



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 538
4th December 2025

Parliament comes to Sharples



Sharples School proudly participated in UK Parliament Week by welcoming the local Member of Parliament for Bolton North East, Kirith Entwistle MP, to the school. The visit offered students an invaluable opportunity to engage directly with their elected representative and gain a firsthand understanding of parliamentary democracy and the role of an MP.

Pupils enthusiastically took part in a Q&A session, posing thoughtful questions about everything from how laws are made in Westminster to the important local issues affecting the community.

This insightful and inspiring event successfully brought politics to life, highlighting the significance of active citizenship and encouraging our young people to recognise that their voices matter in shaping the future of their town and country.

Sharples Radio November Podcast

On the November Edition of the Sharples Radio Podcast we have: reporting from the Remembrance Day Service; an update on the English Author talk with Pooja Puri; An MFL Diversity Day Quiz; and Teacher Quick Fire Questions with Mr Savage.

[Click here to listen.](#)



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Mock Trial at Bolton Coroners Court: Order in the Classroom!



Last week, a dedicated cohort of Year 9 and Year 10 students proudly represented Sharples School as they swapped their exercise books for evidence bundles at Bolton Coroners Court. Taking part in a Mock Trial on Knife Crime, they demonstrated our school values throughout — even when the courtroom drama reached soap-opera levels.

Our “defendant,” Zach J — masterfully portrayed by the ever-talented Amaara M — took to the dock with a performance so dramatic it could have earned a standing ovation... though whether it helped their case is another matter entirely.

A host of witnesses were duly called and cross-examined on the stand, each delivering their account of events with varying degrees of composure and, shall we say, attitude. In fact, proceedings became so lively that our presiding Judge Oriola, had to intervene more than once to restore order in the court. Objection sustained, indeed.

Despite the best efforts of our student barristers — some persuasive, some theatrical, all committed — the jury ultimately reached a unanimous verdict: guilty as charged. Sentencing followed swiftly, and let's just say the judge did not hold back. But as the old saying goes, don't do the crime if you can't do the time... even if the time is purely educational.

The experience gave our students a brilliant insight into the legal system, courtroom etiquette, and the challenge of staying calm under cross-examination. A huge thank you to Bolton Coroners Court for hosting us, and to our students for representing Sharples School with confidence, curiosity, and character.

Case closed!

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Sharples Celebrates our Historical Association Gold Award



This week Mrs Solomons travelled to London for the celebration event for the Historical Association Quality Mark Gold Award that Sharples achieved last year. We were presented with our official certificate and celebrated with other schools who had also received the award. The event was held at the British Library. Congratulations again to the History Department for their hard work and effort in achieving this acclaimed recognition for History provision at Sharples.

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Computer Science Trip to The National Museum of Computing, Bletchley Park



Friday 28th November, students from the Computer Science department enjoyed an inspiring and action-packed visit to The National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park—home to one of the world's most important collections of historic and modern computing technology. The trip offered students a unique opportunity to step into the past, present and future of computing through four hands-on activities designed to extend their learning beyond the classroom.

They began with a workshop on AI and robotics, exploring how machines learn and getting the chance to guess which movie characters were AI generated or not. A data trail around the museum followed, where students discovered key exhibits and saw Colossus, the world's first programmable electronic computer.

Students then learned to code on BBC computers, creating a version of Snakes—a fun challenge that highlighted how programming was taught in the 1980s. The day ended with a retro gaming session, giving everyone a taste of early video games and how the industry has evolved.

The trip was a fantastic blend of history, innovation, and hands-on learning. Students returned inspired, with a deeper appreciation of how computing has developed—and how far it may go in the future. The Computer Science department looks forward to returning to Bletchley Park for more exploration and discovery next year.



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Family Digital Detox Winner



Congratulations to Tom A in Year 8, whose family has been randomly selected as the winners of the Digital Detox bundle! Well done to all of the families who participated and engaged in activities away from their screens!

November Scientists of the Month

Massive congratulations to the 4 winners of last month's Scientists of the Month.

Year 7 - Lewis W - Outstanding subject knowledge and contributions to the class experience.

Year 8 - Bernadette L - Consistently hard working in and out of the classroom.

Year 9 - Imani T - Contributes every lesson and always tries her best.

Year 10 - Elliot G - Excellent attitude towards learning and revision.

Nominees - Hailey K, Elysia E, Ayman M, Umer Al, Maryam S, Fatima B, Muhaymin S, Reagan S, Alexa H, Aine H, Melih Y, Asiya B, Aaima A, Aizah A, James B, Ivan L, Henriette L, Bhavika M, Tia S, Lucas P and Afia Z.

Well done for all your hard work and efforts!



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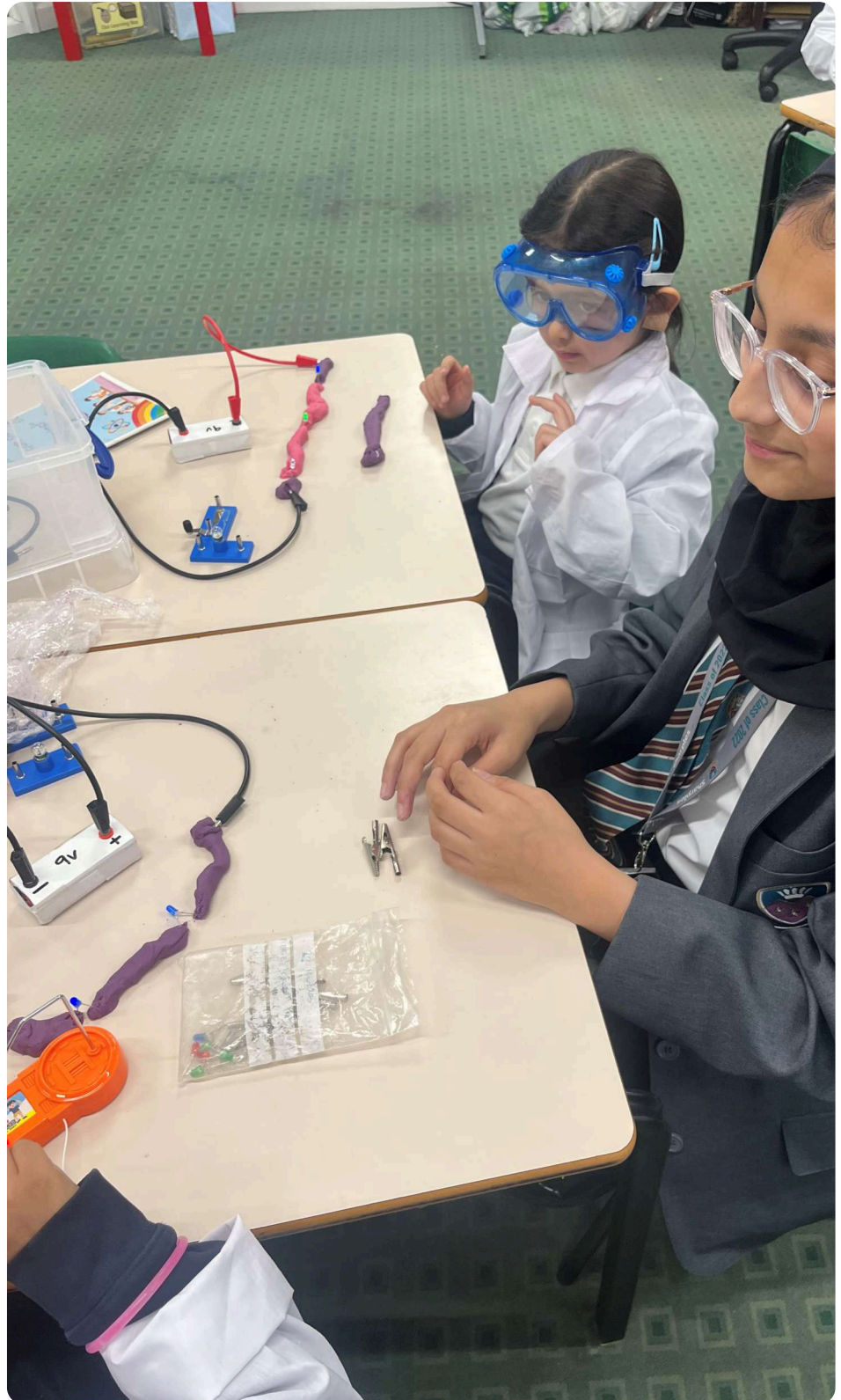
Young Physicists Light Up the Room with Salt Dough Circuits

This week at our I Can Do Physics! club, pupils explored the world of electricity by creating their very own salt dough circuits. With guidance from Sharples' Year 10 near-peer role models, the children shaped conductive dough before connecting batteries, wires and LEDs to see if they could make a working circuit.

The activity encouraged plenty of problem-solving as pupils experimented with different ways to complete the circuit. Many showed real resilience, adjusting their designs and trying again until their lights finally switched on — followed by lots of proud smiles.

The club continues to provide engaging and creative opportunities for younger pupils to explore physics in a fun and accessible way, while our Year 10 mentors develop their own leadership and communication skills in the process.

Next week, pupils will continue their physics journey with the final activity... a shadow puppet show.





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Aspiring Historians visit Runshaw College



This week 7 of our aspiring Year 10 Historians visited Runshaw to get a taste for A Level History at the college. They took part in two taster lessons where they learned about what would be involved in studying History at A Level and got involved in some debates with other schools during the lessons. Well done to those students for representing Sharples and we hope you all go on to study History at A Level!

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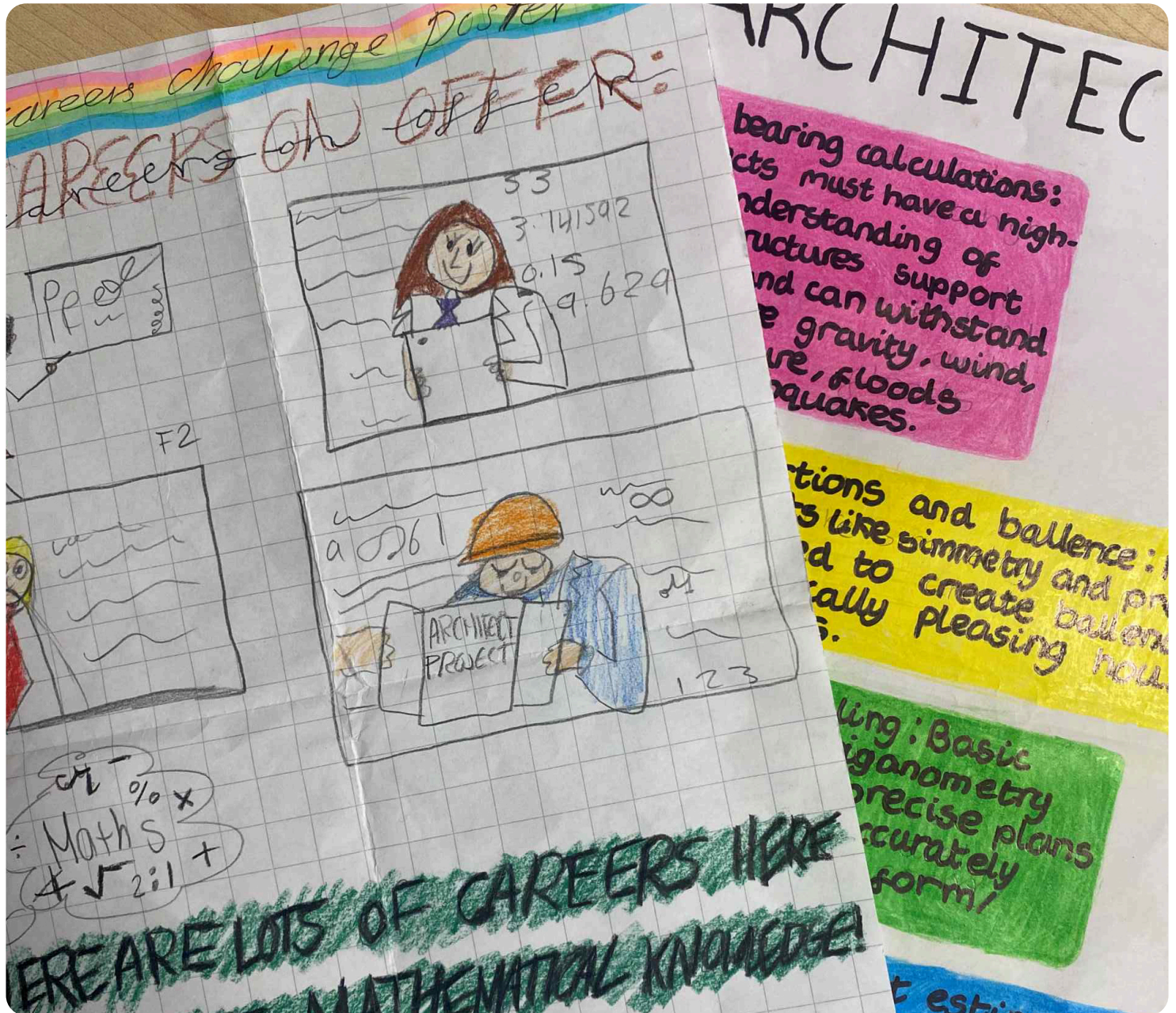


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Year 8 Optional Maths Homework



Well done to all of the amazing entries we've received so far for the Year 8 optional homework!

We've had some fantastic posters handed in, showcasing a wide variety of different careers.

There is still time to submit your work — the deadline is Friday 9th January.

Reward points will be given for every entry, so get involved!



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SShhhhh! Silent Letter Winners



Well done to Humera in Year 8 and Zaqi in Year 7 who won the silent letter day competition.

As the winner, Humera won her own little autumn gnome, whereas the runner-up, Zaqi, is going to eat his winnings!

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English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Yuwain R for his excellent analytical writing. [Click here.](#)

Year 8

Zuleha for her superb comparison plan in Blood Brothers. [Click here.](#)

Year 9

Zaara A for her wonderful analytical paragraph on how tension is created in The Jungle. [Click here.](#)

Year 10

Zainab K for a brilliant attempt at a poetry comparison essay. [Click here.](#)

Year 11

Zainab D for a great first attempt at an unseen poetry answer. [Click here.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Martha B for reading aloud fluently.

Year 8

Scarlett H for her excellent reading of Mrs Lyons.

Year 9

Emelia G for building excellent confidence within reading.

Year 10

Elise K for a brilliant reading of A Christmas Carol.

Year 11

Syed T for an excellent portrayal of Mr Birling.

Year 11 Final Game

Last night saw the end to 5 years of football at Sharples for our Year 11 Boys Football team, in what turned out to be a great display of character. We came up against Little Lever in the quarter final of the Bolton Cup, we started very slowly, conceded early but woke up and responded well with plenty of chances created, with us struggling to find the back of the net. Half time saw us 2-0 down with a lot to do in the second half. We started fast and looked to score, with plenty of good chances on the break. Unfortunately Little Lever pinched a 3rd. With 10 minutes to go Tom M got the team going and played a great ball forward to Abdur who scored to give us hope. 5 minutes later we got a second thanks to Abdur. As we pushed for a 3rd to take it to penalties we hit the bar and just missed a 1v1. Unlucky boys, great game and well done on your 5 years at Sharples. #UpTheSharples



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Trampolining Championships Success



Last weekend our Head boy Oliver M competed at Robin Park in Wigan in the closed North West Trampolining Championships where he placed **GOLD** In double Mini Trampoline and **SILVER** In Trampoline Over 16s Elite.

The competition was across both Saturday and Sunday competing for Liverpool Trampoline Gymnastics Academy. Oliver displayed both a set routine and a vol routine on trampoline and three passes on the Double Mini Trampoline! Something he had never done before! Well done Oliver!

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Year 7 win in the Bolton Cup



Year 7 were looking to bounce back in the Bolton cup after their heavy defeat to Rivington at the start of the term. On a very cold afternoon Sharples put on a fantastic display in an emphatic 7-2 victory over Earsley Academy. A number of the team were on the score sheet for Sharples with goals and assists coming from all over the pitch. The pick of the goals was from Harry in the first half when he fired into the roof of the net from outside the box.

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Dates for your Diary

Friday 5th December:
Staff training day (not open for pupils)

Wednesday 10th December: Flu vaccinations catch ups (All year groups)

Wednesday 10th December: Panathlon - Ten Pin Bowling (10:00 – 12:30)

Wednesday 10th December: Y11 Parents Evening (16:00 – 19:00)

Friday 12th December: Christmas markets (3.15pm - 5.30)

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 (previous week)

Year Groups attendance this week:

7 = 93.10%

8 = 91.02%

9 = 90.77%

10 = 86.27%

11 = 90.71%

Best forms this week:

7Shar5 = 99.21%

8Ples3 = 99.11%

9Shar5 = 98.45%

10Shar3 = 93.42%

11Shar3 = 98.39%

391 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

Career of the Week: Forensic Scientist

Forensic scientists prepare traces of physical evidence for use in courts of law.

Average Salary: £ £18,000 £45,000
Starter Experienced

Typical hours: 37 to 40
(per week) a week

You could work: on call
at short notice

Qualifications:

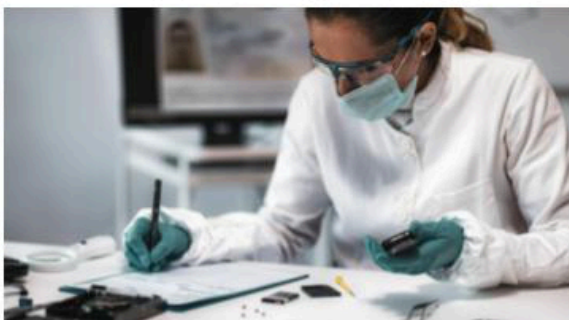
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship
- 2 or 3 A levels, or equivalent, including chemistry.
- A degree or foundation degree in a relevant subject area.

Skills required:

- The ability to think clearly using logic and reasoning.
- Knowledge of public safety and security.
- Excellent written communication skills.
- The ability to work on your own.
- Legal knowledge including court procedures and government regulations.
- To be able to use a computer and the main software packages competently.

Relevant Subjects:

- Science - Mainly Chemistry and Biology and Maths



Information sourced from: <http://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/forensic-scientist>



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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	Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM
Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y10 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA
Netball Yr 7/8 (SH) - LAL	KS3 Dodgeball (SH) - LAL/AHM	Just Dance- all years (SH) - LAL/PGR	Basketball (SH) - LAL	Y7 Girls Football (SH) - LAL
	Sports studies catch up/KS3 hmwk- AHM			



PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football practice	Y8 Football practice	Y11 parents evening	Y8 football v Thornleigh (a)	KS3 homework detentions
KS3 boys Swimming Club	KS4 Fitness Suite- SHAR	Y7 football @ Ladybridge (a)	KS4 Fitness Suite- SHAR	
KS3 & KS4 Girls football v Ladybridge (h)	Running Club- all years	Basketball- all years	Girls Football- all years	
Netball - all years	Racquets- all years	KS3 Girls Swimming		
		KS4 Girls Fitness Suite		

Week beginning 8th Dec



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JOIN OUR PTA



We are looking for volunteer parents/guardians to support and strengthen our school.

Through events and meetings, we would like to bring together a community of parents, guardians, grandparents, teachers and staff.

- A great way to meet new people and make connections with other parents.
- Get to know our teachers and staff.
- Help support our students and help create opportunities that will benefit all our pupils.

To get involved email:
pta@sharplesschool.co.uk

FRIDAY

12

DECEMBER

3:15 - 5:30PM

THEATRE

SHARPLES PTA INVITE YOU TO CELEBRATE



Sharples
SCHOOL

Christmas Markets!

Xmas Stalls!

Hot Choc! Crêpes!

Penalty shootout vs Santa!

Raffle Prizes!



ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

THURSDAY 4TH DEC

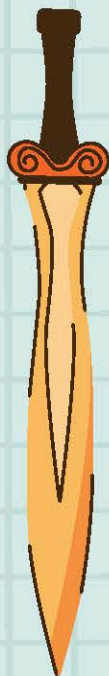
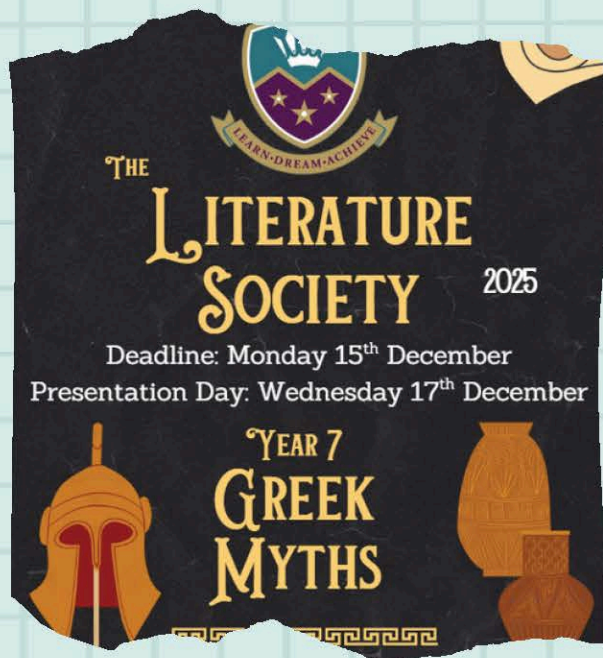


YEAR 7 LITERATURE SOCIETY: GREEK MYTHS ENDING SOON

A week left until the end of Lit Soc!

The deadline is 15th December, so make sure you complete it and bring it in!

These will be presented on Wednesday 17th to your friends, teachers, and other students.



WORD OF THE WEEK

Meticulous

= showing great attention to detail.

E.g. "The report was meticulous and contained no errors."

SHARPLES RADIO

Over the last few weeks, Mrs Smith and The Sharples Radio Team have been researching, recording, and editing their first podcast.

To find out about this new school radio adventure check out the podcast on the school website.



WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Books and Biscuits

Tuesday
Lunchtime
in the library



Anime Club
Wednesday
lunch in U15



Mellors
FOOD
 **HAPPY**
Christmas

Christmas Dinner

**Xmas Dinner with
all the trimmings**

£2.10

Xmas Pudding 90p

Join us:

Tuesday 9th Dec