Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Issue 572
6th November 2026

Ms Molyneux's Welcome Back After October Halfterm Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a new half term at Sharples, one that has already had an action-packed start.

Last week during the half term holiday, 113 Year 11 students travelled to Spain to enjoy a revision and culture trip in Barcelona. The students were superb and had a brilliant time alongside some key preparation for next week's Pre-Public Examinations (PPEs).

Already this week we have celebrated Bonfire Night and Diwali with a range of activities for students to get involved with. I would like to extend my best wishes to all families celebrating Diwali this weekend.

On Sunday this week we will once again welcome members of the local community of Astley Bridge to Sharples as we will host the Remembrance Day Service. The Royal British Legion Club of Astley Bridge and their pipers band will make their way from Belmont Road to Sharples at approximately 10am. We invite families to line the street leading up to school to welcome the parade.

Important dates for your diary this half term include Friday 27th November 2026 when we will be holding our annual Diversity Day. This is always a favourite day in the Sharples calendar for students and staff, and we look forward to seeing students dress in outfits which represent their heritage, countries of ancestry or just something that is unique to them. As this is an annual day to celebrate the diversity and individuality of our Sharples students, once again we ask that no flags are brought into school on this day. We will be holding our popular Diversity Day stalls at lunchtime, with food, drink, crafts and gifts on sale from 50p. Parents/Carers can buy books of vouchers via MCAS for £5 each. The vouchers will be delivered to students via forms on the day, and these can be spent in multiples of 50p at the stalls. Cash will also be accepted on the day. All proceeds will be donated to the charity OXFAM.

Friday 4th December is a training day for staff, which means the school is closed to all pupils on this day.

Finally, we would like to remind all parents and carers of our procedures regarding appointments during the school day.

We fully appreciate that some medical, dental and hospital appointments cannot be arranged outside school hours. However, wherever possible, **routine appointments should be made outside the school day** to minimise disruption to learning and protect pupils' attendance.

We have recently experienced a significant increase in the number of pupils being collected during the school day for appointments. We are also seeing an increasing number of parents arriving at reception without prior notice, or contacting school only a few minutes before they expect their child to be ready for collection.

This makes it extremely difficult for us to manage pupils' attendance records accurately and safely, as well as causing considerable disruption to lessons and school staff.

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With immediate effect, we ask parents and carers to follow the arrangements below:

- Wherever possible, please arrange routine appointments **outside school hours.**
- Where an appointment during the school day is unavoidable, **school must be informed in advance**. Please do not wait until you are on your way to school or have arrived at reception.
- Parents/carers should provide **evidence of the appointment**, such as an appointment letter, text message or email confirmation.
- Please give the **date, time and nature of the appointment**, together with the time you expect your child to leave school and, where appropriate, return.
- **Parents/carers should not arrive at school unannounced to collect a child during the school day unless there is a genuine emergency**. We cannot guarantee that a pupil can be located and brought to reception immediately where advance notice has not been provided.
- Pupils should attend school **before and/or after their appointment wherever reasonably possible**, rather than missing a full morning or afternoon unnecessarily.

Important information about registration

Please also be aware that our **morning register closes at 9.15am**. If a pupil is not present by this time, they will receive an absence mark for the morning session.

Our **afternoon register closes at 12.35pm**. If a pupil is not present by this time, they will receive an absence mark for the afternoon session.

For this reason, we strongly encourage families to consider appointment times carefully and ensure pupils attend as much of the school day as possible. For example, an appointment later in the morning should not normally result in a pupil missing the whole morning, and pupils should return to school following an appointment where there is sufficient time to do so.

Good attendance is essential to pupils' learning, progress and wellbeing. Even where an absence is authorised, **time away from school is still time away from lessons** and contributes to a pupil's overall attendance figure.

We appreciate that there will always be circumstances in which appointments during school hours are unavoidable, particularly hospital and specialist appointments. Our aim is not to make these situations more difficult for families, but to ensure that unavoidable appointments are managed safely, efficiently and with the minimum possible disruption to pupils' education.

I look forward to sharing more updates in the coming weeks as we move towards the Christmas break. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours Sincerely

Caroline Molyneux
Headteacher

Note: Click here to view the original letter as a PDF

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

Sunshine, Thrills, and Adventures: The Sharples School Spain Trip!



What an unforgettable week! A lucky group of 113 Sharples School students and 13 staff members swapped the autumnal Bolton weather for the vibrant golden coastline of Catalonia, Spain. From high-speed rollercoasters and world-famous football grounds to mesmerising marine life and stunning architecture, our seven-day trip to Salou was non-stop excitement from start to finish.

The adventure kicked off on Friday 23rd October as excited students loaded onto our coaches at Sharples School to begin the long journey down to Dover. Long coach trips can be gruelling, but ours felt like a rolling festival. Highlights on the road included the special Sharples Radio Show broadcast by Ms Molyneux, complete with student shout-outs, trivia, and custom playlists. Coach karaoke sessions brought everyone together with energetic singalongs that kept our spirits high all the way to the ferry crossing across the English Channel.

After crossing France, we arrived in sunny Salou to check into our four-star hotel. After a full day of travel, the afternoon was all about kicking back and soaking up the Mediterranean sunshine. Students wasted no time diving into the hotel's turquoise swimming pool and racing down to Salou's famous soft beaches. The evening concluded with a feast at the hotel's buffet, giving everyone the fuel needed for an action-packed week ahead.

Bright and early on Sunday 25th October, we headed north into Barcelona for a day of pure excitement. Walking through the tunnel onto the pitch edge at Spotify Camp Nou, FC Barcelona's world-famous stadium, was a surreal experience for all football fans. Students explored the trophy rooms filled with glittering Champions League cups, historic boots, and iconic shirts worn by legends like Lionel Messi.

From the stadium, we visited CosmoCaixa, Barcelona's renowned Science Museum. The star attraction was the indoor Flooded Forest, a sprawling 1,000-square-metre living replica of the Amazon rainforest. Students caught glimpses of giant freshwater fish, vibrant birds, and even the star of the exhibit, a peaceful capybara wandering through the tropical flora. We wrapped up the day at the iconic Hard Rock Cafe off La Rambla, dining on delicious burgers surrounded by authentic rock-and-roll memorabilia, including stage outfits and guitars from music legends.

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Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Monday was dedicated entirely to adrenaline and thrills at PortAventura World, one of Europe's largest theme parks. All 113 students and 13 staff members took on the park's six themed areas, testing their nerve on world-famous coasters like Shambhala, one of Europe's tallest hypercoasters, and the terrifying multi-looping Dragon Khan. Between hair-raising drops and souvenir shopping for themed soft toys and keyrings, the energy was electric. We returned to the hotel for a well-deserved cool-down in the pool and a massive dinner spread featuring local tapas, pasta, and desserts.

Tuesday delivered another jam-packed itinerary back in Barcelona. Students stepped onto the moving walkway through Europe's largest underwater shark tunnel at the Barcelona Aquarium. Passing directly under sand tiger sharks, stingrays, and massive ocean sunfish offered an up-close look at deep-sea life, alongside hands-on fish feeding displays. The afternoon was spent browsing high-street fashion, local Spanish boutiques, and gift shops along the waterfront Maremagnum shopping centre at Port Vell. Back at the hotel, everyone dressed up in their sharpest attire and glamorous masks for a grand Masquerade Ball, featuring fine dining,and music to celebrate the best moments of the week.

On Wednesday morning, it was time to load up the coaches for the journey back home to Bolton. Before leaving Catalonia, we paused at Antoni Gaudí's masterpiece, La Sagrada Família, to snap group photos in front of its soaring spires and intricate stone facades. Armed with unforgettable memories, camera rolls full of photos, and new friendships, the Sharples team began the journey back home. A huge thank you goes to the 13 staff members who organised and supervised this incredible trip, and to all 113 students who represented Sharples School with enthusiasm, respect, and fantastic spirit throughout Spain.

Sharples Radio Podcast

Click here to hear the October edition of The Sharples Radio Podcast featuring: a recount of the Year 7 and 8 Barack Obama visit; information about Black History Month; a report from the Year 9 Geography trip; an English subject special including a Year 8 radio play: and Teacher Quick Fire Questions with Mrs Hamlin.

Click here to listen to the podcast.



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Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Cultural Connections: Sharples Welcomes Romanian Exchange Students for an Action-Packed Week!



What an unforgettable week it has been at Sharples School! We recently had the absolute pleasure of hosting exchange students from Romania, taking them on a whistle-stop tour of the North West and York before welcoming them into our classrooms to experience life as a Sharples student.

Exploring Liverpool & Manchester

The week kicked off with cultural trips across two of the North West's most famous cities. First up was Liverpool, where our visitors soaked in music history at The Beatles Story museum—marveling at replica stages, vintage instruments, and the iconic round glasses of John Lennon. They then explored the mind-bending visual illusions, mirror mazes, and gravity-defying rooms at the Quirky Quarter, took in local history and fascinating ancient artifacts at the World Museum, and enjoyed some retail therapy along the bustling outdoor walkways of Liverpool ONE.

Next, we headed into Manchester to showcase the region's rich industrial and sporting heritage. Our guests explored hands-on experiments, historic steam engines, and interactive computing exhibits at the Science and Industry Museum. Football enthusiasts among the group were captivated at the National Football Museum, testing their penalty skills on interactive simulators, viewing historic match-worn shirts, and admiring the legendary original FA Cup trophy. *...continued*

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To finish the day, everyone enjoyed browsing the huge range of shops under the grand domes of the Trafford Centre.

Sharples School Life & Traditional Treats

Our Romanian friends joined us in school to dive into everyday lessons alongside Sharples students, starting the week by problem-solving in Maths, analyzing literature in English, getting creative with techniques in Art, and exploring local heritage in History.

No trip to Bolton would be complete without a classic culinary tradition! We treated our guests to a delicious, traditional fish and chip dinner—complete with mushy peas and tartar sauce—at the famous Olympus Restaurant, giving them a true taste of British hospitality in its elegant dining room.

Midweek Adventure: Historic York

On Wednesday, we journeyed across to historic York for a full day of discovery. Our guests got up close with legendary locomotives—including the record-breaking Mallard and a majestic bullet train—at the National Railway Museum before stepping back in time to ride through reconstructed 10th-century sights, sounds, and smells of Viking-era Britain at the JORVIK Viking Centre. We then visited the awe-inspiring York Minster to learn about Christian beliefs and admire its breathtaking medieval stained-glass windows and Gothic stone vaults, rounding off the trip with a stroll down the iconic, timber-framed medieval cobblestone street of The Shambles.

Creative Cooking & A Grand Finale at the Etihad

Back at Sharples on Thursday, our guests immersed themselves in dynamic performance games in Drama, tackled numerical puzzles in Maths, and conducted hands-on experiments in Science. After the final bell rang, students gathered in the food technology room for a special afterschool culinary activity, rolling up their sleeves to brown savory minced beef, mash potatoes, and bake a classic British staple from scratch: Cottage Pie!

To round off an incredible exchange week, Friday took us on an exclusive tour of Manchester City's Etihad Stadium. Students stepped right onto the pitch side, walked through the tunnel just like Premier League superstars, explored the luxurious home dressing rooms, and sat behind the mics in the official press room for memorable photos sitting where top managers host their post-match interviews!

It was a fantastic week full of international friendship, cultural learning, and memories that will last a lifetime. A huge thank you to all the staff and students who made our Romanian guests feel so welcome!

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Celebrating Diwali Through Music at Bridgewater Hall



On Monday 2nd November, 40 pupils from Years 7–10 enjoyed a fantastic musical experience at the prestigious Bridgewater Hall in Manchester, as part of a special concert celebrating the festival of Diwali.

The pupils were treated to a short but captivating performance featuring Indian composer and pianist Dr Rakesh Joshi, alongside an ensemble of talented Indian classical musicians and the BVG Indian Choir of Great Britain.

The concert offered a wonderful opportunity for our pupils to experience the rich sounds and traditions of Indian classical music, exploring a different musical culture and celebrating the joy, colour and significance of Diwali through live performance.

It was a memorable and enriching trip, giving pupils the chance to broaden their musical horizons, appreciate the diversity of musical traditions and experience the excitement of live music in one of Manchester's leading concert venues.

Our pupils represented the school brilliantly and thoroughly enjoyed this special celebration of music and culture. A wonderful opportunity to learn, listen and be inspired!

Gold Tie of the Week - Lucas Alcantera de Melo

Always at duty on time, always attends event. Never has to be reminded to do something - very reliable.

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



A Fantastic Day Exploring Computing at Bletchley Park!

On Friday 16th October, some of our Year 9, 10 and 11 students enjoyed a fantastic trip to the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park, where they had the chance to explore the history of technology and take part in some exciting hands-on activities.

The day began with a tour of the museum, where students were fascinated to see historic computers up and running and discover just how much technology has changed over the years. They also took part in a data representation workshop, putting some of their classroom learning into practice.

There was plenty of fun along the way too! Students had the opportunity to try out a range of retro computer games, with some discovering just how challenging gaming used to be! Another highlight of the day was the virtual reality workshop, where students worked together to defuse a virtual bomb, testing their communication, teamwork and problem-solving skills.

It was lovely to see students so engaged, enthusiastic and enjoying the opportunity to experience Computing beyond the classroom.

A brilliant day filled with learning, laughter and new experiences. Well done to all the students who took part!

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Creative Writing Competition | Ideal for 11-18

Gone is a creative writing competition for 11–18 year-olds that challenges students to imagine the moment something vanishes and turn what happens next into a mini saga of up to 100 words.

From mystery and suspense to humour, sci-fi, or something completely unexpected, the possibilities are endless!



N3 Detention. Temporary Change to Finish Time

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the evenings become darker, we have made a temporary adjustment to the finish time of our N3 (SLT) detention.

From w/c 9th November N3 detentions will now finish at 4.15pm instead of 4.30pm during the winter months. This change has been made to support pupils' safety when travelling home.

All other detention times will remain unchanged.

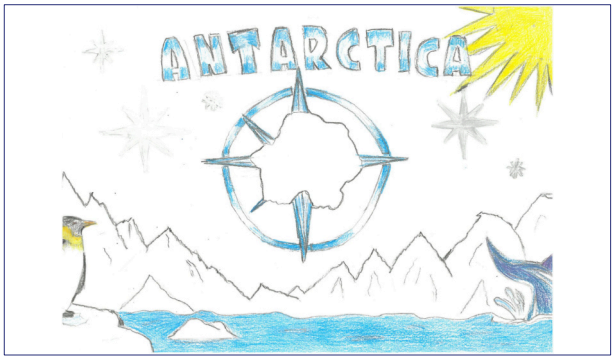
Thank you for your continued support.

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Flying the Flag for Antarctica!





On Wednesday lunchtimes, U38 has been an absolute hive of excitement as Year 7 students gathered for our Antarctica Flag Competition Club.

The turnout was fantastic, with a huge number of students trading their usual lunchtime routines to discover one of the most remote, extreme wildernesses on Earth. Over the course of the club, our geographers dived into short documentaries detailing Antarctica's frozen landscapes, unique wildlife, and crucial climate science research.

Inspired by what they learned, students put an extraordinary amount of effort into designing their own official flags for the continent. Because Antarctica has no indigenous human population or single governing nation, flags designed by young people play a wonderful role in celebrating international peace, science, and environmental protection.

Every single participant showed brilliant creativity—incorporating geographical symbolism, polar wildlife, ice shelves, and geometric patterns into their artwork.

The Ultimate Prize: Headed for the Frozen South!

The judging was incredibly tough due to the high standard of work. However, two standout designs were selected as our overall winners: Khadija A (7P2) and Alaya C (7P2)

Both winners will receive a special geography prize. Even more excitingly, their physical winning flags are being sent off on a real journey to Antarctica! Scientists and researchers visiting polar research stations will carry their flags into the field and display them on the icy continent, taking photographs of our students' artwork standing tall against the Antarctic landscape.

A massive thank you and well done to all the Year 7s who took part with such enthusiasm and geographical curiosity. You have truly put our Geography Department on the map!

Miss Grimshaw

Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

English Department's Stars of the Week

Work of the Week

Year 7

Oscar S - Demonstrating proper usage of punctuation alongside exceptional presentation. Click here to view the work.

Year 8

Ibrahim P for some excellent work demonstrating good understanding of sonnets. Click here to view the work.

Year 9

Ellie M for outstanding analysis explaining how tension is created by the writer. Click here to view the work.

Year 10

Samar H for her detailed poetry annotations. Click here to view the work.

Year 11

Hollie K for excellent responses and outstanding dedication shown on her GCSE English Language homework task. Click here to view the work.

Readers of the Week

Year 7

Ibraheem M for being an enthusiastic reader who projects his voice and always tries to use expression. Well done.

Year 8

Aadil I for demonstrating genuine passion to read for pleasure. You will find Aadil even reading whilst he is navigating the corridors!

Year 9

Ayaan N for reading with increasing fluency, and improving his reading age.

Year 10

Ivan L for reading his answers out clearly and with detail.

Year 11

Rayyan P for brilliant reading answers in his homework practice questions.

Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

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 October's nominees for fantastic work in maths lessons!



Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
Scarlett S-P	Adonis L	Fatima M	Humaira E	Afia Z
George B	Jack R	Kanisola F	Faatimah B	Hamzah H
Ben C	Mabroor H	Jack T	Ivan L	Sehar I
Khadija A	Bareerah Y	Zak M	Emani A	Lucas K
Umar P	Aamina I	Evie M	Afreen P	Khadija M
Toby L	Rameen I	Alice J	Zainab S	Hooriyah G
Sophie B	Viresh F	Aine H	Aaminah M	Brianna M
Izzy W	Lucy P	Faraz A	Seb W	Hannah T
Sifa B	Olly M	Ellie M	Zeyad A	Hollie K
Izna R				Ben L

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Y7 Maths Whodunnit



Our Year 7 pupils put their mathematical skills to the test at our exciting Maths Whodunnit event! Teams of enthusiastic volunteers gave up their time after school to work collaboratively, solve clues and use their problem-solving skills to crack a murder mystery. Adding to the excitement, their very own maths teachers dressed up as the suspects, making the investigation even more entertaining!

There was plenty of teamwork, logical thinking and mathematical detective work along the way. Congratulations to our winning team, who successfully solved the mystery and took home some well-deserved chocolates.

A fantastic effort from everyone involved!

Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Year 9 Cup Win



On Thursday night our year 9 boys football team took on local rivals, Smithills. With no keeper this week Oliver H stepped up for the team and put the gloves on in an important cup fixture. We got off to a great start with Qayyim opening the scoring with a great run, but the lead didn't last long as Smithills equalised with an excellent strike from 25 yards beating Oliver. Our Sharples boys stepped it up a level after this as we scored goal after goal seeing us through to the next stage of the Bolton Cup. Goals came from Praise (2), Jack, Archie, Qayyim (again) and Max. Fantastic work from the year 9 boys, well done and onto the next one! #UpTheSharples

Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter

Dates for your Diary

Saturday 7th November: DofE Silver Training Walk (Saturday morning)

Sunday 8th November: Remembrance Day Service (9.00 to 12.00) in the Sharples Theatre

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November: Flu vaccinations (all year groups)

Monday 9th and Tuesday 10th November: Student Affairs Committee Interviews for Year 9

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 attendance this week:	Best forms this week:
7 = 97.65%	7Ples3 = 100%
8 = 95.00%	8Shar1 = 100%
9 = 95.04%	9Shar5 = 98.50%
10 = 93.58%	10Shar4 = 100%
11 = 92.40%	11Ples4 = 97.39%

621 pupils have achieved 100% this academic year

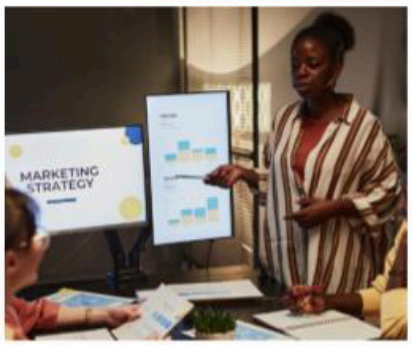
Career of the Week: Marketing Executive

Marketing executives promote a company's products, services or brand.

Average Salary: £23,000 (Starter) – £50,000 (Experienced)

Typical hours: (per week) 37 to 39 a week

You could work: evenings / weekends occasionally



Qualifications:

- You can apply for this job through; a university course, an apprenticeship, working towards this role, applying directly or specialist courses run by professional bodies.
- 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.
- 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C) and A levels, or equivalent, for a higher or degree apprenticeship.

Skills required:

- Knowledge of English language.
- The ability to use your initiative.
- Leadership skills.
- Maths knowledge.
- Knowledge of media production and communication.
- Business management skills.

Relevant Subjects:

- English, Maths, Computer Science and Business.

Information sourced from: https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/job-profiles/marketing-executive

Careers & Enterprise at Sharples School

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Sharples SCHOOL Newsletter



PE Lunch Time Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA Basketball (SH) - LAL	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - PGR/LAL Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA KS3 Dodgeball (SH) - CCH Sports studies catch up/KS3 hmwk- AHM	Y7 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA Basketball (SH) - LAL/PGR	Y8 Football (Big Astro) - AHM/CCH Y11 Football (Small astro) JBA Basketball (SH) - LAL	Sharples Storm (Big Astro) - AHM Y11 Football (Small Astro) - JBA Racquets (SH) - CCH/LAL



PE After School Clubs - This Half Term

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
KS3 boys Swimming Club Netball practice- all years Y7 Football Practice Y9/10 MUFC Girls football tournament- during the day	Y8 Football Practice KS4 Fitness Suite Running Club- all years	KS3 girls Swimming Club Bolton X- Country Championships @ Rivington- during the day Other clubs cancelled due to staff meeting	Y7 football v Thornleigh (a) 2 matches Girls Football- all years KS4 Fitness Suite	PE detentions

Week beginning 9th Nov

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Sharples SCHOOL

PRESENTS

A Winter Showcase

THURSDAY 17TH DECEMBER

IN THE THEATRE — 7PM

PERFORMANCES INCLUDE:
SHARPLES VOICES, BAND PERFORMANCES, SOLOISTS, MUSICAL THEATRE & DANCE

TICKETS

£3 PER ADULT AND £1 PER CHILD (UNDER 16)

AVAILABLE ON MCAS FROM 2ND NOVEMBER.

Rotary
Bolton with Le Moors

CHRISTMAS ART COMPETITION

GET CREATIVE AND DESIGN A CHRISTMAS THEMED POSTER!

AGES 5-7

AGES 8-10

AGES 11-15

AGES 15+

EACH CATEGORY WINNER WILL RECEIVE A

£75 Love2Shop VOUCHER!

Love2Shop £75

All entries must be your own creation and not digitally made.

DEADLINE TO APPLY:
Friday 11th December

WINNER WILL BE ANNOUNCED ON:
Wednesday 16th December

SEND ENTRIES TO:
bwlmrotary@outlook.com

Let your imagination shine this Christmas!

INTRODUCING...

THE SHARPLES BOOK-FACE CHALLENGE

Choose a book you've read and redesign its front cover in a brand-new style. Write 2–3 sentences explaining how your new look will attract a different audience.

Winners will be invited to a trip to Waterstones!

HAND YOUR DESIGNS TO MISS PATEL (U14)

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

ADVENT ORIGAMI CLUB

Create your own advent calendar using origami!

A bit of crafty fun to get into the festive spirit.



Tuesdays at lunchtime

U27

All are welcome – it's just a bit of crafty fun!

Maths DEPARTMENT

Sharples SCHOOL

ALTIUS • ORA • MENTIS

CALLING ALL CODEBREAKERS AND FUTURE CYBER SECURITY EXPERTS



Take part in the University of Southampton NATIONAL CIPHER CHALLENGE!

- Enter as a team or an individual
- Weekly challenges
- U30 Friday lunchtimes, starting 23rd October
- Prizes available



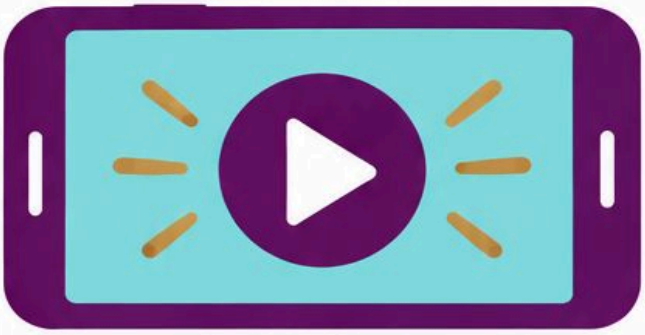
If you would like to register, contact Mrs Hall by email or in U30.

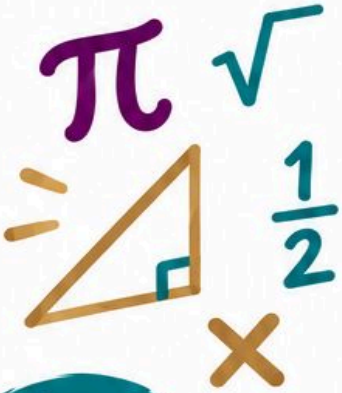
Maths INFLUENCER

Optional Homework

Create a 60-second video explaining a maths trick, misconception or interesting fact.

Share your maths knowledge!





Be creative

Think it through

Get filming!

Entries should be emailed to **Mrs McCawley** by **Friday 8th January 2027.**

Reward points are up for grabs!

Sharples SCHOOL

If you feel passionately about School life and want to know more about how things run, please join us at

Parent Forum

Thursday 12th November 2026

4-5 pm

New and existing members are welcome!

Email:

a.heaton@sharplesschool.co.uk to confirm your place



Sharples SCHOOL

Geographers of the Month

Year 7

Alan Fedko
Isabelle Miller

Year 8

Coby Stuart
Riya Raja

Year 9

Harry Morris
Madison Ashton

Year 10

Tyler Jones
Shaunna Campbell

A massive well done on a positive start to Geography this year. Keep up the good work



ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 5TH NOVEMBER

THE LITERATURE SOCIETY WINNERS

A HUGE well done to all Y7 students who presented their marvellous mythology projects.

The winners were:

1. Aamina I and Safa J for their model of a Japanese Bamboo Cutter
2. Bilal P and Muhammad Zayyan I for their Greek Gates of Hades
3. Khadija A and Alaya CA for their Loch Ness Monster myth board of "sightings"







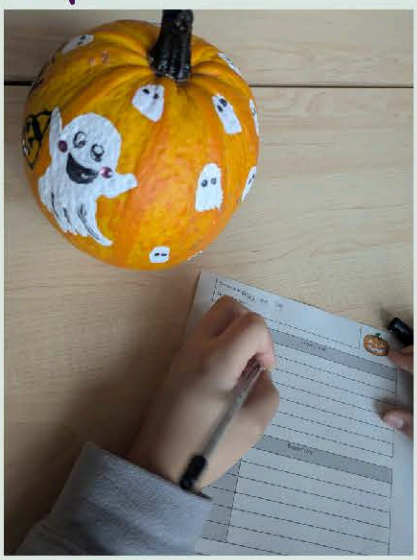


Mr Husayn, who organises The Literature Society, said the standard was extremely high amongst the Year 7 students, and that everyone who participated should be proud. The 'showcase' in the library had a real 'wow factor'.

BOOKS WITH A BOO!



THANKYOU to the Year 8 students who supported a 'Spooky Literature' event for Year 6 pupils from Sharples Primary School. We welcomed the neighbouring students into our library for a quiz and a recital of gothic and ghost-themed poems. Thanks to: Tabitha, Amisha, Felicity and Aqsa.



INTRODUCING...

THE SHARPLES BOOK-FACE CHALLENGE

Choose a book you've read and redesign its front cover in a brand-new style. Write 2–3 sentences explaining how your new look will attract a different audience.

Winners will be invited to a trip to Waterstones!

HAND YOUR DESIGNS TO MISS PATEL (U14)

DEADLINE: FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER

WORD OF THE WEEK

Innovative **:**
introducing new ideas or methods

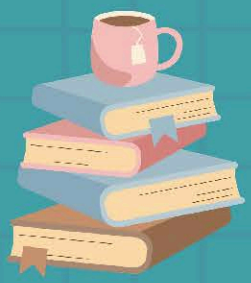
"The innovative design impressed the judges"

WHAT'S ON



Books and Biscuits

Tuesday
Lunchtime
in the library





Anime Club Wednesday
lunch in U15 -



WEDNESDAY:

DISNEY CLUB

Y7-8

Trivia Fridays in the library!
Test your knowledge for fun

EVERY WEEK IN THE LIBRARY AT LUNCHTIME



SHARPLES RADIO

Check out the latest Sharples Radio Podcast on the Student Voice area of our school website.

https://www.sharplesschool.co.uk/student-voice/

Sharples SCHOOL

Instead of The Poem of the Week, the English Department has included 4 beautiful poems written by our students. Some are inspired by the changing seasons and one is inspired by Maya Angelou's *I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings*.
We hope you enjoy them.

Turning over a new leaf

Turning over a new leaf has been the start to a windy journey
And the end to an even warmer one
I left the memories of a summer child but said hello
To an autumn young woman
Bold, classy and unique, just happy being free

As summer faded and autumn took its place
The leaves started to change, just like me
This is who I was born to be

Before I said hello to new changes and a new school
I had to say goodbye to old ones
I knew at some point they would turn into memories
But I never could outrun the past until I was ready to move on

By Ruby Yr7

Autumn

I can feel the autumn breeze in the sky
Drifting away like a fly
All the leaves go astray
And the spider weaves away
Unlimited festive treats tempt others
And children plead with mothers
Trees strengthen their roots
And house the owls who hoot
The change of the season is near
But there's no need to fear
There's still plenty of reason to cheer
Autumn, winter, spring, summertime
All one of a kind

By Amayma Yr7

Autumn

Amazing colours pop from the leaves

Unlimited amounts of red, orange,
yellow and green,
The sun dips low

Unfinished business has to go

Morning dew

Nights are eerie

But this is autumn
My favourite season

By Aaminah Yr 7

Breaking Silence

Being silenced is normalised in this world,
Our voices locked up and our opinions caged,
Freedom is a word simply to admire,
life is better not perfect,
And our society is far from fixed,
Yet still we try to fly,
We spread our wings open and hope to take off,
And one day, we will,
But that day will not be today,
It will not be tomorrow,
not in 100 years, but in the future,
When cages are opened and our voices find us once more,
Wanting change but scared to ruin the present,
Missing the past but proud of what we've achieved.
Not all change will happen in a day,
Not all eggs hatch at the same time,
But if they really try, even the latest hatchers can fly.

By Ellie Yr 9

Sharples SCHOOL

RECIPE OF THE WEEK

ENERGY-SMART VEGAN MEAL

Jamie Oliver's Sweet Potato, Spinach & Chickpea Curry

A fragrant, 5-a-day plant-based curry cooked entirely in the microwave to minimize energy bills while maximizing nutrition and flavor.

PREP TIME	COOK TIME	SERVINGS	COST / PORTION
10 Mins	18 Mins	4 People	~£0.95

Ingredients

- **2 medium (approx. 400g)** Sweet potatoes, peeled & diced
- **1 tin (400g)** Chickpeas, drained & rinsed
- **1 tin (400g)** Light coconut milk
- **1 tin (400g)** Chopped tomatoes
- **100g** Fresh or frozen baby spinach
- **1 medium** Yellow onion, finely diced
- **2 cloves** Garlic, finely minced
- **1 thumb-size piece** Fresh ginger, grated
- **1½ tbsp** Curry powder or Korma paste
- **1 tbsp** Vegetable oil
- **To taste** Salt & freshly ground black pepper

Nutritional & Energy Saver

Microwaving sweet potatoes cooks them in a third of the time compared to boiling or roasting on the hob. This dish provides all 5 of your daily recommended vegetable servings!

Method

1. **Cook the Veg Base:** In a large microwave-safe bowl, combine the diced onion, garlic, grated ginger, curry paste/powder, and oil. Cover with a vented microwave lid or plate and microwave on HIGH for **3 minutes** until aromatic.
2. **Soften the Sweet Potato:** Add the peeled, diced sweet potato chunks to the bowl with 2 tablespoons of water. Cover again and microwave on HIGH for **6 minutes** until starting to tenderize.
3. **Add Chickpeas & Liquids:** Stir in the drained chickpeas, tinned tomatoes, light coconut milk, salt, and pepper. Mix thoroughly, re-cover, and microwave on MEDIUM-HIGH (700W) for **7 to 8 minutes** until the sweet potato is fork-tender and the sauce thickens.
4. **Fold in Spinach:** Carefully remove the bowl. Stir in the baby spinach leaves until wilted into the warm sauce.
5. **Rest & Serve:** Let stand covered for 2 minutes before serving over microwave basmati rice, warm naan, or a dollop of natural yogurt.

MENU

WEEK 3	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
MAIN DISH	Chicken Tikka Macaroni Cheese £1.85	Meat & Potato Pie with Mushy Peas £2.10	Battered Fish & Chips £2.10	Sausage & Mash £2.10	Chinese Curry of the Day £2.10
VEGETARIAN MAIN DISH	Phav Bhaji served with Basmati Rice £1.85	Quorn Bolognaise £1.85	Cheese Pastie & Chips £2.10	Spiced Vegetable Jambalaya £1.85	Tugo Pizza Slice From £1.50
ACCOMPANIMENTS	Crisp Mixed Salad Sweetcorn	Spring greens Carrot batons Crisp Mixed Salad	Cauliflower cheese Crisp Mixed Salad	Green beans Crisp mixed salad	Naan Bread Crisp mixed salad
STREET FOOD	Chicken Panini £1.95 Curry Pot £1.90	Chicken Panini £1.95 Curry Pot £1.90	Vegetable Jollof £1.85	Chicken Panini £1.95 Curry Pot £1.90	Butternut Squash and Bean Chilli with Rice £1.85
ITALIAN DAILY SPECIAL	Arrabbiata Sauce with Pasta £1.90	Chicken Pasta in a Tomato Sauce £2.10	Tomato & Mascarpone Sauce with Pasta £1.90	Pomodoro Sauce served with Wholemeal Pasta £1.90	Basilico Sauce served With Pasta £1.90
DESSERT	Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Fruit Pot 55p-90p	Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Fruit Pot 55p-90p	Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Fruit Pot 55p-90p	Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Fruit Pot 55p-90p	Traybake 72p Biscuit 50p Fruit Pot 55p-90p

KEY 5 A DAY 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.

Mellors FOOD Happy

GET Mellors FOOD Happy



MID MORNING BREAK

Toast	32p
Potato Cake/Pancake	45p
Crumpet	41p
Toasted Teacake	50p
Bacon/Sausage Barm	£1.40
Cheese on Toast	70p
Croissant	70p
Waffle	£1.10
Hash Brown	45p
Cinnamon Swirl	£1.18
Pain Au Chocolate	70p

Mellors

FOOD HAPPY

Did you know?
These tasty foods were first domesticated in Mexico!



Mellors

MEXICAN FIESTA

Nacho Average Lunchtime....
Explore our Special Mexican Menu!

www.mellorscatering.co.uk

OPERATION ENCOMPASS

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

> Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience.

> We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care.

> This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want.

> Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right[1].

> Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident.

> We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this.

[1] Domestic Abuse Act 2021

www.operationencompass.org



We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.

OPERATION ENCOMPASS
In every force. In every school. For every child.

Sharples SCHOOL
LEARN·DREAM·ACHIEVE

GREATER MANCHESTER POLICE

Bolton Together

Registered Charity in England and Wales (1163466)



Your Mind Matters

TALK. EXPLORE. TAKE ACTION.

FEEL BETTER.
FIND SUPPORT.
BE YOU.

Support for your emotional health and wellbeing in Bolton

IThrive

Support for how you feel

If you're between 5 and 19 (or up to 25 if you have SEND), IThrive can help. We offer a range of emotional health and wellbeing support, including 1:1 support and counselling.

Self-refer today, or ask a trusted adult to refer you (with your consent)

IThrive Plus

Drop-in. Talk. Get Support

If you're between 11 and 19 (or 25 with SEND) we have our IThrive Plus drop-ins, hosted by trusted providers across Bolton, offer a safe, friendly and welcoming space to talk about how you're feeling, get advice and find the right support for you.

Find your nearest drop-in session

Navigators

Neurodiversity Support

If you're between 5 and 19 (or 25 with SEND) our Navigators help you understand and explore neurodiversity, including ADHD and autism. They can offer information and guidance to help you find the right support for you.

Get in touch and take the next step

Understand yourself better

Build your confidence

Connect with people who get it

Feel more in control

Your choice. Your support. Your way.

A stronger Bolton. Together.

SCAN HERE TO FIND OUT MORE OR TO REFER

ithrive@boltontogether.org.uk

boltontogether.org.uk

https://bolton-together.org.uk/ithrive-7-19-years-referral-form/

BOLTON UNITED HUB
UNITE • IGNITE • CREATE

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