



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Issue 566
18th September 2026

Cultural Exchange and New Friendships: German School Visit



Last week, our school had the distinct pleasure of hosting students from Germany for an action-packed cultural exchange filled with hands-on learning, sport, and memorable experiences. Throughout the visit, students from both schools connected through interactive workshops, exciting excursions, and shared meals, building lasting international friendships along the way.

We welcomed our guests by joining them in Manchester for a relaxed Sunday afternoon exploring the Trafford Centre before sharing Pizza and burgers at Cafe Football next to Manchester United. The students were nervous at first but soon opened up and began making new friends.

On Tuesday we welcomed the German students and their teachers to Sharples with an induction to the school including a tour from our year 9 and 10 students. This was followed by a day of visiting lessons including History, Geography, RS; all of the students thoroughly enjoyed meeting our guests and made every effort to get to know them during break and lunch.

Tuesday evening brought the Bolton vs West Ham match at the Bolton stadium which all students, Sharples and German students thoroughly enjoyed, despite a less than favourable outcome! Football is not as popular in Germany as in the UK, with most of the German students pursuing other sports. However, they all enthusiastically cheered for Bolton during the match and bonded with Sharples students; a brilliant example of the power of sport to bring people together.

continued...

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www.SharplesSchool.co.uk



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SCHOOL

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Wednesday was another busy day with Forest School activities where students worked together on challenging tasks in our outdoor area and then learned to make camp fires and ended by roasting marshmallows over an open fire. The sense of friendship developing between the students was become stronger with each day. The German students visited more lessons and we then travelled to Manchester on public



transport for an unforgettable tour of Old Trafford and the students had the opportunity to try on football shirts worn by actual players! and one Sharples student even won a new football shirt as a tour prize. Time in the Old Trafford shop for some treasured souvenirs before returning to Bolton for evening meal at Olympus Fish & Chip restaurant; the perfect British meal for our European friends.

Thursday started with lots of energy in the sports hall for a fast-paced game of dodgeball, where friendly competition brought both groups together in high spirits. The students were enjoying every moment of the experience and true and lasting friendships were being made. More lessons followed including Science, MFL, and Maths before a Movie evening in the Sharples Pizza with Pizza, popcorn, and a comparison of British and German snacks and sweets.

On Friday morning, in the kitchen, students stepped up to the counters to learn the traditional craft of making pasties, sharing culinary techniques and enjoying their 'school cooked' food for lunch. The visit came to a conclusion with lots of hugs, smiles, and some tears as students said goodbye to their new friends. The German students said farewell to the whole school on the Sharples Radio and invited us to visit them in the future; many of our students are looking forward to this possibility.

The true heart of the week lay in the genuine cultural exchanges that took place every day. Students from both schools demonstrated how valuable cultural exchange can be and the importance of friendship. We wish our guests all the best for the future and we look forward to visiting them soon as well as welcoming them back to Sharples in the future.

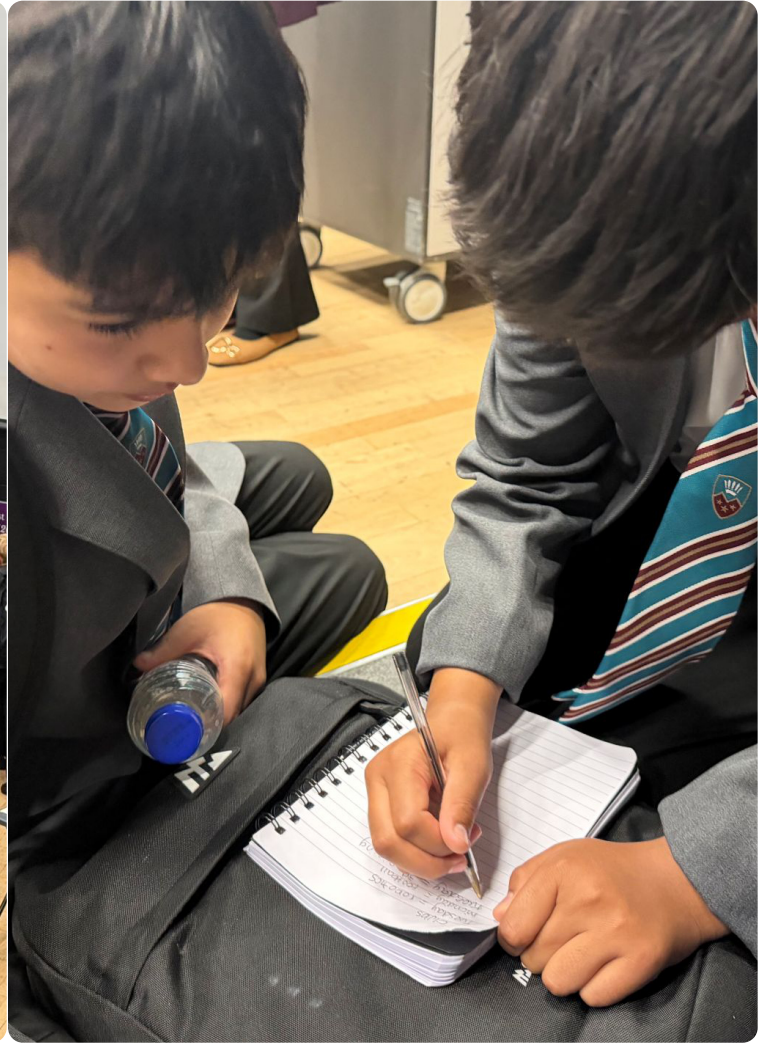


Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

Freshers Fair 2026!



It was fantastic to see all of Y7 gathered in the theatre on Wednesday lunchtime for our annual Freshers Fair! The theatre was filled with excited students exploring the huge variety of clubs on offer at Sharples this term. There was something for everyone with 3D printing, darts and gardening club amongst the most popular! Y7 are now all set to start earning their Sharples Bacc points. If they reach enough points, they will earn themselves some exciting rewards at the end of term! Details of clubs can be found at the end of the newsletter. We encourage all Y7 and Y8 students to attend at least 2 a week!

Gold Tie of the Week

This week our star Gold Tie is Zainab Asmail. She has done all her duties and is helping out at the disco and the sleepover with Y7!

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Inspiring Author Visit: Kate S. Martin Shares the Magic of Character Building



"We were thrilled to welcome local YA author Kate S. Martin to our school today for an engaging series of creative writing workshops with Year 7 and Year 8 pupils. As the author of shortlisted YA novels *Are You Okay, Elliot Hart?* and *What About You, Josh McBride?*, Kate brought her expert insight as both a published writer and high school English teacher.

During the energetic workshops, pupils stepped directly into the shoes of an author through a fast paced character creation challenge. Using a series of interactive prompt questions, students built brand new teenage characters from scratch, focusing on vivid details like physical traits, key possessions, and their character's greatest desires. Kate showed the pupils how small, specific choices, such as a report card showing a failed class or a forgotten photograph, can instantly reveal a character's backstory and personality to a reader.

Kate also gave pupils an exclusive behind the scenes look at her original planning notes and illustrations for her debut novel, demonstrating how raw initial ideas evolve into full, published books. The session concluded with a free writing exercise where students placed their new characters into high stakes moments and built up the confidence to share their work aloud.

Following the workshops, Kate held a dedicated meet and greet session where pupils had the opportunity to ask questions about her writing journey, discuss her books, and get copies signed. It was a fantastic day that left our pupils brimming with creative confidence. A huge thank you to Kate S. Martin for giving our students such an empowering look into the world of storytelling!"



Sharples

SCHOOL

Newsletter

NASA Engineers Blast Off the New Term at Sharples!



It has been an out-of-this-world start to the new term for our Sharples scientists! Our Year 10 Triple Science classes and ambitious Year 9 students were treated to a fascinating live presentation from two NASA engineers leading projects on the historic Artemis II mission.

As part of a national event, our students got an insider's look at what it takes to send humans back around the Moon. The talk covered everything from cutting-edge rocket technology and life support systems to the stranger realities of space travel—including the infamous "urine blizzards" caused by vented wastewater in deep space!

Opportunities like this bring textbook science to life, showing our students how topics like forces, biochemistry, and thermal physics apply to real-world aerospace engineering. We hope this unforgettable experience has sparked a passion in our young scientists and inspired the next generation of space pioneers right here from Sharples.

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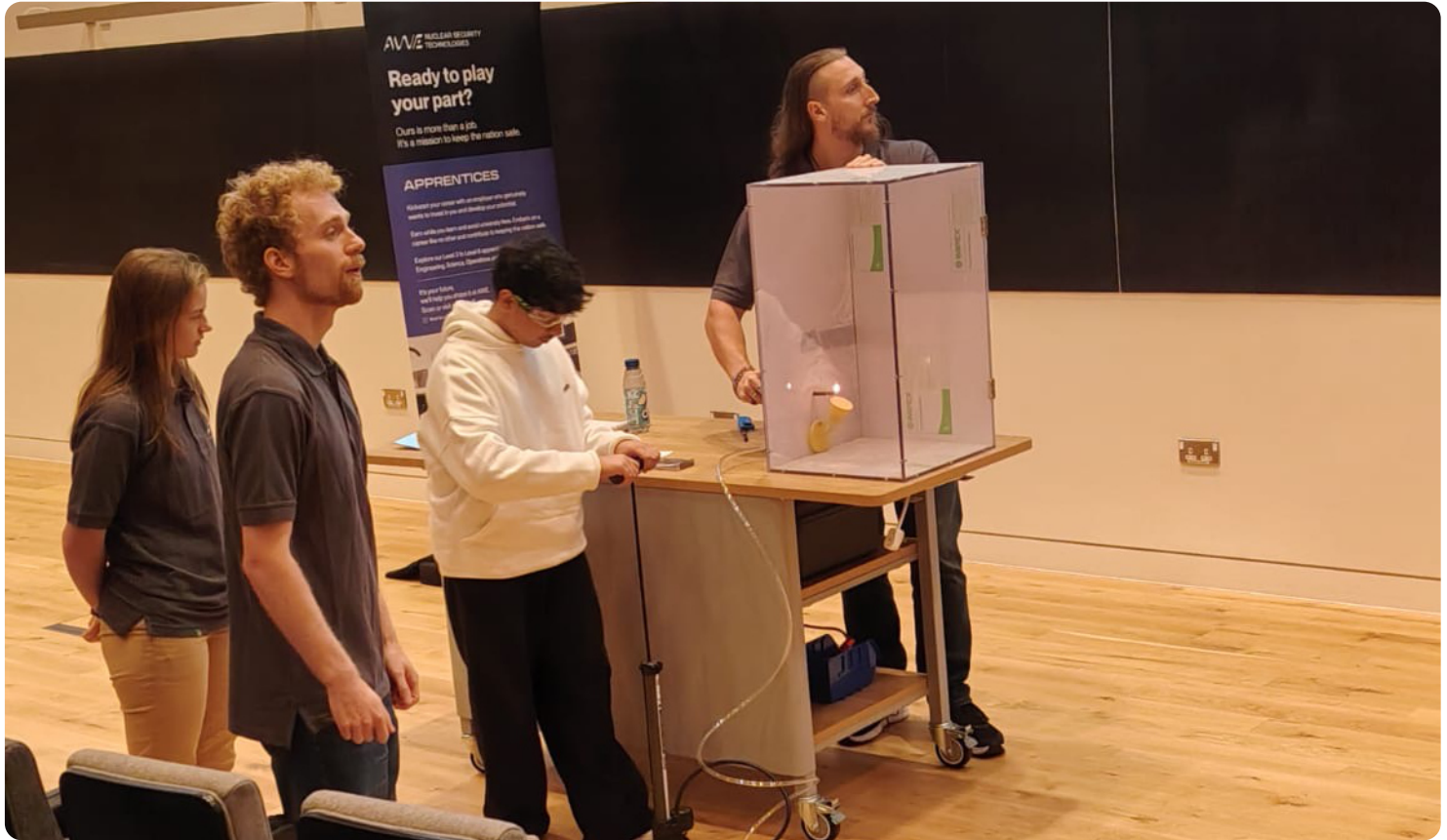


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SCHOOL

Newsletter

Sharples Physicists Explore Cambridge's Brand-New Cavendish Lab!



Forty-five of our Year 10 scientists recently enjoyed an unforgettable trip to the University of Cambridge for the annual "Physics at Work" event. Sharples pupils were among the very first to experience the brand-new, £303 million Ray Dolby Centre at the historic Cavendish Laboratory, taking part in a full day of interactive workshops and talks on cutting-edge physics.

The action-packed itinerary gave students a true taste of university life:

Hands-on Physics: Pupils engaged directly with research scientists, exploring real-world applications of physics from quantum technology to modern materials science.

Campus Life: The group stayed overnight at Churchill College, experiencing the atmosphere of a top Cambridge college firsthand.

Museum Explorations: Students broadened their scientific horizons with guided visits to the University's renowned Zoology Museum and the Sedgwick Museum of Earth Sciences.

It was a fantastic experience that challenged, educated, and inspired our Year 10s. A huge well done to all the pupils involved for representing Sharples so brilliantly!

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English Department's Star of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Khadija A - Taking pride in her work and demonstrating good handwriting. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 8

Lellianna - Demonstrated different sentence types that also evidenced her knowledge of last year's text. She's made HUGE progress in her handwriting too. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 9

Ellie R for demonstrating a clear understanding of characterisation in 'The Jungle' by Pooja Puri. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 10

Saarah P - Excellent annotations on key Context for Drummer Hodge. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Year 11

Sobia H - a creative and interesting narrative for her GCSE English Language. [Click here to view the work.](#)

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Nadhii A - Showing great enthusiasm to read in class.

Year 8

Salik S for always being focused during lessons, and willing to read any text when asked.

Year 9

Jarnpreet S for reading loudly and with clarity.

Year 10

Bilal B - Always showing desire to take part in whole class reading.

Year 11

Ayaan K for reading Sheila in An Inspector Calls.



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SCHOOL

Newsletter

Changes to School Holiday Food Vouchers after Summer 2026

The following information is taken from the [bolton.gov.uk](https://www.bolton.gov.uk) website.

There is more information available on their website - [click here to view the full article and further information.](#)

If your child receives Free School Meals, there are important changes to holiday food vouchers after Summer 2026. Find out what is changing, what support remains available and where to get help.

If your child receives Free School Meals, there are important changes to the holiday food vouchers after Summer 2026. Find out what is changing, what support remains available and where to get help.

The school holiday food voucher scheme was funded through the Government's Household Support Fund, which was introduced in October 2021 to help residents with the cost of essentials. As this funding has now ended, support is being provided through the new Crisis and Resilience Fund, which helps residents facing financial hardship access the assistance when they need it.

We know that many families have found the voucher scheme a great source of support during the cost-of-living crisis and the fact that the vouchers are now stopping, will be a worrying time for some.

However, due to changes in government priorities, the money spent on vouchers, will now be used to support Bolton families in other ways.

[Please also see this poster from Bolton Council.](#)

Year 9 Boys Football

Wednesday saw the return of football fixtures here at Sharples as our Year 9 boys took on Ladybridge for their opening league game. Both teams started fast with 3 goals coming within the opening 10 minutes. In a very close, end to end game, our Sharples team showed excellent work ethic and resilience to come back from behind in the second half to level the game. Unfortunately, it was not our night as Ladybridge managed to scrape a third with 5 minutes left. Our year 9s never gave up and pushed for an equaliser, narrowly missing the goal number of times. Great first game back lads, special mention to Max L who was our man of the match. On to the next one #UpTheSharples



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SCHOOL

Newsletter

Year 10 v Ladybridge in the league



The Year 10 team were back in action in the Bolton League and travelled to Ladybridge with a depleted squad. Unfortunately, they couldn't start the season with a win but showed plenty of positives moving forward for when players return to the team. Hussain showed great composure throughout the game in midfield and Jason and Adam were solid in defence. Lewis B scored Sharples only goal of the game using his pace to get in behind the right full back and slot past the oncoming keeper.



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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.

Appointments in school time: Please provide an appointment card/letter. If your child has a medical appointment and needs to leave early, please can you provide a copy of the appointment card/letter so an exit slip can be issued.

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

Year Groups this week:

7 = 97.16%

8 = 94.71%

9 = 96.11%

10 = 95.27%

11 = 95.43%

Best forms this week:

7ples5 & 7Shar3 = 100%

8Shar1 = 100%

9Ples3 = 99.62%

10Ples1 = 99.13%

11Ples4 = 99.57%

1002 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

Dates for your Diary

Monday 21st
September: North
West Careers &
Apprenticeship Expo
(1:00 – 3:00pm for
some Y10 students)

Thursday 24th
September: Open
Evening (4:00 –
7:00pm)

Friday 25th
September: Staff
training day (school
not open for pupils)

Career of the Week: Probation Officer

Probation officers supervise people serving community and prison sentences and help them to stay away from crime.

Average Salary: £ £28,000 Starter £45,000 Experienced

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

You could work: evenings / weekends
occasionally



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

Qualifications:

- You can apply for this job through a university course, an apprenticeship, working towards this role or applying directly.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent.
- 1 or 2 A levels, or equivalent, for a foundation degree or higher national diploma.
- 2 to 3 A levels, or equivalent, for a degree.
- A degree in a relevant subject for postgraduate study.

Skills required:

- Patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations.
- The ability to accept criticism and work well under pressure.
- To be thorough and pay attention to detail
- Knowledge of psychology

Relevant Subjects:

- English, Maths, Science, Humanities.



**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/CCH	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - PGR/LAL	Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH	Y9 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH
Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA	Y11 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) - CCH	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 v Ladybridge (a)	Y7 Netball training	Y9 Football v Kearsley (a) Bolton Cup	Open Evening	Training Day
Y7 Football practice	Y8/9 Football Practice	KS3 girls Swimming Club		
Y8 Football v Ladybridge (a)	KS4 Fitness Suite	KS4 Fitness Suite- Girls Only		
KS3 BOYS Swimming Club				
Netball - Y8-10				

Week beginning 21st Sept



Sharple's
SCHOOL

NEXT STEPS EVENING

HOW TO BE SUCCESSFUL IN YEAR 11

4:00PM – 6:00PM

THURSDAY 1ST OCTOBER 2026

The following post-16 providers and employers
will be attending:



Scan to register via a Google Form.





ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY
18TH
SEPTEMBER

THE DOORS ARE OPEN!



After an exciting build-up, the library doors finally opened....with a week of activities to celebrate! The Year 7s were given exclusive access after they joined in a Roald Dahl activity. And from that moment on, all students were welcomed back with an author visit, Disney movies, a book fair and quizzes!

The feedback has been extremely positive and no-one is more enthusiastic to borrow books from the newly-installed shelves than the eager-faced Year 7 pupils.

The library's new-look was designed to be a comfortable environment, in keeping with a contemporary library space, as well as a place of learning.



Emaan and Aaminah (left) both earned VIP 'Golden Tickets' to the library opening



Well done to all the students in Year and 7 and 8 who enjoyed a productive workshop with **published author, Katie Martin (above)**. They got to experience, first-hand, how a writer turns idea into actual printed stories on a page.

Watch this space for details about winners of the 'design a chocolate bar' activity, as part of the Roald Dahl's birthday celebrations. Winners will be invited into the New Block for a luxury hot chocolate. Just in time for autumn...



POEM OF THE WEEK

What's in a Name?

By Dennis Michael McNamara

Of character,
There is a sustained acceptance,
A defiance
And a patience,
That understands the umbilical chord
Between the beginning and the end.

Time sculptures each face
with chisel and spike,
Mixes it's charismatic dye
In the eyes of man;
Spits blood
And forms teardrops of mud,
Then hands it to us as manna,
And labels it "love".

Who am I?
Who are you?
Where are we, really?
And if this be all our experience
Has sustained,
Let us have our moment,
And make ourselves
Something special,
Something worthy of our name.

Name :

IN YOUR NEW
CLASSES, WITH NEW
TEACHERS, WHAT
WILL YOUR FIRST
AND LASTING
IMPRESSIONS BE?

THIS POEM WAS INSPIRED BY THE
POET'S FRIEND'S FATHER (A
HOLOCAUST SURVIVOR). THE WRITER
WAS AMAZED BY HIS COMPASSION, YET
STOIC STRENGTH AND GENTLEMANLY
ATTITUDE, DESPITE HIS ADVERSITIES.



WORD OF THE WEEK

AMBITIOUS

= to have a strong desire
to succeed or achieve
something

E.g. She was ambitious
and wanted to be a
doctor one day.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

Books and Biscuits



Tuesday
Lunchtime
in the library



WEDNESDAY:

DISNEY CLUB

Y7-8



EVERY WEEK IN THE
LIBRARY AT
LUNCHTIME

YOU ARE SPOILT FOR CHOICE
FOR CLUBS FROM THE
ENGLISH DEPARTMENT THIS
TERM.
DON'T BE SHY; GIVE THEM A
TRY!



Anime Club Wednesday
lunch in U15 -





BACC CLUBS



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Latin Club HAV - AS	Books & Biscuits NTO - Library	Disney Club HPA - Library	Creative RE PMC - U32	LGBTQ Club HAV - U51
Recycled Art JLO - G60	Running Club MHT - AS	Anime Club SHU - U15	Gardening Club CFI/JBI - U47	Sharples Arrows OJE/DSI - U35
Calculated Colouring LDA - G16	3D Printing HGL - G59	Youth Speaks ACH/IHA - U15	Sharples Synth Orchestra AKE - M1	Cooking Club MBR - G83
Card Games KMC - G46	Music Club CAB - M2	Antarctica Flag Competition CGR - U38	Christmas Choir CAB - M2	Chess Club KMC - G46
Sharples Techies THA - G67	Sharples Voices AKE - M1	Musical Theatre (Y8) CAB - M2	Basketball LAL - SH	Sharples Stars THA - G67
Polyglot Club SBH - N10	Dodgeball Club CCH - SH	Sharples Voices AKE - AS	Seussical Rehearsals CAB - AS	Calm Creative RQU - N11
Sharples Symphony AKE/CAB - M1	Seussical Rehearsals CAB - AS	Just Dance LAL - SH	Football (Y8) AHM - Astro	Concert Rehearsals CAB/AKE - M1



PUZZLE MASTER



Create Your Own Puzzle!

Create your own Sudoku, logic puzzle, number puzzle or mathematical riddle for someone else to solve. Include the solution.

EXAMPLE

Here is an example of a Sudoku puzzle (which you can use as inspiration):

5	3			7				
6					1	9	5	
	9	8					6	
8				6				3
4			8		3			1
7					2			6
	6					2	8	
	4	1	9				5	
		8				7	9	

This is just an example!

Solution

Here is one possible solution to the puzzle:

5	3	4	6	7	8	9	1	2
6	7	2	1	9	5	3	4	8
1	9	8	3	4	2	5	6	7
8	5	9	7	6	1	4	2	3
4	2	6	8	5	3	7	9	1
7	1	3	9	2	4	8	5	6
9	6	1	5	3	7	2	8	4
2	8	7	4	1	9	6	3	5
3	4	5	2	8	6	1	7	9

Good luck with your puzzle!



Entries to be handed to your maths teacher by

Friday 6th November



MENU

KEY

5
A DAY

- 1 OF YOUR 5 A DAY



- CHEF'S CHOICE

MEAT
FREE

- MEAT-FREE MONDAY



- PLANT-BASED (VEGAN)

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main Dish	Chicken Tikka Macaroni Cheese £1.85	Traditional Meat & Potato Pie with Mushy Peas £2.10	Fish and Chips £2.10	Sausage Mash and Beans £2.10	Chinese Chicken Curry of the Day £2.10
Vegetarian Main Dish	Phav Bhaji served with Naan Bread and Salad £1.85	Quorn Bolognese and Garlic Bread £1.85	Cheese Pastie and Chips £2.10	Quiche of the Day With Salad £1.85	Tugo Pizza Slice £1.50 5 Extra Topping £1.85
And There's More...	Panini - £1.95 Sandwich - £1.45- £1.85 Jacket Potato and Filling from - £1.85 Salad box - £2.00 Vegetables of the Day - 42p	Panini - £1.95 Sandwich - £1.45- £1.85 Jacket Potato and Filling from - £1.85 Salad box - £2.00 Vegetables of the Day - 42p	Panini - £1.95 Sandwich - £1.45- £1.85 Jacket Potato and Filling from - £1.85 Salad box - £2.00 Vegetables of the Day - 42p	Panini - £1.95 Sandwich - £1.45- £1.85 Jacket Potato and Filling from - £1.85 Salad box - £2.00 Vegetables of the Day - 42p	Panini - £1.95 Sandwich - £1.45- £1.85 Jacket Potato and Filling from - £1.85 Salad box - £2.00 Vegetables of the Day - 42p
Love Joes	Love Joes Curry & Rice £1.90 Chicken Curry of the Day with Rice £2.10	Love Joes Curry & Rice £1.90 Chicken Curry of the Day with Rice £2.10	Love Joes Curry & Rice £1.90 Chicken Curry of the Day with Rice £2.10	Love Joes Curry & Rice £1.90 Chicken Curry of the Day with Rice £2.10	Love Joes Curry & Rice £1.90 Chicken Curry of the Day with Rice £2.10
Pasta King	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread £2.10	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread - £2.10	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread - £2.10	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread - £2.10	Pasta Sauce of the Day with Garlic Bread - £2.10
Dessert	Fruit Pots - 55p-90p Cake of the Day - 72p Cookie - 50p Large Cold Dessert - £1.10 Hot Pudding - 90p	Fruit Pots - 55p-90p Cake of the Day - 72p Cookie - 50p Large Cold Dessert - £1.10 Hot Pudding - 90p	Fruit Pots - 55p-90p Cake of the Day - 72p Cookie - 50p Large Cold Dessert - £1.10 Hot Pudding - 90p	Fruit Pots - 55p-90p Cake of the Day - 72p Cookie - 50p Large Cold Dessert - £1.10 Hot Pudding - 90p	Fruit Pots - 55p-90p Cake of the Day - 72p Cookie - 50p Large Cold Dessert - £1.10 Hot Pudding - 90p

GRAB SOME STREET FOOD FOR HEALTHY MEALS ON THE GO





BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Mellors
FOOD
Happy



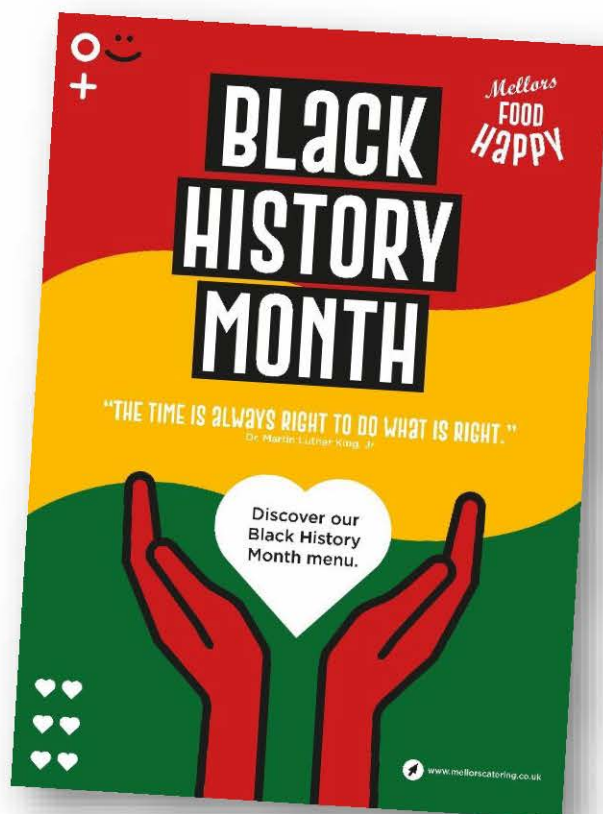
COMING SOON!

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...

This Black History Month join us on a journey of flavours - discovering & honouring heritage, culture & community through food.



Discover our Black History Month Menu - this October!



www.mellorscatering.co.uk

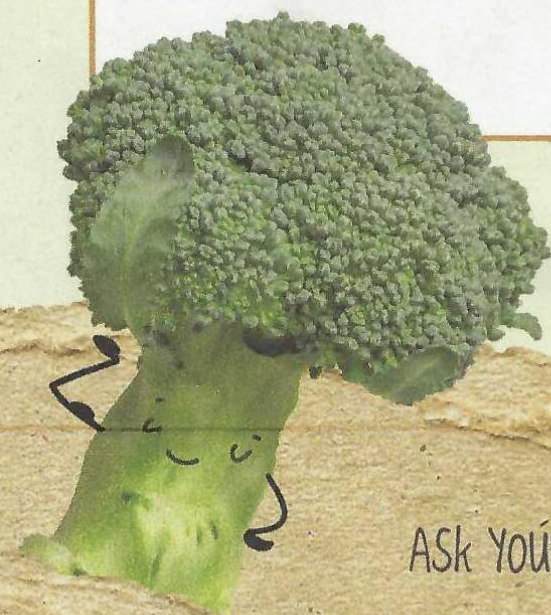


This week's Plant-based

**WHY NOT TRY THE
DELICIOUS**

**STUFFED SWEET
POTATO SKINS**

£2.10



Look out for the
plant-based symbol



Ask your catering team for more details



BOLTON UNITED NETBALL



GIRLS AGED
11 - 16



SATURDAYS
10AM - 11AM



SHARPLES SCHOOL
Hill Cot Road, Bolton,
BL1 8SN



6 WEEK BLOCK
PAYMENT



**REGISTER USING
LINK BELOW**



FOR ANY ENQUIRIES CONTACT

07807 245346





Keeping your family safe from fire

Advice for Parents and Carers

Fire safety starts at home

Most fires in the home can be prevented. Actions such as:



Testing smoke alarms every week, keeping them clean and well maintained

Storing and charging electrical items safely



Talking to children about fire risks can make a significant difference.

Fire safety is not about causing worry; it is about helping families feel prepared and confident about what to do if an emergency occurs. Working smoke alarms are one of the most effective ways to protect your household, and every family should be aware of their escape routes and what to do if an alarm sounds.

Safety actions to protect your home

Many household fires start through everyday activities.

Cooking remains one of the most common causes of accidental fires, particularly when food is left unattended or when cookers and cooking surfaces are used for extra storage, as items left on or near hobs can accidentally catch fire.



Faulty electrical equipment, damaged charging cables and overloaded plug sockets can also present significant risks. Developing safe habits, such as switching appliances off when not in use, avoiding overloading extension leads and keeping flammable materials away from heat sources, can help reduce the likelihood of a fire starting in your home.

As children grow older, they often spend more time independently in their bedrooms and make greater use of technology. It is important for parents and carers to know where devices are being charged and to encourage safe charging habits.

Phones, tablets, laptops and gaming equipment should never be charged under pillows, on beds or beneath blankets where heat can build up. Hair straighteners should be fully switched off after use and allowed to cool safely. It is also worth having conversations about candles, incense burners and any other items that generate heat.



Children are naturally curious and may have questions about fire, fireworks or emergency services. Open and age-appropriate conversations can help them understand both the dangers and the importance of safe behaviour. Encourage children to

tell an adult if they find matches, lighters or damaged electrical items. Explain that smoke can be just as dangerous as flames and that hiding during a fire can make it more difficult for firefighters to help them. Reassure children that knowing what to do in an emergency helps to keep everyone safe.



Creating a family escape plan

Every family should have a simple escape plan. Take time to identify the quickest way out of each room and, where possible, a second route in case the first is blocked. Make sure everyone in the household knows these routes and understands what to do if they hear the smoke alarm. Keep exits clear so that everyone can leave quickly in an emergency and ensure keys are stored in a safe but accessible place.

All family members should know where they are kept. Choose a family meeting point outside the home as this helps ensure everyone can be accounted for safely and reduces the risk of anyone re-entering the building. If there is a fire, get out, stay out and call 999. Teach younger children never to hide during a fire and never to go back inside for toys, pets or belongings.



Your family escape plan should also cover what to do if you cannot leave the property safely. If your escape route is blocked, move to a room with a window if possible and close the door behind you. Use towels, bedding or clothing to block gaps around the door to help prevent smoke entering the room. Open the window, call for help and dial 999 if you can. If you are on an upper floor, do not jump from a window; stay where you are and wait for rescue. If you live in a flat, make sure everyone in the household is familiar with the building's fire safety arrangements, evacuation procedures and escape routes, including the importance of not using lifts during a fire.

Fireworks, Deliberate Fires and Hoax Calls

Some children might not fully understand the consequences of irresponsible behaviour involving fire. Deliberately setting fires, misusing fireworks or making hoax calls to emergency services can place lives at risk and divert valuable resources away from genuine emergencies. Parents and carers play an important role in helping young people understand how these actions can affect individuals, families and communities. Taking opportunities to discuss news stories, local incidents or community events can help reinforce these messages.



Knowing your rights and the support available

Local authorities, housing teams, Citizens Advice, community organisations and charities may be able to assist with a range of issues, including housing conditions, household safety and family wellbeing. Many local Fire and Rescue Services also offer free Home Fire Safety Checks, providing practical advice tailored to individual households and circumstances.

If you rent your home, your landlord has legal responsibilities to help keep you safe. In England, landlords must provide smoke alarms on every storey of a property, ensure gas appliances are checked annually where provided, maintain safe electrical installations and provide appropriate carbon monoxide alarms where required. They should also ensure that escape routes can be used safely at all times.

If you have concerns about fire safety, speak to your landlord or letting agent first. If problems are not resolved, your local council's housing team, Shelter or Citizens Advice may be able to offer support and guidance.

Useful Sources of Support

Further advice and support can be obtained from:

- Your Local Fire and Rescue Service
- Citizens Advice
- Shelter
- GOV.UK

These organisations provide information on home fire safety, housing rights, landlord responsibilities and support for families who may be experiencing difficulties.

Want to find out more?

- www.Pol-Ed.co.uk
- hello@pol-ed.police.uk
- [@Pol.Ed.UK](https://www.instagram.com/Pol.Ed.UK)
- [facebook.com/Pol.Ed.UK](https://www.facebook.com/Pol.Ed.UK)

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West Yorkshire
Fire & Rescue Service

Vision | Openness | Integrity | Compassion | Excellence



Bolton
NHS Foundation Trust

Bolton's Young Person's Drug and Alcohol

Service Drop In:

Thursday's 1pm- 4pm (no appointment needed)

2nd Floor, Lever Chambers, Parallel Reception

27 Ashburner Street, Bolton, BL1 1SQ. 01204 462444

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