



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Issue 542  
16th January 2026

## Year 10 Art & Design Trip to Manchester Galleries



On Thursday 8th January, our Year 10 Art & Design students took part in a curriculum-linked visit to Manchester, beginning with the immersive exhibition David Hockney: Bigger & Closer (not smaller & further away) at Factory International, before visiting The Whitworth Gallery.

Surrounded by large-scale projected imagery, students experienced Hockney's work in an engaging and memorable way, gaining insight into his use of colour, composition, and scale.

The visit proved to be a valuable opportunity in supporting students' GCSE Art & Design studies, helping them develop a deeper understanding of artist research and visual language.

Students then explored The Whitworth galleries, using the collections as a source of first-hand visual research. They produced observational sketches and gathered inspiration to inform their own coursework and creative development.

Throughout the day, students were a credit to themselves and the school, demonstrating excellent behaviour, focus, and enthusiasm, and engaging thoughtfully with the artwork on display.

See the next page for more pictures taken during this visit.



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter





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## Mathematician of the Month



Every month a student is nominated from each of the maths classes for Mathematician of the Month. These students are nominated based on their hard work, enthusiasm and efforts within the lesson.

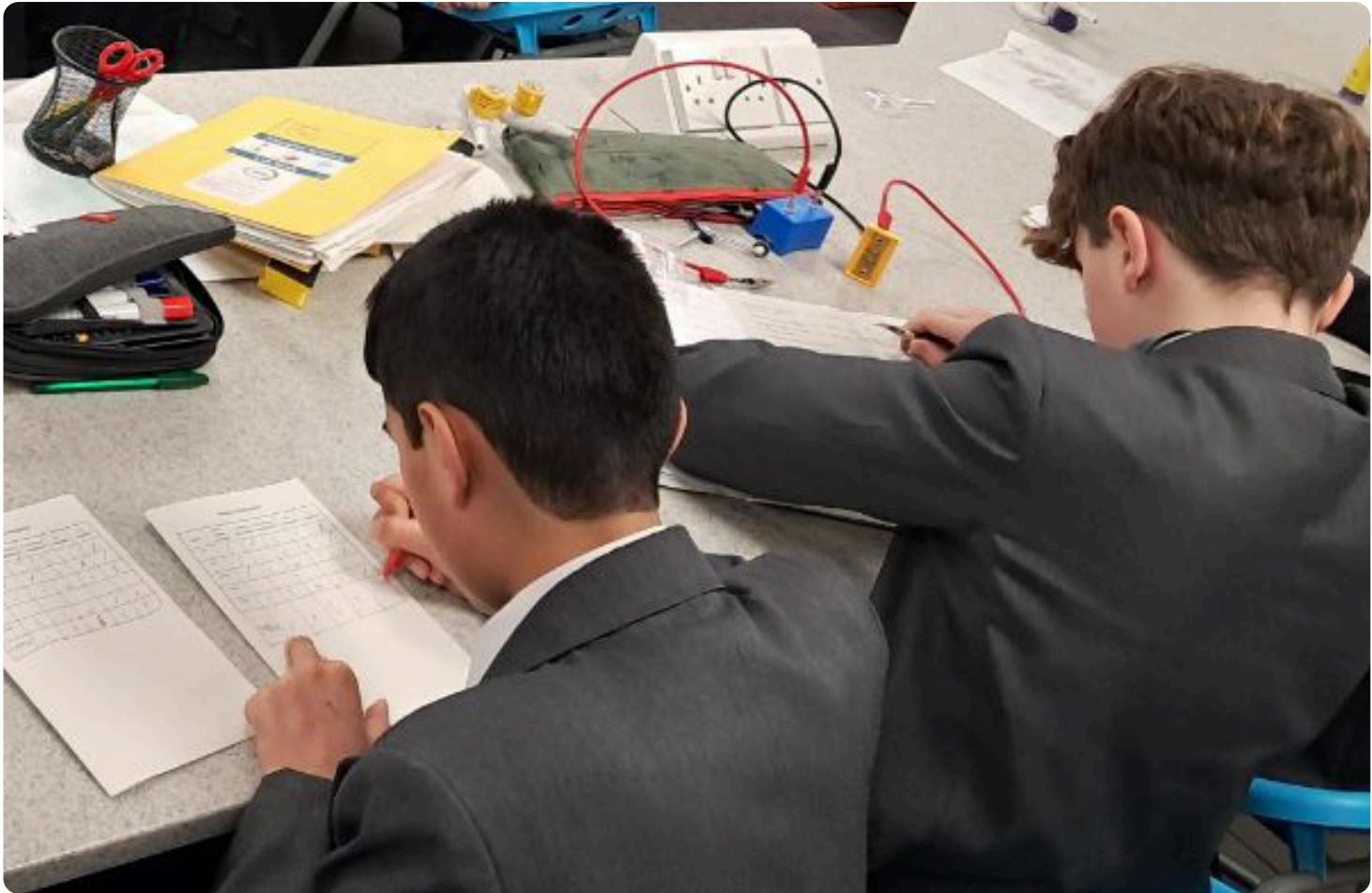
Well done to December's nominees for fantastic work in maths lessons!

Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Mohammed	Ahmad V	Frankie S	Daniel C	Corey M
Zayaan M	Orla A	Grace H	Zainab A	Annie H
Aqsa P	Kaylen H	Lolita L	Lucas P	Atiqa M
Lola M	Alexa H	Zara A	Zahir E	Safa S
Khadijah M	Sawsan B	Haris I	Muhammad	Gabija V
Amisha M	Bernadette L	Saarah P	Hamza C	Omelkhier B
Holly S	Lucas S	Mahisha S	Fatima I	Aisha S
Joseph B	Eshaal B	Aaliyah S	Safiyya K	Sumayyah V
Rayyan P	Ayesha K	Zain M	Jonathan S	Mai G
Mabroor H		Kevin K	Aameina M	Aamina P



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

## Science in Action at Sharples



It's been a busy and engaging week in science at Sharples, with pupils across the school exploring new ideas, developing practical skills and building confidence.

Year 7 pupils have begun moving on to new topics; from exploring how forces affect movement to discovering how characteristics are passed on, pupils are starting to see how science explains both the everyday and the extraordinary. Some Year 8 classes have been putting their investigative skills into practice by exploring streamlining, testing how different shapes move through a viscous fluid and analysing the results.

Year 9 pupils have completed all three of their Science Pre-Options Assessments this week; a huge well done to everyone for their focus and effort.

This week also marked the first session of the "I Can Do Physics!" club at The Oaks Primary School. Pupils explored density through practical investigations, making predictions and testing ideas about floating and sinking.

Love science, problem-solving or being creative? The Sharples STEM Challenge is here — see the poster towards the back of the newsletter to find out how to take part.



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

## Sharples School launch RHS Plants for Well Being Pilot

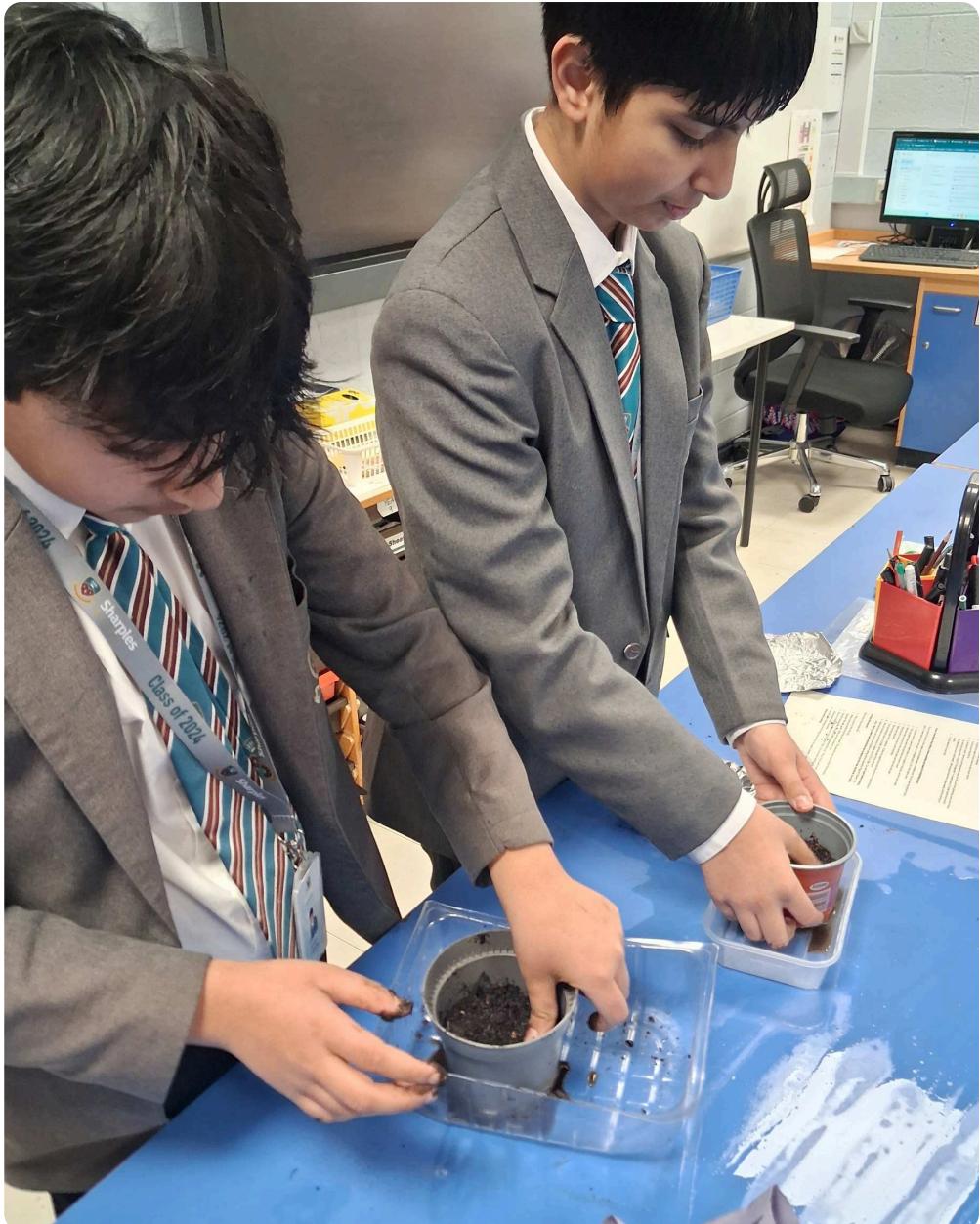
Sharples School is one of only 26 schools nationally to be participating in the Plants for Wellbeing pilot, developed by the Royal Horticultural Society in consultation with Anna Freud, a mental health charity for children and young people.

Schools in London and the North West were invited to apply to participate in this pilot ahead of a national rollout and our school has been selected.

The Plants for Wellbeing pilot offers a whole school approach for exploring how working with plants can help develop student's emotional awareness, social connection and self-regulation, bringing discussions about mental wellbeing into everyday school life. A whole-school approach enables us to embed the

connection between plants and wellbeing into our school's culture, with flexible and accessible content designed to give the whole school the opportunity to experience the wellbeing benefits of being close to and caring for plants.

There is a growing body of research showing that interacting with plants and spending time outdoors can support overall wellbeing. In forms, students had fun planting seeds (peas, sweet peas and microgreens). Nurturing plants and a connection to nature is a tool for well-being as well as a screen-free hobby and life skill. We look forward to seeing our seedlings develop in the near future.





# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

## Girls Represent Our Community in Nike Campaign with the FA



Some of our pupils recently took part in a Nike shoot alongside Bolton United Girls Football Club, as part of a campaign celebrating Muslim girls in sport.

The girls were not only involved in the photoshoot but were also interviewed about how they are able to participate in sport without compromising their faith. They spoke confidently about the importance of inclusion and shared how sports sessions can be adapted to ensure everyone feels comfortable, respected, and supported.

This was a fantastic opportunity for the pupils to represent themselves, their community, and the values of confidence, resilience, and aspiration. It also highlights how school and community initiatives can work hand-in-hand to support young people both in and out of school.



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

## Dates for your Diary

Monday 12th to Friday 23rd January: Year 9 Summative Assessments

Wednesday 21st January: Year 10 Mock Interviews (9:15 – 12:55)

Friday 23rd January: The Glass House Visit (11:15 – 15:15)

Friday 23rd January: Year 7 Sleep at The Deep - Boys

## 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](mailto: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:

7 = 94.19%  
8 = 96.57%  
9 = 95.79%  
10 = 94.11%  
11 = 93.65%

#### Best forms this week:

7Ples4 = 100%  
8Shar4 = 99.56%  
9Shar2 = 99.60%  
10Ples4 = 99.49%  
11Shar5 = 99.17%

287 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

## Career of the Week: Health Visitor

*They work with families with a child aged 0-5 to identify health needs, promote healthy lifestyles and prevent illness.*

### Average Salary:



### Typical hours: (per week)



### You could work:



### Qualifications:

- You need to be a registered midwife, adult, child, mental health or learning disability nurse to apply for a health visiting training programme.
- 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A\* to C), or equivalent, including English, maths and science.
- 2 or 3 A levels, including a science, or a level 3 diploma or access to higher education in health, science or nursing.

### Skills required:

- Customer service skills.
- The ability to work well with others.
- The ability to use your initiative.
- To be flexible and open to change.
- Sensitivity and understanding.
- To enjoy working with other people.
- The ability to come up with new ways of doing things.

### Relevant Subjects:

- Science, Health and Social Care, Maths and English.



Careers &  
Enterprise  
at Sharples School

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

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

Tel: 01204 333253

Fax: 01204 333250

[www.SharplesSchool.co.uk](http://www.SharplesSchool.co.uk)



# Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter



## 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		KS4 Fitness Suite- SHAR	
KS3 boys Swimming Club	KS4 Fitness Suite- SHAR	Staff meeting- no clubs	Girls Football- all years	PE detentions
Netball - all years	Running Club- all years		U16 basketball @ Smithills	
KS3 Girls football v ESSA (h)	Racquets- all years			

Week beginning 19th Jan

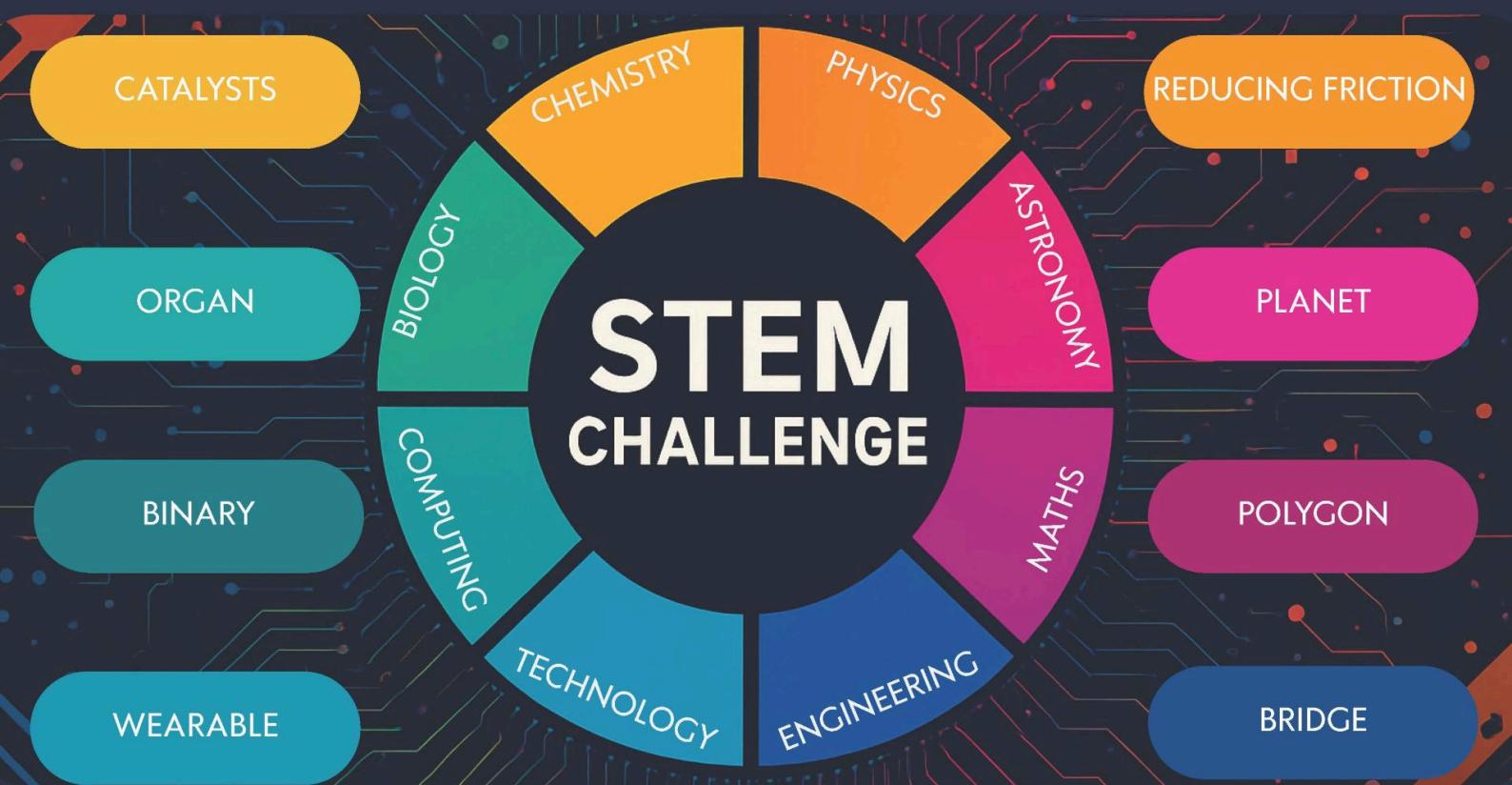


# SHARPLES STEM CHALLENGE

## EXPLORE STEM CHALLENGES

**Complete the challenges!**

CHOOSE A TOPIC FROM THE LIST BELOW.  
CREATE A POSTER, MODEL, PRESENTATION, ETC.  
THE BEST ENTRIES WILL RECEIVE A CORRESPONDING WEDGE.  
COLLECT ALL THE WEDGES TO EARN THE STEM CHALLENGE BADGE!  
NEW CHALLENGES EACH MONTH.  
OPEN TO ALL YEAR GROUPS.



SUBMIT ENTRIES TO MR. FOWLDS (G43) BY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY

# ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

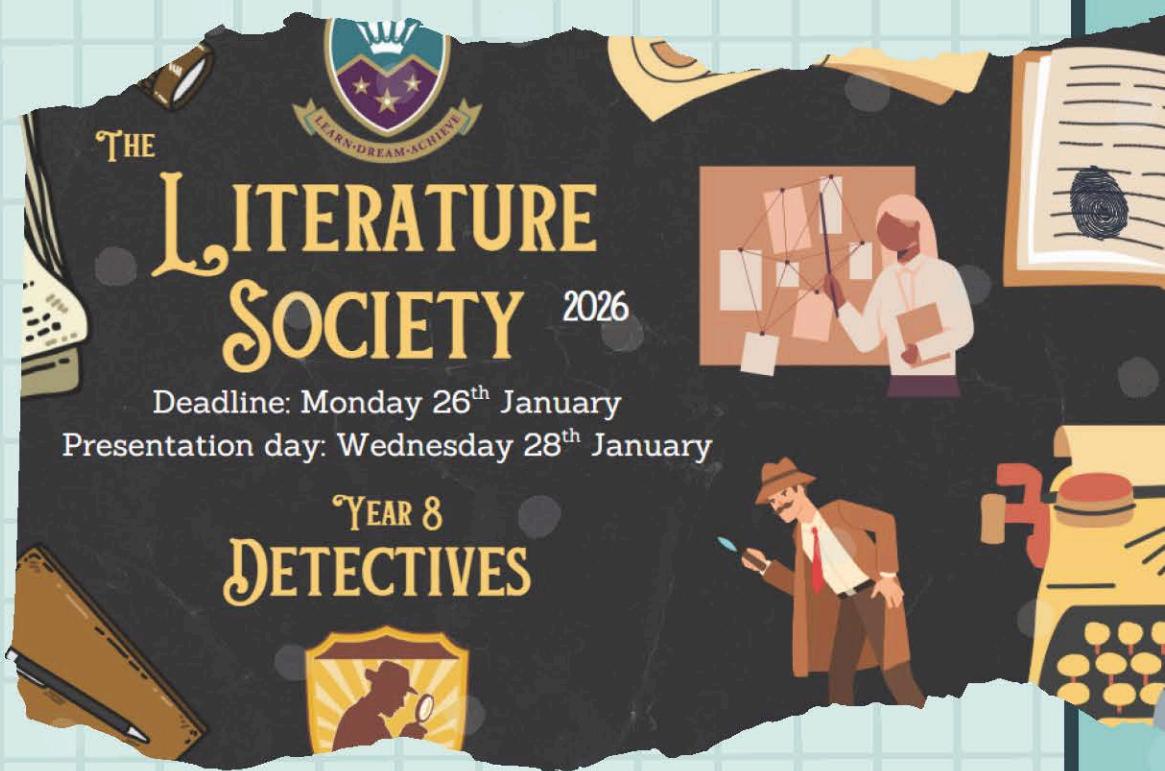
FRIDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> JAN



## YEAR 8 LITERATURE SOCIETY: DETECTIVES

It's Year 8's turn to get involved in Literature Society and create projects on the topic of Detectives and Mystery. It's still not too late to get involved but you must visit Mr Husayn in U15 as soon as possible to take part.

Winners will receive treats, up to 100 reward points, and a trip at the end of the year!





# MACBETH TRIP

Year 8 have an exciting opportunity you must act quick! Since our pupils are studying Macbeth this term there will be a trip to Octagon theatre to watch the play live on stage.

This is on a first come first serve basis with only 20 places!



William Shakespeare's  
**MACBETH**

## WORD OF THE WEEK

### WHAT ELSE IS ON?

## Books and Biscuits



Tuesday  
Lunchtime  
in the library



### Scrutinise

= To examine closely.

E.g. "The detective scrutinised the evidence carefully."



Anime Club Wednesday  
lunch in U15 -

Great to see so  
many join us on the  
first weeks back!



## 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.





# BACC CLUBS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3D Printing Club HGL - G59	Books & Biscuits NTO - Library	Geography Mega Map PFO - U37	Sharples Wings CGK - U30	Chess Club KMC - G46
Sharples Techies GTH - G67	Running Club MHT - AS	Sharples Arrows OJE - U35	Bollywood Dance APA - G67	Disney Club HPA - Library
Y7 Football AHM - Big Astro	Orchestra AKE - G66	Youth Speaks IHA - U12	Gardening Club JBI - U38	Music Club CAB - G29
Latin Club HEL - U51 AS	Sharples Voices CAB/AKE - AS	Art Club JLO/SSW - G60	Calculated Colouring LDA - G16	Science Club DST - G45
First Aid Club SWI - U41	Choir CAB - G29	Band Rehearsals AKE - AS	Engineering Design Club PMY - G74	History Movie Club IDA - U57
Polyglot Club RQU/SBH - N11	Dodgeball LAL - SH	Anime Club SHU - U15	Rock School CAB - G29	Sharples Stars GTH - G67

# Year 7 Optional Maths Homework Challenge

## Maths Photograph

### Reward Points Available!



- Take or find a photograph.
- Look for the maths that could be involved.
- Annotate your photograph with examples of the maths you have found.
- More detailed instructions have been uploaded onto student portal.
- Deadline Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

WATT'S FOR LUNCH? FUEL YOUR DAY WITH A HEALTHY SCHOOL LUNCH



Week 3

Week 3		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Homemade Meat Pie & Mash Potato £1.85	Indian Curry of the Day £2.10	Cheeseburger & Chips £2.10	Homemade Veg Lasagne £1.85	Potato & Spinach Curry £1.85	
	Quorn Bolognese £1.80	Veg Biryani £1.80	Veg Burger & Chips £2.10	Cheese Flan £1.85	Pizza of the Day £1.50	
Vegetarian Main Dish	Sandwich Selection £1.45 - £1.85 Jacket Potato & Filling £1.85 Salad Box £1.90	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	
And there is more.....	Love Joes Curry Pot £1.90 Panini £1.95	Love Joes Curry Pot £1.90 Panini £1.95	Love Joes Curry Pot £1.90 Panini £1.95	Love Joes Curry Pot £1.90 Panini £1.95	Love Joes Curry Pot £1.90 Panini £1.95	
Street Food	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	
Italian Daily Special	Fruit Pots 55p-£1.30 Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Cheese & Crackers 85p	Fruit Pots 55p-£1.30 Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Cheese & Crackers 85p	Fruit Pots 55p-£1.30 Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Cheese & Crackers 85p	Fruit Pots 55p-£1.30 Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Cheese & Crackers 85p	Fruit Pots 55p-£1.30 Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Cheese & Crackers 85p	
Dessert	Pb - Plant-Based (Vegan)	Pb - Meat-Free Monday	Pb - Meat-Free Monday	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	Pasta King Sauce of the Day £1.90	

**BLACKBURN ROAD A666**  
**TEMPORARY ONE-WAY TRAFFIC & SIDE STREET CLOSURES**

THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF BOLTON  
ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 S.14

The Council intends to make an order, operative from 12 January 2026 for 6 weeks approx, the effect of which will be to implement a one-way traffic restriction on Blackburn Road, from Moss Bank Way to Prospect Street to allow resurfacing works to take place. Permitted direction of travel will be northbound.

Diversion routes for southbound traffic will be signed, and the restriction will be implemented in the following phases with a view to minimizing disruption to traffic:

**Moss Bank Way – Old Road**

Night working (7pm-6am). Alternate route will be Crompton Way, Tonge Moor Road, Folds Road, Turton Street, Kay Street. This phase will involve side street closures of Brierly Street & Newnham Street (Blackburn Road to Holland Street), and Seymour Road (Blackburn Road to Palm Street)

**Old Road – Waters Meeting Road**

Weekend working (8am-6pm). Alternate route will be Crompton Way, Tonge Moor Road, Folds Road, Turton Street, Kay Street. This phase will involve side street closures of Hartland Court and Greenwood Vale (Blackburn Road to Greenwood Vale South)

**Waters Meeting Road – Prospect Street**

Off-peak working (9.30am-3pm). Alternate route will be Waters Meeting Road. This phase will involve side street closures of Elmfield Street/Baythorpe Street (Blackburn Road to Back Blackburn Road), Ulleswater Street (Blackburn Road to Back Grasmere Street), Chalfont Street/Draycott Street East/Hibbert Street/Blackbank Street (Blackburn Road to Back Latham Street)

The Order will end after 18 months or on completion of the works whichever first occurs.

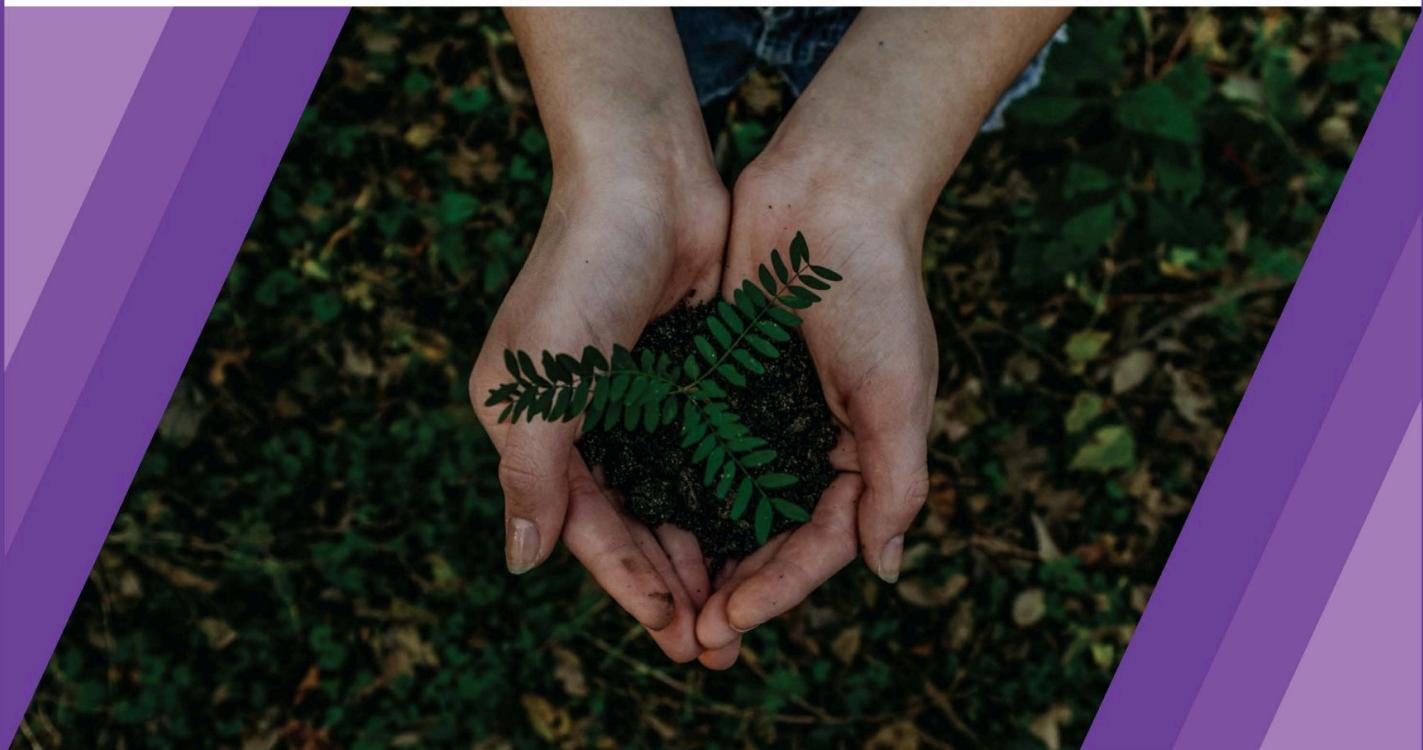
Bolton Council. 22 December 2025.  
[bolton.gov.uk/trafficorders](http://bolton.gov.uk/trafficorders)

**CLICK HERE  
TO VIEW THE  
FULL PDF DOCUMENT  
INCLUDING MAPS**

# Parent Webinars with GT Scholars



***Help Your Teen Develop a Growth Mindset:  
Discover the #1 Tool to Empower Your Teen  
& Set Them Up for Success***



## FREE Parent Webinar January 2026

Date: Tue 20th Jan 2026

Time: 7:30 - 8:45pm (UK time)

Sign up to join us LIVE or get  
access to the replay:

[gtscholars.org/parent-webinar](https://gtscholars.org/parent-webinar)





# Mathematics Challenge

Year 9 Students

Are you good at solving problems and working as a team? Then this could be the challenge for you.

Create a team of 3-5 members and come along to G22 on a Monday lunch time to enter the Mathematics Challenge.

Speak to your maths teacher or see Mrs McCawley in G22 for more details.