



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 462
22nd December 2023

Ms Webster's End of Term Letter

Dear Parent / Carer,

END OF TERM ARRANGEMENTS - Friday, 22 December will be a non-uniform day for students, there is no charge for this. Students will be dismissed from school at 12.30pm and the school buses will be available at this earlier time. There will be an extended canteen service available at break time for all students. Those entitled to the Free School Meal allowance will be able to access it at break time.

The Autumn Term of 2023 has been extremely busy but very rewarding for both staff and students. We have focused firmly on routines and expectations, and, as always, the school motto, 'Learn. Dream. Achieve.' lies at the heart of everything we do. Everyone involved with Sharples is incredibly proud that we have won the Pearson National Teaching Gold Award for 'Secondary School of the Year – Making a Difference'. It is a very high-profile and fitting acknowledgment of our fantastic school.

We have celebrated the publication of our 2023 results which are our best ever and which showcase, once again, our determination to maximise the progress of every child in our care. Our Progress 8 score is +0.82 which places us in the top 3% of schools nationally. Behind the results there are many individual success stories and it is extremely rewarding to see our school leavers embarking on ambitious Post 16 Pathways.

In addition to our excellent classroom provision, we work hard to ensure that our students have access to high quality enrichment activities. This term our Duke of Edinburgh Programme has once again got off to a flying start with record numbers of students signing up for both the Bronze and Silver Awards. Our Year 7 have now experienced an extensive range of lunchtime clubs and are working towards the completion of their Sharples Baccalaureate. A group of Year 11 students have enjoyed visiting Pompeii in Italy, the trip supported their studies in both Latin and Geography. We also celebrated our second annual Diversity Day and raised almost £2000 for Oxfam.

One of this term's highlights was Open Evening, which was incredibly well attended and resulted in fantastic feedback from many of the visiting families. Our current students played a huge part in ensuring that the event was successful through their roles as Subject Ambassadors and Tour Guides, I was incredibly proud of them all. As a result of this event and our extensive transition programme we are very pleased to report that this year we have received almost 800 applications for places at Sharples. Once again, Sharples is significantly oversubscribed.

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

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www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

As we move towards the start of the new term, I want to remind you that we have high standards in relation to appearance at Sharples and the full uniform policy can be accessed on the school website. To maintain our high standards, I would like to remind you that, school trousers should be black, formal and full length. Jeggings, leggings or jean style trousers are not acceptable. In addition, socks should be plain black or white, trainer socks are not allowed. For further details, please refer to our website – <http://www.sharplesschool.co.uk/policies/>

As we are now in the midst of winter with frequent inclement weather, 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.

On a final note, I hope that you all enjoy a well-earned Christmas break and I look forward to welcoming our students back to school ready for a prompt start to registration at 8.45am on Monday, 8 January 2023.

Yours faithfully

Ms A Webster
Headteacher

[Click here to view the original letter as a PDF.](#)

Christmas Markets in Lille

On the weekend of Friday 8th to Sunday 10th December, 30 Year 9 and Year 10 pupils went to explore the Christmas markets in Lille, in the north of France (as pictured on the next page). It was a long travel day on Friday, but this didn't stop pupils from playing pool and table football at the hotel against Mr Barnes, Miss Booth and Ms Patel.

On Saturday, we made our way to the Christmas markets, and pupils did a fantastic job communicating with people at the stalls and using their knowledge of French to complete the challenges. Hatim K and Ryan S in Year 10 excelled and completed all the challenges in record time. Despite the rain, pupils enjoyed exploring and learning more about French culture. In the evening, pupils teamed up to complete a quiz, testing their knowledge of France, French and general facts. Saffiya A, Leah H and Zuwi S, along with Aayan, Rayan and Mohtada were the two winning teams.

On Sunday, pupils completed their final challenge in St Omer. Pupils explored the town with clues in French, and found their way to the traditional French bakery to



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter



enjoy croissant and baguette. Hatim K, Ryan S and Tom D shared the win with Aidan B, Ebrahim P and Yusuf I. Over the course of the weekend, pupils spoke French at every opportunity, even if the language they study in school is Spanish. Pupils in Year 9 and Year 10 worked together and showed great perseverance throughout all the challenges. Mr Barnes, Miss Booth and Ms Patel made excellent competitors at the table football and pool games in the evenings. Pupils were excellent ambassadors for the school and received many compliments from members of the public, regarding their behaviour and the use of their language skills.

[Click here to view the Student Affairs Committee Newsletter](#)

Issue 5 - December 2023

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Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Panathlon Bowling and Boccia Competitions



SEND pupils from Sharples recently represented the school (as pictured) in the Panathlon Bowling and Boccia competitions. All the teams played amazingly well, with the Sharples 8/9 Boccia team only losing out on the semi finals on points difference.

Well done to:

Year 7: Amber, Grace, Tiah-Tose, Phoebe, Archie, James, Noah, Paige and Zachary.

Year 8: Ben, Casey, Caleb, Adam and Declan.

Year 9: Hashim, Cerys, Ebony, Shaniece, Skye, Leon and Dieudonne.

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Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Sharples Baccalaureate



It has been brilliant to see the number of Year 7 students enjoying the selection of clubs that have been on offer this term at Sharples. Over 40 clubs have been available to Year 7 including: STEM club, jewellery club, debate club, astronomy club, Christmas cooking club, and art club to name a few. Each time a student attended a club they received a point that contributed towards their Sharples Baccalaureate award. To gain a Bronze award students needed 10 Bacc points, 15 points were needed for Silver and 20 points were needed for Gold. Commitment and attendance at clubs has been excellent over the last couple of months and this was evident during Friday's assembly when the top 100 students with the most points were awarded their Gold certificate and badge (as pictured). Usually, all Gold winners are presented with their award in assembly, however, this term 143 students reached the target of 20 Bacc points and to avoid the assembly running over into period 1, the remaining winners along with those receiving Silver and Bronze were given their certificates in form time on Tuesday! Overall, 201 Year 7 students achieved at least a Bronze award this term. This is a fantastic achievement for all involved and we hope the momentum from this term carries over into the new year when a whole new selection of clubs will be on offer!

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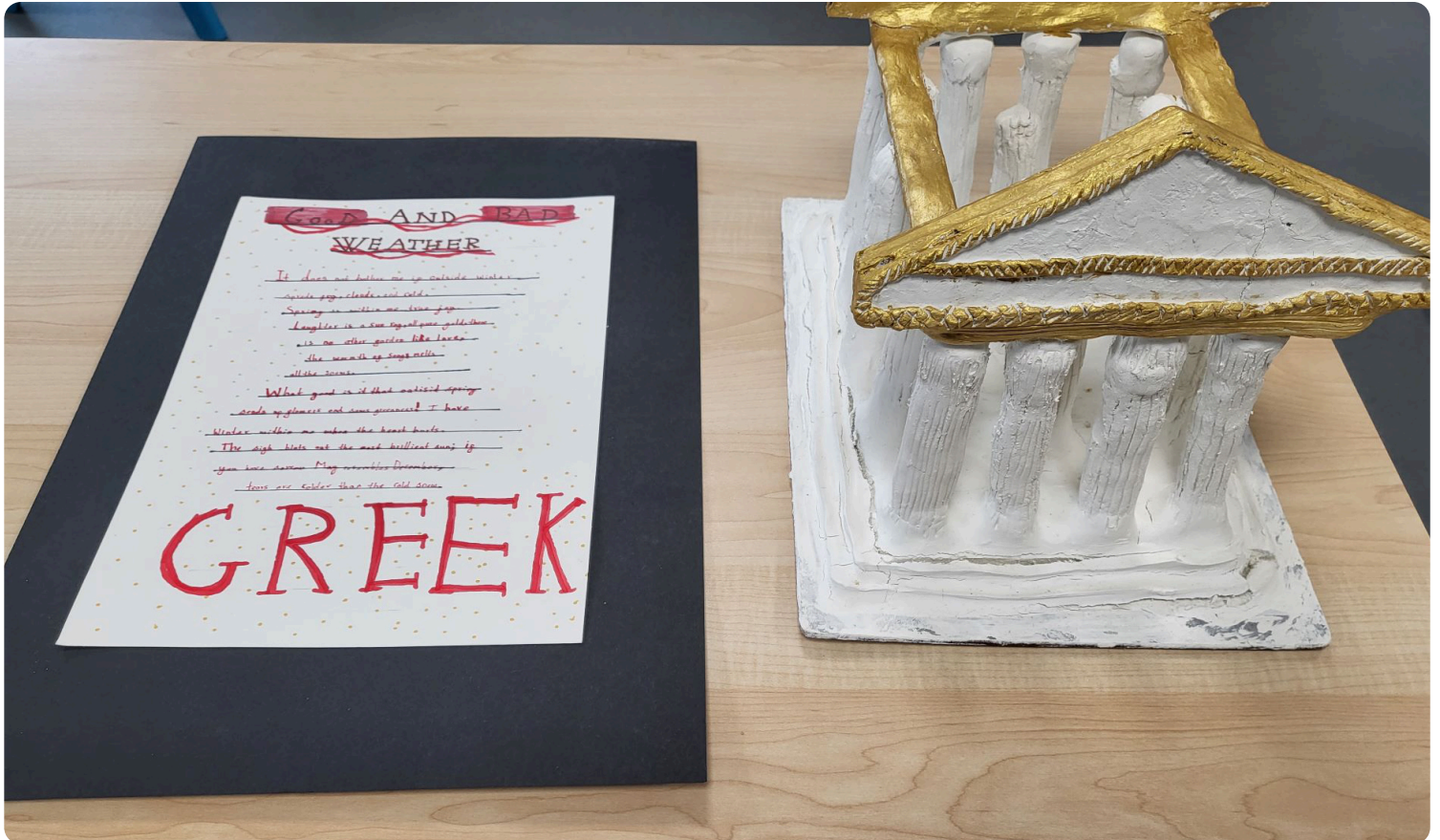


Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Year 7 Literature Society Wrapped Up



Thank you to all the pupils who got involved with Year 7 Literature Society, and thank you to the staff and pupils who came to support.

All the projects were wonderful: the students showed their creativity, dedication and enthusiasm, as shown in the above picture.

Congratulations to the prize winners:

Aizah A (Grand Prize Winner)

Zain A

Aminah P

Mariam S

Madina V

We look forward to Year 9's projects, which will begin after the holidays. Your English teachers will have further details.



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Zeyad H has written an amusing letter with ambitious vocabulary. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Alexia has used excellent show, not tell sentences in her description of Voldemort. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Humairah V has shown brilliant creative skills in her diary entry. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Ameena P has shown excellent effort in her A Christmas Carol assessment. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Aimee Rose M has written a wonderful A Christmas Carol essay. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Juwairya M for enthusiastic reading of 'Lamb To The Slaughter'.

Year 8

Khadijah P for always volunteering to read in class and has become more confident with difficult vocabulary.

Year 9

Ganani K for reading aloud Boys Don't Cry and for always volunteering to read in lessons.

Year 10

Rukya H for reading the voice of Scrooge with a cold-hearted personality!

Year 11

Faatima U for a brilliant reading of Mrs Birling.



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

UK Maths Trust Intermediate Challenge



The UK Maths Trust Intermediate Challenge is a 60 minute, 25 question multiple choice competition. It encourages mathematical reasoning, precision of thought, and fluency to make students think. The questions are designed to be accessible yet challenge the students in applying the mathematical techniques they have developed in lessons.

This year the challenge is taking place on 31 January 2024 and around 30 of our Year 11 students are taking part. To help them prepare, Mr Duggleby is running a club every Monday lunchtime in which students practise and discuss questions from previous year's challenges. While no new mathematical knowledge is required, the questions often require students to think "outside the box" to come up with efficient ways to solve them. Pictured are some of the students from this Monday's session.

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SCHOOL

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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.

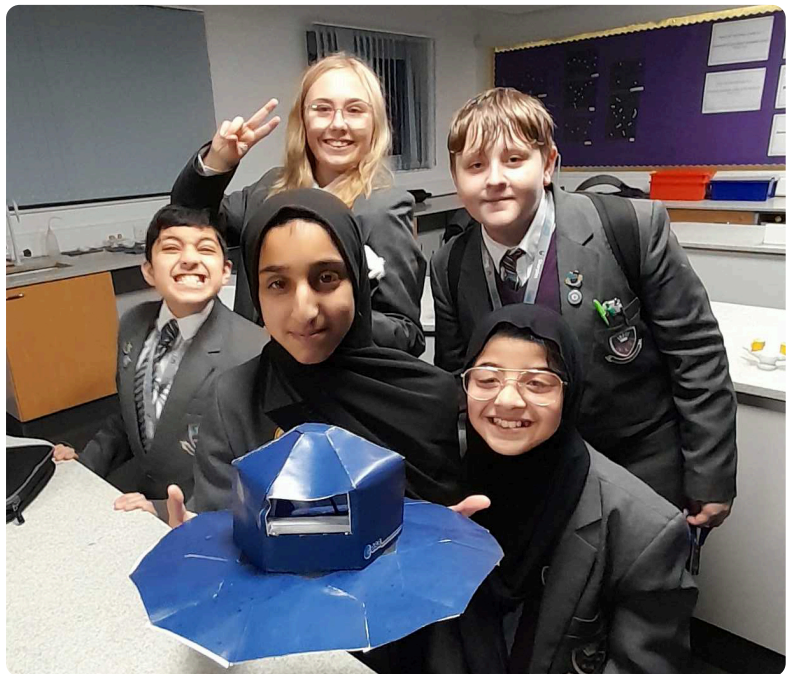
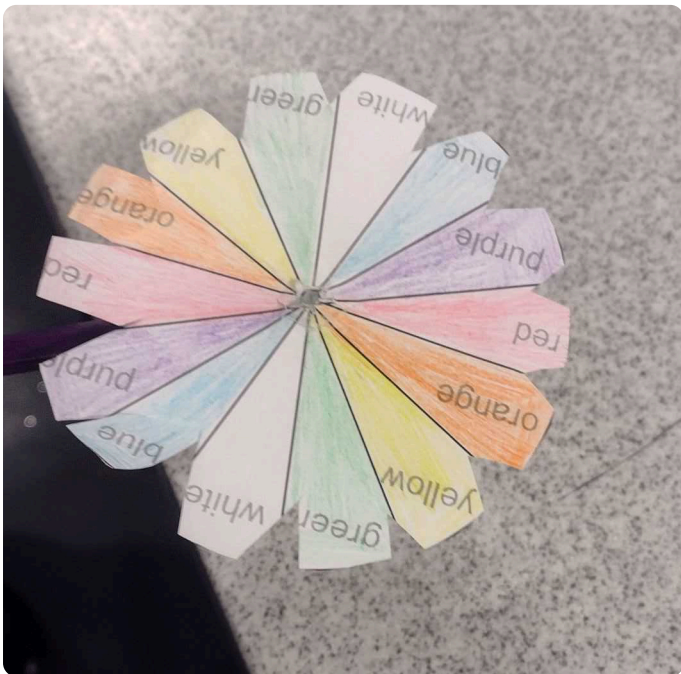
Year 9: Corey M, Zainab P, Abdullah H, Zahara C, Thomas McC, Jaxon B, Omelkhier B and Khalid P 100%.

Year 10: Isabelle W 100%, Sohan P, Munisha T, Ella G, Finley B, Adam E and Abdul H 95%.

Year 11: Zainab P, Amina A and Aaliyah P 100%.

Stem club

Pupils finished the year by each producing their own Newton wheel (pictured below left). Well done to all STEM club students who have taken part in some fantastic projects over the term and learned lots of new skills.



Astronomy club

This week, students finished the model of the space probe Gaia (pictured above right), which is currently in space creating an extraordinary map of the galaxy and beyond. By the end of the mission, Gaia will have mapped the location of 1 billion stars. Students have worked together for weeks to create the intricate model. Well done!



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Science Career of the Week

This week's career is 'Electrician'. Electricians install and repair electrical power systems in businesses, homes, factories and public spaces. Information about experience opportunities, providers, entry requirements and much more can be found here: [Science career of the Week](#).

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... 'Set realistic goals'. Sitting down with the intention of revising the whole of science all day is not a realistic plan. Instead, setting realistic targets is far more likely to be successful and lead to feelings of accomplishment and motivation. For example, 'I am going to read through my cell transport notes for 20 minutes, then quiz myself online, then I am going to do a past paper question, then I will have a 10 minute break.'

Animal Care



Miss Booth would like to say a huge well done to her Year 11 animal care class for completing their first component for their BTEC Animal Care course, this has taken a lot of hard work and dedication, each member of the class needed to be recorded handling 2 animals and they all did this amazingly! This year so far, Year 11 have visited the sea life centre at the Trafford Centre (pictured above) and Year 10 have



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

visited Smithills Open Farm. We have also welcomed 2 new animals - Giant African Land Snails!

For updates on the animal care course please follow @BTECAnimalCare on X (formerly twitter).

Visit to the Moon

On Wednesday evening, a group of students visited Bolton Library (pictured right) for an illuminating talk about the Moon and the Apollo missions. The talk aimed to explain why while there are many moons in the solar system, none are quite like our own, and it did just that. Students were then able to visit a huge model of the Moon, seeing all the lunar features in amazing detail.



Scientist of the Month

Congratulations to the winners of December'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 - Zian F
Progress - Mariam I
Community - Reem S

Year 8:
AA - Raven G
P - Sobia H
C - Eboni M

Year 9:
AA - Aayan Y
P - Eesa V
C - Leah H

Year 10:
AA - Jasmine K
P - Leon G
C - Umaynah B

Mr. Fowlds - Science Enrichment Coordinator



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Sharples Rewards

We have had a busy term rewarding students who meet our Sharples Values. As part of our Sharples Excellence System, all staff can award students positive A.C.E points for Academic achievement, Community involvement, or Excellence in both of these areas. This term over 250,000 A.C.E points have been given logged, with a single student average of 208 points!

Prizes have included: vouchers for a queue jump, a snack and drink, and a text message home for some of our weekly winners; being entered into a Love to Shop voucher prize draw or attending games time activities for our half termly winners; goody bags and A.C.E badges for our end of term winners.

Autumn Term's winners and our top 15 students in each year group are:

YEAR 7

Nafisa Ples1
Ammaarah Ples3
Shaunna Ples3
Saarah Ples3
Aliyah Ples3
Jack Ples3
Aaminah Ples4
Grace Shar3
Khadija Shar3
Rebecca Shar4
Lewis Shar4
Safaa Shar4
Azeema Shar5
Emily Shar5
Aysha G Shar5

YEAR 8

Mehr-Unisa Ples1
Zaara Ples1
Laaibah Ples1
Lucas Ples1
Fatima Ples1
Fatimah Shar5
Safira Ples5
Safiya Shar5
Amaara Shar2
Nidal Ples2
Ciara Shar1
Jacob Shar1
Muhammad Yusuf Ples3
Jacob Shar1
Dawood Ples1

YEAR 9

Zak E
Kayden E
Dan S1
Tom S1
Leah H
Anson E
Syed L
Owen P1
Amelia E
Maliha P1
Abdullateef A
Aishah L
Huma L
Farhan S1
Safa E

YEAR 10

Joshua A
Nimra A
Charlie H
Diana H
Abdul P1
Zulal R
Jack R
Aesha S
Harmain S
Jordan S
Joe S
Eiman S
Isa S
Hatim S1
Riyaad S1

YEAR 11

Daniel A
Angus L
Madiha L
Thomas L
Zenab P
Safa P
Fenani P
Ayesha R
Chloe S1
Joshua S2
Anya S2
Safa S3
Zayan S3
Thomas S3
Elizabeth S3



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Taekwondo Tournament



Aidan had another impressive performance (as pictured) last weekend in an elite Taekwondo tournament competing against some of the best in the country and the black belt division cadets. It was a long 5 hour journey and an extremely long day lasting over 12 hours. Aidan showed great resilience and was unlucky not to take the Gold medal after narrowly losing to the eventual winner by one point in the semi-final. The bronze medal was still a fantastic achievement and hopefully 2024 will bring more medals as he continues his journey in the sport and dreams of competing in the Olympics one day.

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Netball Christmas Party



It has been a great start to the year for our netball squads (pictured). Netball practice, on a Monday and Tuesday, has been well attended and it has been brilliant to see the older girls step up and help with the development of our new Year 7 team. We have seen plenty of fixtures for all of our squads and it is evident improvements are being made across all year groups. It is also fantastic to see the Year 7 squad growing in numbers each week in addition to their increase in confidence; they have been giving the Year 8s a run for their money in training matches on a Tuesday! Monday was the last training session of 2023 which had a Christmas theme to it! The girls enjoyed some Christmas music and treats in recognition for all of their hard work and dedication they have shown over the last few months. We look forward to plenty more fixtures in the new year. Well done girls!

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Year 7 Football vs Thornleigh



The Year 7 football team had their first cup match last Friday against Thornleigh. The team couldn't have started any worse after conceding a goal 20 seconds into the game. However, the team showed great character and reacted in the best possible way to the early set back. I think it's fair to say that this is something that they wouldn't have done earlier in the season but shows how the team is developing their character. Sharples went close a number of times but struggled to find the final pass or shot and needed to be more clinical in front of goal. As Sharples pressed for an equaliser Thornleigh capitalised on the space left in behind on the counter attack and sealed their place in the next round with a convincing 3 nil victory in the end. Alex and Ollie were superb in midfield and drove the team forward with their energy throughout the game showing great leadership. Both goalkeepers Lewis and Tombo had fantastic games and made some crucial saves to keep Sharples in the game.



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 (Monday 4th to Thursday 7th December)

Year Groups attendance this week:

Year 7 = 92.14%
Year 8 = 93.63%
Year 9 = 88.67%
Year 10 = 94.27%
Year 11 = 90.65%

Best forms this week:

7ples4 = 99.46%
8ples3 = 96.63%
9H = 97.22%
10P = 97.60%
11A = 95.83%

344 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year.

Dates for your Diary

Monday 25th
December to Friday
5th January 2024
(inclusive):
Christmas Holiday

Wednesday 10th
January: English
Literature PPE
Paper 1

Thursday 11th
January: Runshaw
College Application
Interview

Friday 12th
January: English
Literature PPE
Paper 2

Career of the Week: Plumber

Plumbers fit and service hot and cold water systems, heating systems and drainage networks.

Average Salary: £ £15,000 (Starter) to £40,000 (Experienced)

Typical hours: 37 to 40 a week

You could work: evenings / weekends / bank holidays as customers demand



Qualifications:

- You can get into this job through a college course, an apprenticeship, applying directly or working towards this role
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent.
- Level 2 and Level 3 Diploma in Plumbing and Domestic Heating
- T Level in Building Services Engineering for Construction

Skills required:

- the ability to use, repair and maintain machines and tools
- knowledge of building and construction
- to be thorough and pay attention to detail
- knowledge of maths
- the ability to work well with others
- the ability to use your initiative

Relevant Subjects:

- Science, Engineering and Maths.

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



Careers &
Enterprise
at Sharples School

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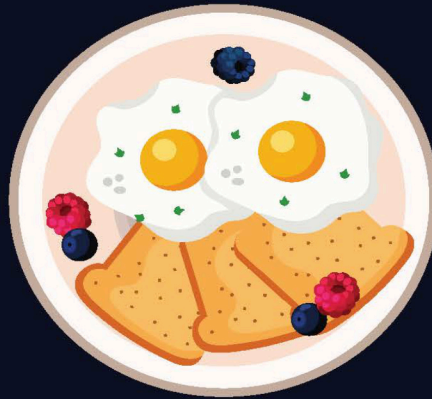
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WARM SPACE & BREAKFAST

Is the festive period proving more challenging than usual?
Do you feel isolated or could do with some warmth?

Come in for a chat and enjoy a hot breakfast with hot drinks



Open to all - No registration required

Date - 24 December 2023

Time - 10:00am - 12:00pm

Address - Prospect Mill

Prospect Street

Bolton

BL1 3QH



www.crescentfoodbank.org.uk

0333 772 6299



Kooth's live chat hours over the holiday period

24th December (Christmas Eve) - 4pm - 8pm

25th December (Christmas Day) - 4pm - 8pm

26th December (Boxing Day) - 4pm - 8pm

31st December (New Years Eve) - 4pm - 8pm

1st January (New Years Day) - 4pm - 8pm

Other days over the holiday period will follow our usual live chat hours of 12pm - 10pm on weekdays and 6pm - 10pm on weekends.

kooth.com







Raise **£400** per tonne for your school.

Sharples School is participating in the Rag Bag textile recycling scheme which provides regular fundraising for the Eco/Gardening Club, other charities and raises awareness about recycling.

Please bring any of the below unwanted items in a securely tied plastic bag by for collection between Monday 8th January-Monday 22nd January 2024, to Meeting Room 1 in Hill Cot House.

Rag Bag can accept good quality clean Men's, Ladies and Children's clothing, belts, bags and paired shoes (tied together).

The bags will be collected and transported to the Rag Bag factory where they will be sorted and graded for reuse or recycling.



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