper was then inserted into a paperclip attached to the bottom of the helicopter. This ensured that the mass of the system remained constant throughout the investigation. Needless to say, pupils were in a spin about their helicopters!



Science Career of the Week

This week's career is 'Clinical Engineer'. Clinical engineers use physical and materials sciences, combined with manufacturing and computing skills, to help improve the diagnosis and treatment of disease, and also the rehabilitation of patients. Information about experience opportunities, providers, entry requirements and much more can be found here: [Science career of the Week](#).



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Please speak to Mr. Burke, who will provide you with more information about this, or any other, science career.

Revision Skill of the Week

Revision skill of the week is... 'Blurting'. Blurting is a great technique to use when first revising a particular topic. Try to write as much as you can remember about the topic, you could give yourself a time limit or continue until you can't think of anything else to add. After doing this, check back through your notes, and see what you have missed. This way, you know which areas of the topic you need to focus on. Try again in a couple of weeks, and see how much you have improved!

Scientist of the Month

Congratulations to the winners of November's Scientist of the Month! Well done for all your hard work. Each student will receive a certificate and a goody bag.

Year 7:

Academic Achievement - Ayaan S

Progress - Aaminah M

Community - Maryam P

Year 8:

AA - Aisha S

P - Ikhlas A

C - Fatima T

Year 9:

AA - Abubakar C

P - Shanifa M

C - Jundab S

Year 10:

AA - Farah D

P - Sherjeel I

C - Munira B

Mr. Fowlds - Science Enrichment Coordinator



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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Maryam P always completes her work to an excellent standard and has written a great alternative ending to Dog, Cat, Baby. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Hazra K has written a superb analysis of the education system in Blood Brothers. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Huma L has self assessed and improved a great diary entry. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Maryam P has written an excellent persuasive letter. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Lewis N has written a great start to his poetry essay on The Prelude. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Ellah R is always keen to read extracts in class and has become more confident reading out loud during reading lessons.

Year 8

Mohammed-Zain P for reading aloud the part of Mickey with a perfect Scouse accent.

Year 9

Declan J reads with enthusiasm and always makes an effort to read in a varied tone of voice to reflect the different characters/emotions.

Year 10

Zain H for reading the role of Scrooge in A Christmas Carol.

Year 11

Max J for his reading of Mr Birling capturing the essence of arrogance superbly.



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Sharples vs Bolton School



A big well done to our KS4 and two KS3 teams (pictured above) who braved the freezing conditions on Wednesday evening to face Bolton School in the girls football league. With the extremely cold weather, the KS3 teams were slow to get off the mark but soon settled and started to play some good football but it wasn't enough to secure the wins. However, after a big defeat last year, the KS4 team were looking for redemption! With the aim to play defensively, a quick break in attack put Khadija V through on goal where she scored an excellent half volley to make it 1-0 going into half time. The girls dropped deep with the aim to defend their 1-0 advantage but another break from Khadija V made the score 2-0 with 10 minutes to go. Bolton School pulled one back after 5 minutes but it wasn't enough and Sharples secured a very impressive 2-1 victory. A brilliant effort! The girls will be up against Harper Green next Wednesday.

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Year 8 Boys Play Canon Slade



The Sharples Year 8 'B' team had their first run out of the year against Canon Slade last Monday. There were lots of great individual performances from the team whilst some students played their first competitive match both for school and as a whole. It was very encouraging to see so many different faces representing Sharples. Despite the negative result, the team showed fantastic enthusiasm from the start. We will be looking to arrange more fixtures in the future and encourage all students to attend training on Tuesday's after school.

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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 = 96.65%
Year 8 = 94.56%
Year 9 = 95.66%
Year 10 = 95.39%
Year 11 = 95.89%

Best forms this week:

7shar5 = 100%
8shar4 = 99.07%
9H = 98.77%
10P1 = 99.30%
11S2 = 99.44%

455 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 4th
December (all
week): Year 10
speaking PPE
exam

Thursday 7th
December: Year 11
Animal care trip to
Sealife Centre


Friday 8th
December: Teacher
Training Day
(School closed to
all students)

Wednesday 13th
December: Student
Flu Vaccinations

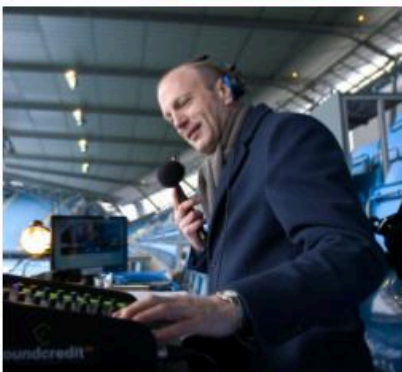
Career of the Week: Sports Commentator

Sports commentators describe what's happening at sporting events and offer their opinions to listeners and viewers.

Average Salary: £ E13,000
Starter ————— E80,000
Experienced

**Typical hours:
(per week)**  39 to 41
variable

You could work:  evenings / weekends /
bank holidays
away from home



Qualifications:

- You can get into this job through a university course, an apprenticeship, working towards this role, volunteering or applying directly.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent.
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree.

Skills required:

- Knowledge of media production and communication.
- Knowledge of English language.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- The ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure.
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail.
- To be flexible and open to change.
- Knowledge of computer operating systems, hardware and software.
- The ability to use your initiative.

Relevant Subjects:

- English, PE and Statistics.

Information sourced from: <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/sports-commentator>



Careers &
Enterprise
at Sharples School

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PE Lunch Time Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - PGR	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y7 Football - (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big astro) AHM
Netball Yr 7/8 (SH) - SCU & LAL	Y7 Dodgeball (SH) - LAL	Just Dance- all years (SH) - SCU	KS3 Dodgeball (SH) - LAL	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA
Y8 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	Y7/Y8 Basketball (Gym) - LAL	Y9 Football (Small Astro) - JBA	Y10 Football (SH) - LAL
Boccia (Gym) - SCU & LAL	Sports Studies catch up (G32)- AHM	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR		
		Y10 Football (Small Astro) - JBA		

WEEK COMMENCING - 4th December



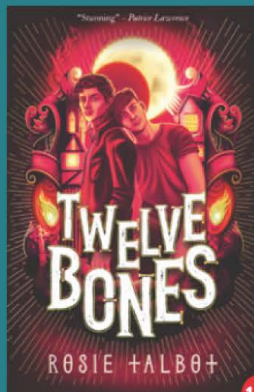
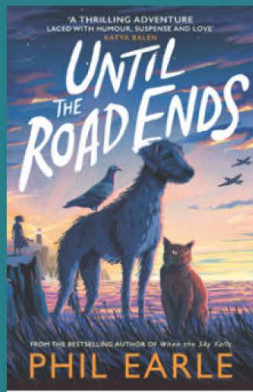
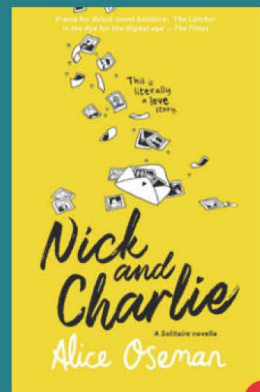
PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Yr 7/8 Swimming Club	KS4 boys fitness	Yr 7/8 Swimming Club	Girls football practice	Staff training day
Y7 & Y8 Netball v Kearsley (a)	Yr 7/8 football practice	Basketball practice	KS4 boys fitness	
KS4 Netball	KS3 Netball	KS4 Girls fitness	Y7/8 Basketball tournament @ Smithills	
	Running Club	KS3 & KS4 girls football v Harper Green (h)	Badminton practice	

● Football & badminton fixtures will be arranged throughout the term!

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

4TH - 11TH DECEMBER



GIFT VOUCHERS
VISIT

BOOKFAIRS.
SCHOLASTIC.CO.UK
/GIFT-VOUCHERS

TO PURCHASE
VOUCHERS
AVAILABLE IN
£5, £10, £15, £20
AND £25

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TO PAY

CASH

ONLINE PAYMENTS
CAN BE MADE VIA
THE QR CODE

SCHOLASTIC
Book Fairs





YoungWriters[®]
Est. 1991

THE GLITCH

**CREATIVE WRITING COMPETITION
FOR 11-18 YEAR-OLDS**

**★ OPPORTUNITY
TO BECOME A
PUBLISHED AUTHOR!**

**100
WORD
LIMIT!**

**★ OUR 5 FAVOURITE
WRITERS WILL EACH
WIN £50 & A TROPHY!**

**SEE THIS TEACHER FOR MORE INFORMATION AND STORY
STARTERS TO INSPIRE YOU:**

Miss Hartley (U8)

HAND IN BY:

Friday 22nd December

f YoungWritersUK t YoungWritersCW @ youngwriterscw d youngwriterscw

kooth



KOOTH VIRTUAL MEETING



Kooth.com is a free, safe and easy to access mental health service from the NHS for children and young people.

On Kooth.com, your child can access 1-1 support from a trained professional seven days a week. There is no waiting list.



Come and join us on December 11th at 6.00 pm - 6.30 pm to find out how Kooth can support your child.

The meeting will be virtual so you can access it from the comfort of your own home.

A Greater Manchester engagement lead for Kooth.com will be talking us through issues that young people in Bolton typically face and how Kooth can support your child's mental health.

Questions will be taken at the end.



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

X

AGE RESTRICTION

13+

In October 2022, the enormously popular social media network Twitter was purchased by tech tycoon Elon Musk. That sparked a host of changes to the platform – not all which have been received positively by its fans. The alterations have continued with each passing month, many of them raising online safety concerns among the 530 million users of Twitter (now rebranded as simply X). With further adjustments reportedly in the pipeline, X has attracted more than its usual share of controversy and caution in recent times.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

A BLOCK ON BLOCKING

X has announced plans to remove its blocking feature. Previously, this stopped other users from viewing your profile or sending you direct messages, while also hiding their posts from your feed. Only this latter function will now remain. The decision has been criticised by some members, who feel that blocking (in its current form) protects them from X users who 'promote denial and hatred'.

LIMITED REPORTING FEATURES

X offers a premium membership, with some functionality (such as controlling who can view and reply to your posts) increasingly being made exclusive to those who pay the subscription fee. Several commentators have speculated that X could one day become an exclusively paid-for service, with access to accounts being revoked for anyone unwilling or unable to take out a subscription.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

Many of X's less age-appropriate posts can feature anything from extreme political views to pornography. While accounts marked as 18+ are restricted from non-members, it's still fairly easy to stumble across this material accidentally. X's new 'For You' page also shows content from accounts that a user *doesn't* already follow – meaning that almost anything could end up on a child's feed.

VERIFICATION FOR SALE

Historically, Twitter's moderators granted account verification: certifying someone as authentic by placing a blue tick next to their username. One of X's earliest changes was to place verification behind a paywall; this caused the number of celebrity impersonators to rise and left no way to distinguish, say, a legitimate influencer from a copycat fake account seeking to exploit other users.

BLUE TICK SALE

Advice for Parents & Carers

PROTECT PRIVACY

Unsavory characters may try to gain access to a young person's X account – either to view their posts and gather information on them, or to completely take control of it. To minimise risk, ensure the account has a strong password and enable the 'Protect Your Posts' feature (via the account settings), so that strangers can't view your child's posts without first being approved as a follower.

DON'T RISE TO THE BAIT

To gain more views and followers, some X users post deliberately inflammatory comments on sensitive topics such as race, sexual orientation and gender issues. Many young people could find this upsetting. Emphasise that, if your child encounters someone spreading hate on X, it's best not to give that person what they want: an argument. Ignore them, mute their account and move on.

STAY ALERT FOR IMPOSTERS

Make sure your child understands that X's blue ticks no longer guarantee the identity of anyone on the platform. While it might be exciting if a celebrity liked your child's post, it could just as easily be an imposter with malicious intentions. If your child's not 100% sure that an X user actually is who they claim to be, advise them to err on the side of caution and avoid interacting with that account.

ONLY FOLLOW TRUSTED ACCOUNTS

Using the 'Following' tab on X helps to ensure that the only content your child sees has come from accounts they've chosen to follow: this should reduce the chance of them inadvertently being exposed to harmful, violent or explicit content. Show your child how to report another user's account if, say, they're behaving inappropriately by spreading misinformation or offensive opinions.

BE READY TO TAKE ACTION

If your child suffers harassment on the platform or becomes the target of a hack, you could consider deactivating their account entirely. Recently, X's safety features have been criticised for allegedly failing to protect users' wellbeing – so if your child is being subjected to abusive messages or similar mistreatment on the platform, it might be prudent to remove them from X altogether.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is Editor in Chief of gaming and esports site GGRecon and has worked in the gaming media for around four years. Always eager to test out the latest apps, games and online trends, he's also a parent who understands the importance of online safety. Writing mainly about tech and fitness, his articles have been published on influential sites including IGN and TechRadar.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



IF YOU'RE **11-19** YEARS OLD **TEXT YOUR NURSE**

07507331753

WE HELP YOUNG PEOPLE WITH ALL KINDS OF THINGS LIKE... **CONTRACEPTION**
EMOTIONAL HEALTH & WELLBEING
BULLYING ALCOHOL SMOKING SELF HARM
DRUGS SEX HEALTHY EATING

TEXT US FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE & SUPPORT

DISCLAIMER: WE DO NOT USUALLY INFORM YOUR PARENTS, TEACHERS OR ANYONE ELSE IF YOU CONTACT YOUR SPECIALIST NURSE. WE MIGHT INFORM SOMEONE IF WE WERE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR SAFETY, BUT WE WOULD USUALLY SPEAK TO YOU FIRST. YOUR MESSAGES ARE STORED AND CAN BE SEEN BY OTHER HEALTHCARE STAFF WHO FOLLOW THE SAME CONFIDENTIALITY RULES. WE AIM TO REPLY TO YOU WITHIN ONE WORKING DAY AND YOU SHOULD GET AN IMMEDIATE BOUNCE-BACK TO CONFIRM WE RECEIVED YOUR TEXT. TEXTS WILL NOT BE SEEN OUTSIDE OF NORMAL WORKING HOURS. IF YOU NEED HELP BEFORE YOU HEAR BACK FROM US, CONTACT A MEMBER OF SCHOOL STAFF OR YOUR DOCTOR. OUR TEXT NUMBER DOES NOT RECEIVE VOICE CALLS OR MMS PICTURE MESSAGES. WE SUPPORT MESSAGING FROM UK MOBILE NUMBERS ONLY (WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE MESSAGES SENT FROM LANDLINES, INTERNATIONAL MOBILE NUMBERS AND SOME 'NUMBER MASKING' MOBILE APPS). PREVENT THE NURSE FROM SENDING MESSAGES TO YOU BY TEXTING STOP TO OUR NUMBER. PLEASE RESPECT YOUR SCHOOLS MOBILE PHONE POLICY. MESSAGES ARE CHARGED AT YOUR USUAL RATE. YOUR INFORMATION IS STORED SECURELY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE DATA PROTECTION ACT 2018.



**ARE YOU A PARENT OR CARER
OF A CHILD IN BOLTON?
TEXT YOUR NURSE
07507331751**

**WE SUPPORT YOU WITH PARENTHOOD AND BEYOND
INCLUDING... PARENTAL MENTAL HEALTH
INFANT FEEDING, BREASTFEEDING AND WEANING
SAFE SLEEPING MINOR
CHILD DEVELOPMENT ACCIDENTS AND ILLNESSES
TEXT US FOR CONFIDENTIAL ADVICE AND SUPPORT.**

DISCLAIMER: We do not usually inform anyone else if you contact a specialist nurse. We might inform someone if we were concerned about your or your child's safety, but we would usually speak to you first. Your messages are stored and can be seen by other healthcare staff who follow the same confidentiality rules. We aim to reply to you within one working day and you should get an immediate bounce-back to confirm we received your text. Texts will not be seen outside of normal working hours. If you need help before you hear back from us, contact your doctor. Our text number does not receive voice calls or MMS picture messages. We support messaging from UK mobile numbers only (which does not include messages sent from landlines, international mobile numbers and some 'number masking' mobile apps). Prevent the nurse from sending messages to you by texting STOP to our number. Messages are charged at your usual rate. Your information is stored securely in accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018.

Early Help Parenting Drop-in

For all families with children under 18

We know that being a parent is not always easy and that families need extra support at some stage as children grow up.

Targeted Early Help Workers will be on hand to offer advice and support.

We can offer signposting to helpful services, organisations and community groups.

Poor school attendance?

Are they being excluded from school?

Are they anxious or struggling with self-esteem?

Are you struggling with your child's behaviour?

Not sure what services there are available that can help to support you?

Come and join us for a cup of tea and a chat if you want any advice or information about parenting.

Drop-in sessions, 9.30am - 3.30pm

Farnworth King St Centre 20 Jan 10 Feb 2 Mar 23 Mar 20 Apr

Oxford Grove Children Centre 6 Jan 27 Jan 17 Feb 9 Mar 6 Apr 27 Apr

Tonge Children Centre 13 Jan 3 Feb 24 Feb 16 Mar 13 Apr



For more information please contact:
 Targeted Early Help Tel: 01204 337390
 Email: earlyhelp@bolton.gov.uk



Bolton Council