



# Sharples

## SCHOOL

# Newsletter

Issue 553  
24th April 2026

### Bacc PGL Trip



On Friday afternoon, nearly 60 Y7 & Y8 students set off to take part in an outdoor activity weekend at PGL, Boreatton Park. As soon as we arrived, bags were dropped off in rooms and pupils were straight out taking part in their first activity. Students got to take part in a carousel of activities including: canoeing, axe throwing, rock climbing, trapeze and the giant swing to name a few! Students were able to implement the skills they have been developing through their participation in the Sharples Baccalaureate programme, while also further enhancing key areas such as communication, leadership and teamwork during the trip. It was brilliant to see these skills in action. A great weekend, well done to all students involved!

See the next page of the newsletter for more pictures.

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

Tel: 01204 333253

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



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#### Bacc PGL Trip





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#### Year 10 Speak Out Challenge



Last week, our Year 10 students traded their notebooks for microphones as they took part in the Speak Out Challenge workshop. Led by an expert trainer from the Speakers Trust, the day was a high-energy dive into the world of public speaking, designed to turn students into confident communicators.

The morning kicked off with a series of interactive oracy games and activities designed to shake off the nerves and build foundational skills. Students explored the essential mechanics of delivery, focusing on how body language can be used to own a stage and how vocal variety keeps an audience engaged. Through rapid-fire debates and collaborative tasks, the trainer pushed the group out of their comfort zones, teaching them how to structure persuasive arguments and use their voices as a tool for influence.

The workshop culminated in a powerful showcase session during the final hour. Every student stepped up to the front to deliver a short speech on a topic of their choice. The knowledge and articulation of ideas were brilliant from all the students involved. In an increasingly digital world, the ability to speak clearly and with conviction is more important than ever.



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#### University of Liverpool Maths Challenge



Over February half term pupils from years 7-10 were given the chance to complete a challenge set from the University of Liverpool. The challenge consisted of a series of difficult problem solving questions that took a significant amount of time to work through. With over 1200 entries in total we are proud to announce that Rayan Z received Best in School for Challenge '26 and Benedict L received Best in School for Senior Challenge '26. A special mention must also go to Benedict for being awarded a certificate of merit and an invitation to the prize giving ceremony at the University of Liverpool in May for his excellent entry.

#### Year 10 Student has Article Published

Year 10 Citizenship pupil, Fatima I, has had an article printed in The Day. We are incredibly proud of her and her article - click the link below to read it.

<https://theday.co.uk/student-voices/we-need-to-embrace-the-joy-of-missing-out/>

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#### English Department's Stars of the Week

##### Work of the Week

Year 7

Noah C for his lovely anthem inspired by Animal Farm. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Avyukt N for fabulous annotations in poetry. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Malaikah R for a fantastic poetry analysis on the theme of race. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Benedict L for his great poetry essay. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Summer S for her excellent essay on the Cratchit family. [Click here to view the work.](#)

##### Readers of the Week

Year 7

Joey A for always volunteering to read aloud.

Year 8

Ariana P for her outstanding enthusiasm in visiting every Year 8 class to personally invite students to the term's most prestigious event: Shakespeare's Birthday Banquet!

Year 9

Subhan K for always reading with intonation and clarity.

Year 10

Hayden R for his brilliant speech in the Speak Out workshop!

Year 11

Khalid P for reading out fluently all the time.



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#### Science Spotlight: Assessment & Achievement

It has been an incredibly busy and productive week in the Science Department! Our Year 8 students have officially wrapped up their latest assessments, showing great focus throughout. Meanwhile, Year 7 are in the thick of their revision, sharpening their skills and preparing diligently for their upcoming tests.

For our upper school, Year 10 students and parents should check their inboxes, as important details regarding assessment schedules and topics have now been emailed home. Finally, a huge "well done" to Year 11, who are demonstrating fantastic commitment and a mature approach as they enter the final stretch of their GCSE preparations. Keep up the brilliant work, everyone!

#### Year 9 Badminton



Our Year 9 girls took to the court on Wednesday afternoon for their first ever badminton fixture against Ladybridge. While the team did not secure the win, it was a commendable effort for their first competitive game!

Well done, girls.



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#### Year 9 Enrichment: MMA Course



A number of selected Year 9 boys began their 6 week MMA journey on Monday, as the group have been invited to not only visit an MMA gym in Bury, but go and train for the next 6 weeks.

The lads showed excellent levels of engagement and represented Sharples positively. For most lads this was their first taste of mixed martial arts and they were superb. The group will work on developing their skills whilst gaining valuable life lessons and further enhancing their character.

Great work boys!

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**Another fantastic season for Sol!**



Sol has been in great form for the school basketball team this season and he continues to excel outside of school. Sol's team Horwich Locos have won the double, winning the league and then the cup last weekend. He has been ranked as top scorer this season scoring 245 points and averaged just over 20 points a game.

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#### Year 7 out of the Cup



Year 7 were looking to continue their impressive first season with a place in the final of the plate Bolton Cup. Sharples travelled to Canon Slade in the semi final but it proved to be a step too far for them with Canon Slade comfortable winners on the day. Sharples were always in the game during the first half and had a number of chances but missed opportunities at key moments. Joe G was excellent throughout and led by example.



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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](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 = 95.96%  
8 = 97.31%  
9 = 95.18%  
10 = 94.74%  
11 = 93.49%

Best forms this week:

7Ples2 & 7Shar1 = 100%  
8Ples2 & 8Shar1 = 100%  
9Shar1 = 98.62%  
10Ples1 = 99.62%  
11Shar5 = 99.21%

173 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

#### Dates for your Diary

Saturday 25th April:  
Bronze Dof E Training  
Walk (Saturday  
morning)

Tuesday 28th April:  
Creative workshop for  
Y10 (9:00 – 11:00am)

Tuesday 28th April:  
Year 8 fieldwork day -  
full Year group  
(9:15am – 3:15pm)

Wednesday 29th April:  
Windermere trip

Thursday 30th April:  
Year 10 Sixth form  
Bolton - Future  
Honours - Lancaster  
University Trip  
(8:45am – 4:00pm)

#### Career of the Week: Dentist

*Dentists promote good oral hygiene, diagnose and treat teeth and mouth problems and help prevent dental disease*

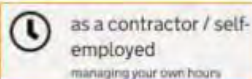
Average Salary:



Typical hours:  
(per week)



You could work:



#### Qualifications:

- You'll need to complete a 5-year degree in dentistry approved by the General Dental Council, followed by 1 to 2 years of postgraduate dental training.
- 3 A levels, or equivalent, including biology and chemistry.
- At least five GCSEs with grades ranging from 7s-9s.

#### Skills required:

- Knowledge of medicine and dentistry.
- Customer service skills.
- Physical skills like movement, coordination and dexterity.
- Thinking and reasoning skills.
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail.
- Excellent verbal communication skills.
- The ability to work well with your hands.
- To be able to carry out basic tasks on a computer or hand-held device.

#### Relevant Subjects:

- Science, Maths and English.



Information sourced from: <https://national.careers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/dentist>



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	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
Rounders/Cricket (SH) - LAL	Rounders/Cricket(SH) - LAL/AHM	Rounders/Cricket LAL/PGR	Rounders/Cricket) - LAL	Rounders/Cricket - LAL
	Sports studies catch up/KS3 hmwk- AHM			



#### PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y9 MMA session	Y8 Football Practice	KS4 Girls Fitness suite	Y10 Parents Evening	PE detentions
KS3 boys Swimming Club	KS4 Fitness Suite	Y9/10 Football Practice	Girls Football	
Rounders - all years	Racquets	Y10 Sports Studies Windermere Trip	KS4 Fitness Suite	
Y7 Football Practice	Running Club	Y8 Football 'B' team v Canon Slade	Cricket practice- all years	

Week beginning 27th April

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# Attendance MATTERS



Sharple's  
SCHOOL

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE MOST RECENT GOVERNMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR ATTENDANCE CODING IN SCHOOLS?

- If your child arrives to school after 9.15am they will receive 0.5 day absence automatically

- Your child must be in school at 12.05pm to receive their afternoon mark

- The government has a target for EVERY CHILD to have a minimum of 95% attendance

- This means no more than 9 days absent ALL YEAR



Unsure of your child's current attendance? Check MCAS or contact your Year Coordinator. We are here to help!



# SHARPLES PROM

## 2026

WEDS 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY  
LAST DROP HOTEL

Arrivals from 18.15

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Carriages at 23.00

Red Carpet Arrival, Mocktails,  
Hot Buffet, Dessert Table, Pick n Mix,  
360 Gabbit, Selfie Mirror with  
unlimited prints, DJ and Dancing,  
Chillout Zone

## TICKETS £40

Available now on MCAS



REMINDER THAT YOU WILL BE REMOVED IF YOU DO NOT MEET THE CRITERIA  
95% ATTENDANCE UNTIL END OF EXAMS, NO INCLUSION OR SUSPENSION



# ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
APRIL

## YEAR 9 LITERATURE SOCIETY: GOTHIC LITERATURE

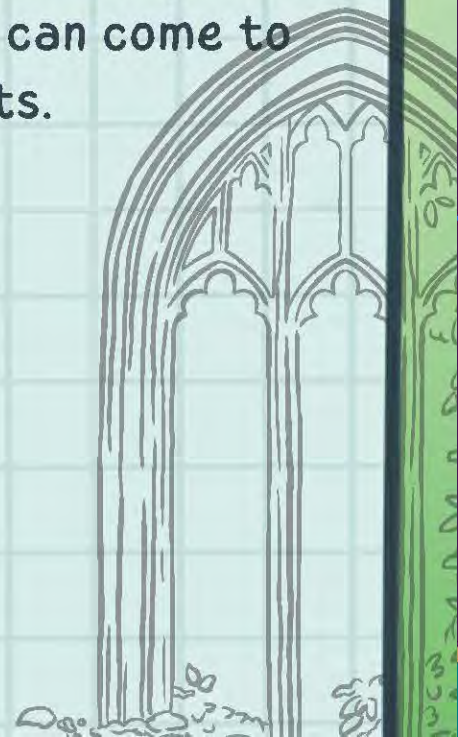


After the success of Year 7, 8, and 10, this half-term, Year 9 have the opportunity to create projects for Sharples School's Literature Society 2026. The theme this year is 'Gothic Literature'

Visit Mr Husayn in U15 for more details and to take part. The deadline is at the end of this term on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, so make something fantastic!

Presentations will be at lunchtime on **Wednesday 20th**, in the library, where students and staff can come to celebrate your finished projects.

There'll be up to 100 reward points up for grabs and prizes with treats for the best. There'll even be a rewards trip at the end of the year for the winners!





Learn  
Dream  
Achieve

# The English GCSE countdown has begun...



2026							MAY	
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT		
					1	2		
3	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		
31	1	2	3	4	5			

## LITERATURE

## LANGUAGE

MONDAY

TUESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

**11**  
MAY

**19**  
MAY

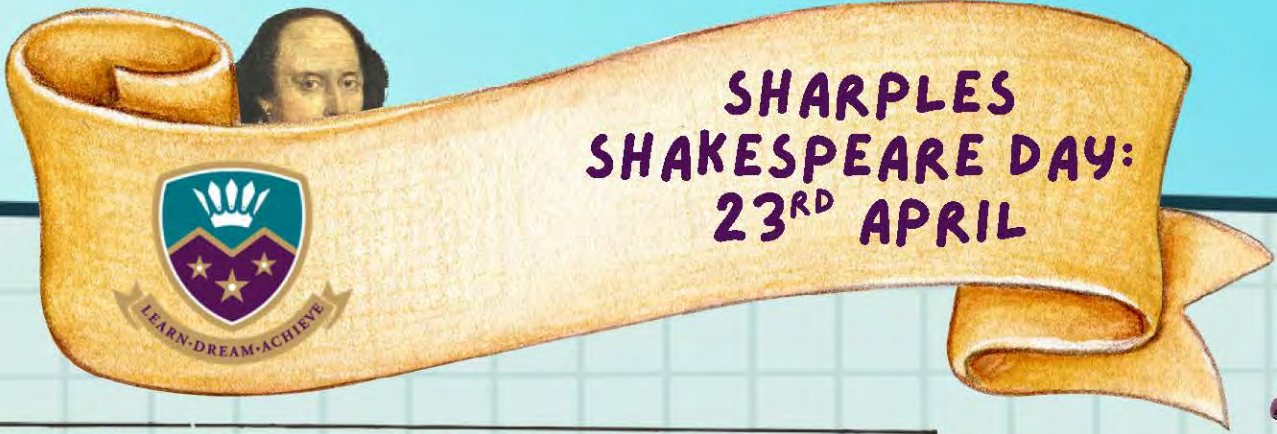
**21**  
MAY

**5**  
JUNE



Mark your calendars, set your alarms, and  
REVISE like your future depends on it!





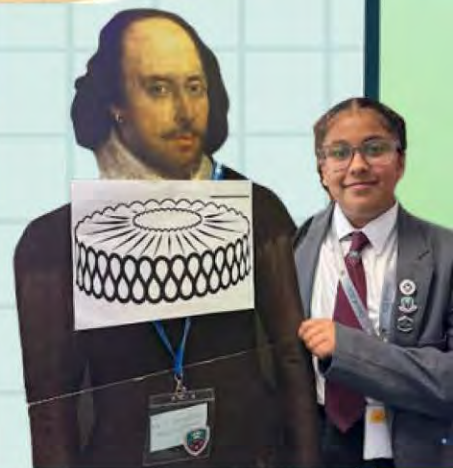
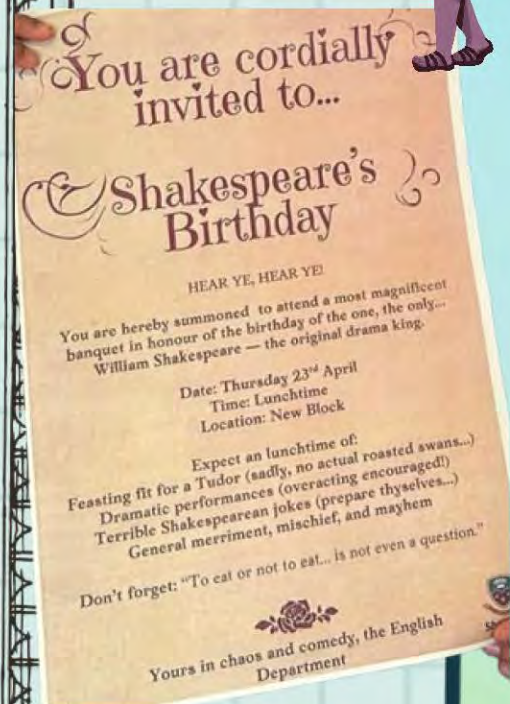
# SHARPLES SHAKESPEARE DAY: 23<sup>RD</sup> APRIL



**S**

hakespeare's birthday was this Thursday, so the English Department held a celebration for KS3.

Students got to have fun engaging with a variety of Shakespeare themed games and tasks: we had witches' brews (mocktails), Elizabethan dress-up, Shakespearean insults, and the chance to take a selfie with the man himself!





# POEM OF THE WEEK

## SONNET CLIII (153) WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

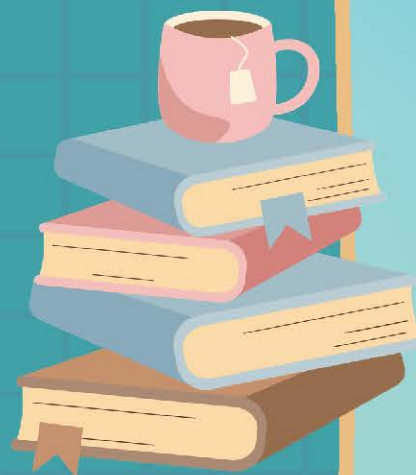
Cupid laid by his brand, and fell asleep:  
A maid of Dian's this advantage found,  
And his love-kindling fire did quickly steep  
In a cold valley-fountain of that ground;  
Which borrow'd from this holy fire of Love  
A dateless lively heat, still to endure,  
And grew a seething bath, which yet men prove  
Against strange maladies a sovereign cure.  
But at my mistress' eye Love's brand new-fired,  
The boy for trial needs would touch my breast;  
I, sick withal, the help of bath desired,  
And thither hied, a sad distemper'd guest,  
But found no cure: the bath for my help lies  
Where Cupid got new fire--my mistress' eyes.

# WHAT ELSE IS ON?

## Books and Biscuits



Tuesday  
Lunchtime  
in the library



Anime Club  
1:05 in U15  
every Wednesday

### WORD OF THE WEEK

#### Resilience

= the capacity to withstand or to recover quickly from difficulties.

E.g. "She showed resilience throughout the exam season."

# MENU

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Macaroni Cheese Served With Salad £1.80	Chicken Burrito served With Salad £2.10	Chips & Sausage £2.10	Chicken Singapore Noodles £1.85	Tugo Pizza Slice £1.50
Vegetarian Main Dish	Phav Bhaji served with Naan Bread And Salad £1.85	Quorn Bolognese & Garlic Bread £2.10	Chips & Fish Fillet £2.10	Courgette Curry with Bombay Potatoes £2.10	Chickpea & Lentil Curry Served with a Bhaji or Samosa £1.85
And there's more	Panini £1.95 Sandwich £1.45-£1.85 Jacket Potato From £1.85 Salad Box £1.90	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Love Joes	Korma Curry Sauce & Rice Tikka Curry Sauce & Rice Served with a Naan Bread £1.90	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Pasta King	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread £2.10	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday
Dessert	Fruit Pots 55p-75p Cake of the Day 72p Cookie 50p Large Cold Dessert £1.10 Hot Pudding 90p	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday	Same as Monday

Mellors  
**FOOD  
HAPPY**

**KEY** 5 **1 OF YOUR 5 a DAY** **MEAT FREE** **MEAT-FREE (VEGETARIAN)** **CHEF'S CHOICE** **PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)**

**\*Allergens and intolerances\*** All of our food is lovingly hand crafted and prepared on site daily. We have an allergen procedure in place, so please ensure you make our catering team aware of your allergens/ your child's allergens prior to using the restaurant. Our kitchens are used for multi-purpose production so we cannot guarantee the above dishes are completely free from allergenic ingredients or traces of these.



# BOOST YOUR BRAIN

BLASTING OFF... THIS MAY



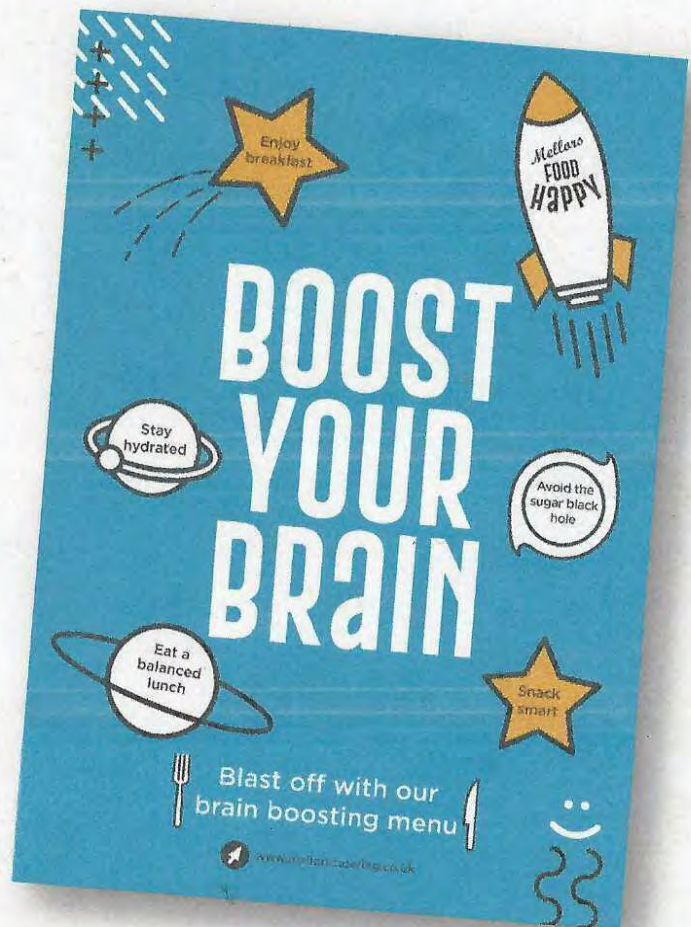
# COMING SOON!

We're always looking for ways to make you 'Food Happy'.

Did you know we run special themed meals (at least) every month?

## COMING UP...

Don't space out! Fuel your body & your brain as we blast off this May with our brain boosting menu.



Join the Brain Boosting Mission - this May.





# HIGH ENERGY SNACKS

**Boiled Eggs** – Rich in protein and B vitamins which are essential for a healthy metabolism and energy function.

**Banana** – Full of Potassium (A natural way to replenish electrolytes), Packed with energy rich carbohydrates & vitamin B6.

**Yoghurt** – A great source of protein and a good way to start the day full of energy.

**Hummus & Vegetable Sticks** – Hummus is a low sugar carbohydrate that provides sustained energy as well as a good amount of protein, pairing this with vegetable sticks is a great fat and fibre combo.

**Oranges** – Loaded with Vitamin C and great for preventing fatigue.

**Apples** – A great source of fibre (this will stop you feeling hungry), and full of phytonutrients, vitamins, and minerals.



## FRUIT BOOSTERS

Boosting your customers daily eating habits with fruit can be so easy!

- Try chopping a few of the fruits below up and add them to your water bottle, adding both flavour and nutrients to your drink. You can make up your own tasty combinations too! Also, in the summer you could freeze the fruit and add to your bottle to keep you and your drink cool!
- Fruit Salads are a great way of getting a variety of Vitamins that your body needs each day. Topping this with a dollop of yoghurt and some granola is sure to give you an extra energy boost!



## FOOD COLOUR & BODY BENEFITS



**White:** Strong teeth & bones – Cauliflower, Onion, Parsnip.

**Red:** Good for your heart – Watermelon, Strawberries, Tomatoes.

**Yellow:** Healing properties – Lemon, Melon, Pineapple, Banana.

**Green:** Fights infection – Green Apple, Broccoli, Cucumber.

**Blue/Purple:** Good for your brain – Blueberries, Red Cabbage.

**Orange:** Eye health – Carrot, Orange, Butternut Squash.

# NURTURING CONNECTIONS

SKILLS FOR PARENTS  
AND CARERS



5<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2026 - 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2026

6 X 90 MINUTE SESSIONS

ONLINE



**Are you looking for practical ways to support your child's emotional wellbeing and development?**

Our Nurturing Connections programme offers a safe and supportive space to explore:

- building positive relationships
- strengthening communication
- navigating challenges
- repairing emotional bonds

The sessions will provide you with tools and insights to help you foster resilience, empathy, and healthy behaviour in your child.

To sign up or learn more:

[programmes@khulisa.co.uk](mailto:programmes@khulisa.co.uk)



 **khulisa**  
[www.khulisa.co.uk](http://www.khulisa.co.uk)



# R.I.S.E



## Resist injustice, Seek equality.

This campaign is centered on raising awareness about racial discrimination among young people. Its goal is to produce a series of short films that showcase the experiences of young people confronting racism in Bolton, while also educating the wider community.

### JOIN US

If you are passionate about creating positive and impactful changes and are between the ages of 11- 18, we would like to invite you to join our young peoples focus group to help plan the R.I.S.E campaign. During this focus group, we will:

- Listen to Shalom and Danielle, the creators of the project, share their enthusiasm for R.I.S.E and how it all started.
- Hear from Bolton's Community Safety Team about their priorities for young people in Bolton.
- Begin the initial planning of the R.I.S.E campaign while learning how discrimination affects young people.

If you have not yet completed our discrimination research survey, please do so by following the QR code.



### MORE INFORMATION >>

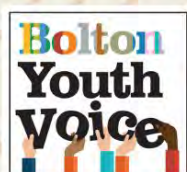
When : Tuesday, April 28th 2026

Where : Castle Hill Young People's Centre

Time : 6:00 PM – 8:15 PM



Pizza and refreshments will be available. To register your attendance or if you have any additional questions, please email the Participation team on [positive.activities@bolton.gov.uk](mailto:positive.activities@bolton.gov.uk)



# REGISTER FOR

**FREE**

**WEBINAR SERIES**

## Parent Webinars in April, May and June

### WEBINAR SCHEDULE

**How to Support Your Child During Exam Season**  
Wednesday 29th April  
6PM (BST)

Find out how to support your child through exam-related stress and burnout, learn effective revision strategies and explore ways to create a positive, supportive environment.



If you're unable to join live, you can still register to receive the webinar recording after the session.

**How to Find Work Experience**  
Wednesday 13th May, 6PM (BST)



**Click the webinar title to sign up now!**

OK

**Everything You Need to Know About Applying to University**  
Wednesday 10th June, 6PM (BST)



Explore all webinars on our free events page

