



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 465
26th January 2024

Head Girl begins her Bolton Youth MP Election

As a school, we are extremely fortunate to have our Head Girl & Year 11 Student Affairs Committee (SAC) Member, Amirah (pictured), apply to be one of the next Bolton Youth Members of Parliament. Candidates will be coming into assemblies next week to promote their campaigns and voting will be offered to all Sharples Students either via a ballot paper or an online form (more details TBC). We would like to wish all candidates, but in particular Amirah, all the very best of luck with their election campaigns.



Please see below from Amirah...

Due to the Bolton Youth MP Candidates recently being revealed, I am delighted and honoured to be one of the candidates you may consider in the upcoming elections.

The role of Youth MP is one that is pivotal to youth action in Bolton, representing the views and experiences of the youth in our local area. However, Bolton's Youth MPs also have the incredible opportunity to represent Bolton's young people much further than that, championing young people's views, both regionally and nationally. Such as, the Parliamentary meeting in the House of Commons for all Youth MPs or the annual conference to bring national ideas together. Alongside these chances to make change, the Youth MPs elected will work tirelessly with Bolton Youth Council to ensure the changes young people find important are the priority.

I believe that the Youth MPs elected have the opportunity to truly make a difference, but also a responsibility to consider, which is why I decided to run when applications opened in November 2023. I want to represent all of Bolton's young people and the experiences that affect their everyday lives, which I believe I have implemented into my manifesto. If I am elected, I aim to work on topics such as tackling child poverty, low mental health in young people and expanding political knowledge as I believe these are the factors that are most important for young people right now.

Voting will open for young people on Monday the 29th of January, and I am thrilled to not only be a candidate but to also represent Sharples School in the election process.

[Click here to view Amirah's poster](#)

[Click here to view the Vote poster](#)

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English Enrichment



This Wednesday, 70 of our KS3 students met Robert Goodale (pictured above), an actor turned author! Robert delivered a workshop on storytelling and story development covering relatable themes such as grief, school life and growing up. Our students thoroughly enjoyed the reading from his book and engaged brilliantly with his sessions!

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PagPag

The following article has been written by Year 8 student Paige D.

In geography, this week, we have looked at where food comes from. The main thing we have looked at is PagPag. It comes from the Philippines in Malaya, south-east asia. PagPag is a type of food that people in poverty eat. It is made from food people have thrown away and then re-used to make new food. People who collect the food from the rubbish dump work 16 hours a day, all throughout the night and they only make around \$6 a week and the people who sell the food make around \$3.50.



People in poverty would eat Pagpag as it is cheap and it gives them energy to do other things like work, it also may be the only food they have access to. You may be asking what would happen if we ate it, well, if we ate it we would most likely become incredibly ill for a while as we aren't used to it and the food is from the rubbish dump and the water they wash it with is not clean at all as it is not filtered very well. Luckily, there are benefits to eating PagPag. One reason is income, to get income in the Philippines most people would cook and sell PagPag as lots of people would buy it because it is cheap and is most likely not very hard to make. This weird food is probably the only thing they have access to in terms of food, so what can we do to help?

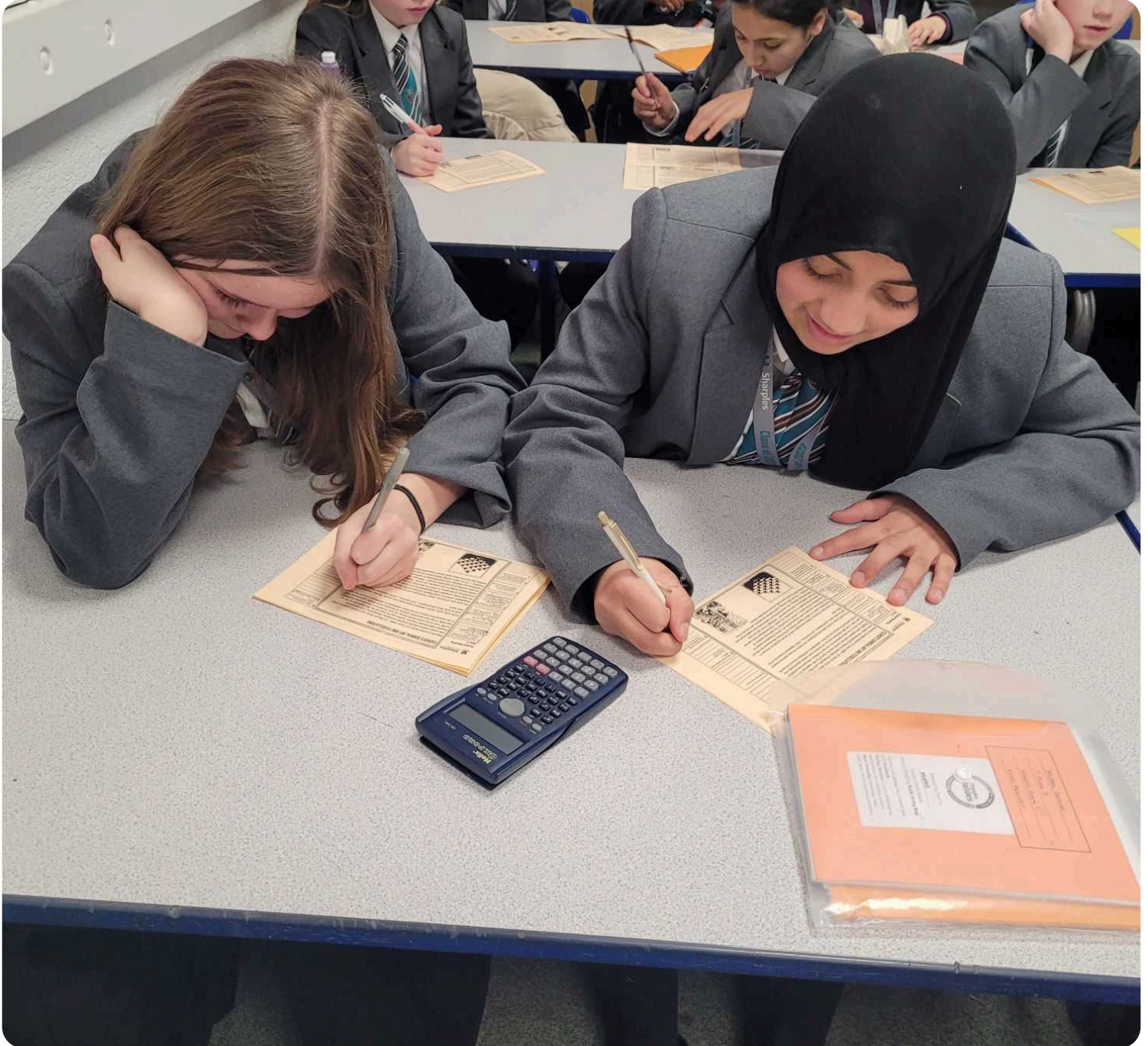


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Reading in Maths



To support literacy across the curriculum all pupils in Maths complete guided reading tasks in advance of the new topic to be taught to reinforce the importance of reading and comprehension. Last week our Year 7 students were reading all about Escher's surreal art and tessellations, ready to start their new unit of work this week.

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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: Leah H, Zainab G, Safiyyah I, Daniel W, Zainab P, Muhammad NA, Safa S, Omelkheir B, Rayhan D, Farrah H, Henry R, Muhammad-Khaleel V, Hamzah M and Goodness E.

Year 10: Alizah A, Zaynab M, Adam E, Khadijah D, Ayesha M and Emilija M.

Year 11: Madiha P.

STEM club

This week pupils continued their work on the roller coaster project. There have been some important lessons in how to support the weight of a structure and maintain balance. A number of teams were able to test their designs (see picture) using marbles. Next week is the final week in the project and a prize will be awarded for the best design!



Astronomy Club

Students in Astronomy Club this week have been drawing asterisms and constellations and creating artwork associated with the famous patterns made by the stars in the sky.

Science Career of the Week

This week's career is 'Mechanical Engineer'. Mechanical engineers design power-producing machines, such as electric generators, internal combustion engines, and steam and gas turbines, as well as power-using machines, such as refrigeration and air-conditioning systems. 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.

Mr. Fowlds - Science Enrichment Coordinator

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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Muhammad Zayan A has put excellent effort into his contextual notes on Animal Farm. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Muhammad Zain T has shown a brilliant understanding of the opening scene of Macbeth. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Riya P has shown excellent effort in her annotations of the poem 'To be a Woman'. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Amelia D has written an excellent piece of writing on the poem Cozy Apologia. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Aammarah P has written an excellent anecdote to open an article! [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Khadijah U - for lovely fluency when reading Old Major's speech from Ch1 of Animal Farm.

Year 8

Maryam P reading Boy with lovely accuracy and eloquence.

Year 9

Farah M for always wanting to read in lessons.

Year 10

Kenton C for reading the character of Romeo with a lot of passion capturing the heartbreak of the character.

Year 11

Madiha P for reading the poem of Living Space with enthusiasm and generally for always offering to read.



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Sports Report

Tuesday was the annual Bolton swimming championship at Bolton One. Sharples held two trial and practice sessions last week in preparation for the annual event competing against the best swimmers in the borough. It is always a difficult contest against club swimmers who spend many hours in the pool training each week before and after school. Sharples more than held their own and put in some superb performances and even managed a few medals. Jayden swam an excellent race in breaststroke and won a silver medal and the star of the day was new student PinkLily who won Gold in butterfly and Silver in front crawl. Her medal winning performance wasn't a surprise though, as PinkLily is a competitive swimmer outside of school and spends many hours training each week.



Wednesday was the first session of a 6 week boxing course at Amir Khan's gym for some of our lucky students (pictured above). It was a tough session and a real insight into the fitness levels required in the sport of boxing. The students were superb, developing their foot work, pad work and general fitness. The group are looking forward to developing their fitness and boxing skills over the coming weeks.

The basketball club has always been well attended and it was great to see Sharples being able to put out an U14s team this week for the first time this season. It was a more than impressive first display that saw Sharples win 3 of their games and draw one fixture, which they were unlucky not to win. It was a fantastic team performance against mostly older opposition and Sol was the star of the show once again, running through the opposition and scoring all the points for Sharples.

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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

Monday 15th to Friday 19th January

Year Groups attendance this week:

Year 7 = 93.98%
Year 8 = 95.14%
Year 9 = 93.28%
Year 10 = 91.62%
Year 11 = 93.51%

Best forms this week:

7ples3 = 99.57%
8shar1 = 98.62%
9R = 96.58%
10P1 = 97.86%
11P = 97.70%

287 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 26th January
into the weekend:
Sleep at the Deep
(Boys Trip)

Friday 2nd
February into the
weekend: Sleep at
the Deep
(Girls Trip)

Monday 5th to
Friday 9th
February: National
Apprenticeship
Week

Monday 5th to
Friday 9th
February: Year 11
Catering Exams

Career of the Week: Costume Designer

Costume designers are responsible for the overall look of the costumes and accessories in theatre, film and television productions.

Average Salary: £ £22,000 Starter £34,000 Experienced

Typical hours:
(per week) 35 to 42
variable

You could work: evenings / weekends
attending events or appointments

Qualifications:

- You can get into this job through a college course, a university course, an apprenticeship or working towards.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent including English and Maths.

Skills required:

- work with the production team to understand costume requirements
- research costume styles, materials, location and time period
- produce designs by hand or using design software
- create costumes and accessories
- hire costumes and fit, alter and repair outfits
- make sure costumes are well maintained and stored properly for future use

Relevant Subjects:

- Textiles, Art, Design and Technology.



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



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	Basketball (SH) - LAL
Boccia (Gym) - SCU & LAL	Sports Studies catch up (G32)- AHM	KS4 Boys Fitness Suite - PGR		
		Y10 Football (Small Astro) - JBA		

WEEK COMMENCING -
29th January



PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y 7/8 Swimming Club	KS4 boys fitness	KS3 Swimming club	KS4 boys fitness	No Clubs
Y7 & Y8 Netball vs Kearsley (a)	Y7 football practice	Basketball practice	Badminton practice	
KS4 Netball	Yr 8 football practice	Boxing @ Khan's gym	Y7/8 Basketball tournament @ Smithills	
KS4 Girls Fitness suite	KS3 Netball	KS3 Football vs Ladybridge and St Joseph's (a)	Game On	
	Sports Leaders Primary Event		Girls Football	

• Other fixtures will be arranged throughout the term!



Calling all Y7-10 amazing mathematicians...

MEM February Half Term Challenge

Deadline Wednesday 28th February

The questions and further details can be found on Student
Portal. If you have any questions please speak to
Mrs McCawley.



MATHEMATICAL EDUCATION
ON MERSEYSIDE

Supported by

LEVERHULME
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P. H. HOLT
FOUNDATION



Calling all Year 8 amazing mathematicians...

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge

Thursday 25th April 2024

If you would like to take part please let your maths teacher
know or send an email to Mrs Hart.

Optional lunchtime support session
every Wednesday in U23



THROUGH THEIR EYES

POETRY COMPETITION FOR **11-18** YEAR-OLDS



WHOSE POINT OF VIEW
WILL **YOU** CHOOSE?

YOU COULD BE PUBLISHED AND EVEN
WIN **£50 AND A TROPHY!**

SEE THIS TEACHER FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Miss Hartley

YOUR ENTRY NEEDS TO BE HANDED IN BY:

16th February

WRITING AND TALKING SATURDAY CLUB

ARE YOU BETWEEN 13-16 AND INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A WRITING & TALKING SATURDAY CLUB?

MEET WEEKLY AT THE POETRY LIBRARY AT MANCHESTER MET UNIVERSITY ON OXFORD ROAD.

THE FIRST WRITING & TALKING SATURDAY CLUB SESSION STARTS ON SATURDAY 20TH JANUARY BUT YOU CAN JOIN ANYTIME UNTIL 10TH FEBRUARY. THE GROUP IS FREE AND EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO TAKE PART.

SESSIONS START AT 10.30 AND RUN UNTIL 1.30PM.

COME WITH A FRIEND OR COME ALONE AND MEET NEW FRIENDS WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS TO YOUR OWN.

**SEARCH FOR
MANCHESTER METROPOLITAN UNIVERSITY NATIONAL SATURDAY CLUB
TO REGISTER ONLINE**

WRITE FANTASY FICTION

WRITE THEATRE SCRIPTS

CREATE FILMS AND PODCASTS



What Parents & Carers Need to Know about MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION
13-19

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users 'vote' on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being 'catfished' until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or 'fence' and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid *The Inquirer*, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.

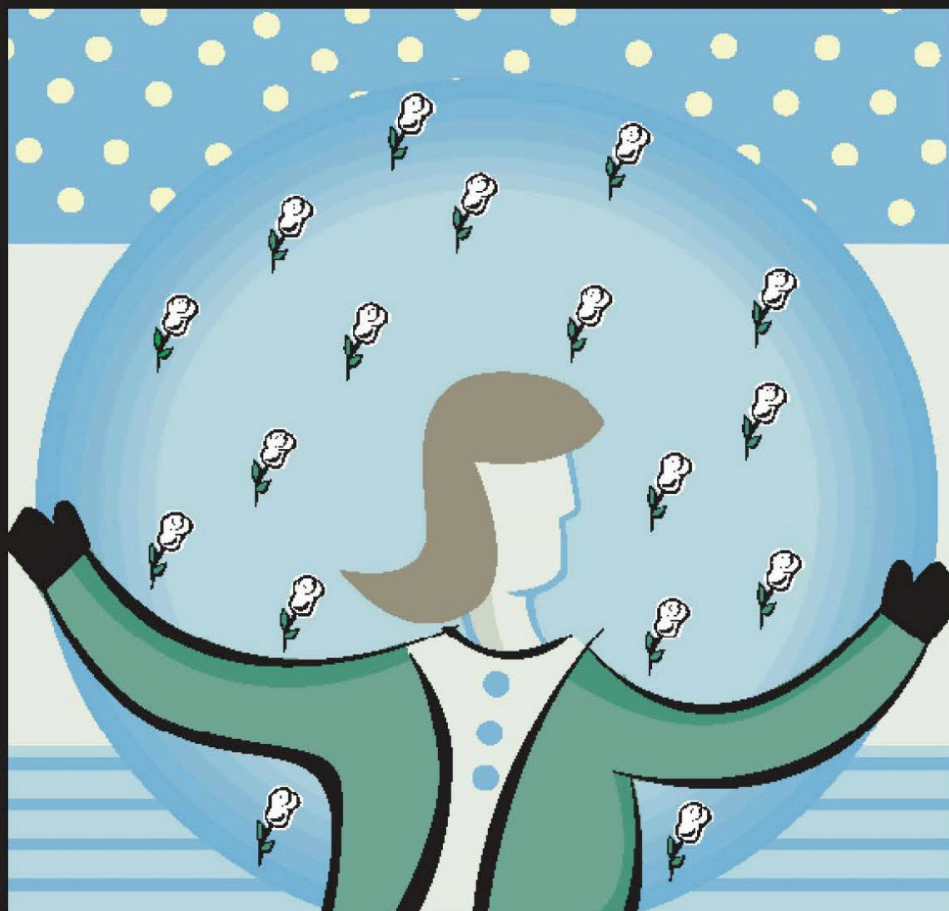


The National College

NOS National Online Safety®
#WakeUpWednesday

The Sophie Scholl Awards

“Someone has to make a start.” How about you?



Holocaust Memorial Day is commemorated each year on 27th January, the date of the liberation of the Nazi concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1945. Holocaust Memorial Day remembers the millions of victims of the Nazi Holocaust, including six million Jews, and of other, more recent genocides.



The Sophie Scholl Awards were introduced at Runshaw as part of our events to commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day. The courage of Sophie Scholl, of a similar age to Runshaw students, was an inspiration to us all. We now extend an invitation to pupils in partner high schools to help us celebrate the short life of this brave young woman by participating in awards reserved for them.

Sophie was 18 when the war started in 1939. She and her family, inspired by their strong religious beliefs, actively resisted the Nazis – an incredibly courageous thing for Germans to do. In 1942, Sophie, along with her brother Hans and a few other students, founded the White Rose, a non-violent resistance movement which painted anti-fascist slogans on walls, defaced Nazi emblems and distributed anti-war leaflets. In early 1943, Sophie and the other leaders of the group were caught, condemned as traitors and executed by beheading. Sophie was just 21.

During her trial, despite the attempts of the judge and prosecutors to browbeat and ridicule her, Sophie remained steadfast as one individual against the massive power of the Nazi state. “Someone has to make a start”, she said. Convinced that good in the end would prevail, her last words as she was led into the execution yard were, “The sun still shines!”

For many inspired by Sophie’s example, a white rose has come to represent peace, justice and a love of humanity.

Students in partner high schools are asked to make an entry based on ONE of the following themes:

- The inspiration of Sophie Scholl
- The White Rose
- Someone has to make a start

Entries can be

- a written piece (maximum 250 words but could be much shorter)
- a poem
- a piece of art work or music – of any kind
- an idea to do something at school based on Sophie’s example
- anything at all based on one of the above themes.

Entries can be individual or group work.

Entries should be forwarded to Giles Inman, Inman.G@runshaw.ac.uk. The deadline for entries is 4.30pm on *Wednesday 21st February 2024*.

Awards of vouchers and certificates will be awarded for the best entries.

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