

PARENT BULLETIN – SPRING TERM

APRIL 2026

ISSUE NO: 14



DEAR PARENTS AND CARERS,

I hope you are well and looking forward to the Easter break.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to all parents and carers for your continued support throughout this term. I remain incredibly proud of everything our pupils and staff have achieved. I encourage you to take a moment to read this spring edition of our Parent Bulletin, which highlights the work and developments taking place across the academy.

I am particularly pleased with the dedication our staff have shown in strengthening the quality of education, including the additional support offered to our Year 11 pupils as they prepare for their GCSE examinations. The recent mock results indicate even greater progress than last year - when we achieved some of the best results in Greater Manchester.

This academic year, we have further intensified our focus on attendance, working closely with the highly regarded Life Changing Education (LCE) team to build on our already strong foundations. I am delighted with the positive engagement from pupils, parents and carers. Regular attendance is vital for academic success, and you will find additional information on this within the bulletin.

Our personal development curriculum continues to flourish, with exciting new opportunities such as Cheerleading, Photography Club, the Event Hair Masterclass and British Sign Language Club. Our careers education, advice and guidance remains outstanding and I am extremely proud of the support and experiences we provide to all pupils. Likewise, the trips and activities across various subjects (locally, nationally and internationally) have created memorable experiences and our ongoing sporting achievements further reinforce Hollingworth Academy's status as a truly World Class school.



I wish you and your families a joyful, restful Easter.

Best wishes

Mr Robert McGinty

Headteacher



IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES

Thursday 2nd April 2026	Academy closes at 12.20pm and Year 11 Reports to Parents
Saturday 4th April 2026	Ski Trip (<i>Pupils return Saturday 11th April 2026</i>)
Saturday 18th April 2026	Italy Trip (<i>Pupils return on Tuesday 21st April 2026</i>)
Monday 20th April 2026	Staff INSET Day (<i>Academy closed to most pupils - Year 11 revision session invites only</i>)
Tuesday 21st April 2026	Academy Re-opens
Friday 24th April 2026	Year 10 Reports to Parents/Carers
Thursday 30th April 2026	Year 10 Mock Interviews and Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 1st May 2026	GCSE Exams Begin and Year 9 Reports to Parents/Carer's
Friday 22nd May 2026	Academy closes at 3.10pm
Monday 1st June 2026	Academy Re-opens
Monday 15th June 2026	Year 10 End of Year Assessments
Wednesday 1st July 2026	Year 10 Rochdale Sixth Form College Taster Day
Thursday 2nd July 2026	Year 11 Leavers Prom, Saddleworth Hotel
Tuesday 7th July 2026	Year 6 Transition Day and Evening
Thursday 9th July 2026	Year 8 Flash Bang Show and Presentation Evening (<i>Invite only</i>)
Friday 10th July 2026	KS3 End of Year Reports to Parents/Carers
Monday 13th July 2026	Year 10 Work Experience Week
Wednesday 15th July 2026	Year 10 End of Year Reports to Parents/Carers
Friday 17th July 2026	Academy closes at 12.20pm

We offer a variety of enrichment/careers events for pupils during the academy day, and staff will send out more information nearer the time.



RECENT LETTERS Kindly click on the link to view the letters.

Vaping & Substance Awareness, February 2026 [Vaping & Substance Awareness Letter - Feb 26.pdf](#)

Year 11 Update Letter, February 2026 [Year 11 Update Letter - Feb 26.pdf](#)

Extra-Curricular Activities Letters, March 2026 [Extra-Curricular Activities Letter Feb 26.pdf](#)

Non Uniform Comic Relief Letter, March 2026 [Non Uniform Comic Relief 2026 Letter.pdf](#)

End of Spring Term Letter, March 2026 [End of Spring Term 2 - Apr 26.pdf](#)

Year 11 Update Letter, March 2026 [Year 11 Update Letter - March 26.pdf](#)

Follow us on social media for updates, events and academy news.



Hollingworth Academy



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BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES AT HOLLINGWORTH SPRING TERM REVIEW

I continue to be incredibly proud of all our pupils at Hollingworth Academy and we are regularly praised for the excellent conduct they show. Our academy is well known locally and beyond for promoting positive choices and our pupils have earned a strong reputation for being polite, kind and courteous. Hollingworth remains a calm, safe and purposeful environment, underpinned by our high standards and our core values of respect, responsibility and resilience. Our staff work tirelessly each day to ensure every pupil is supported to achieve their very best.

TRIPS, VISITS AND ACTIVITIES

BLACKPOOL

Our annual Blackpool trip is nearly here and we can't wait to celebrate another fantastic year with our pupils!

Year 7 and Year 8 will head to the Pleasure Beach on Tuesday 30th June 2026, followed by Year 9 and Year 10 on Wednesday 8th July. Invites for eligible pupils are on the way - keep an eye on your Arbor App!

END OF YEAR CELEBRATION TRIPS
 Tuesday 30th June - Year 7 & Year 8
 Wednesday 8th July - Year 9 & Year 10

ATTENDANCE WILL BE A MAJOR FACTOR AS TO WHETHER YOU ARE INVITED - NO DAYS OFF!

BLACKPOOL PLEASURE BEACH

Invite only
 Zero suspensions
 Zero off site disciplinary placements
 Exemplary attendance
 No more than 2 link room placements
 No instances of truancy
 Full uniform and equipment

All detentions attended, lunchtime, after school or otherwise
 All pupils must uphold our world class standards both inside and outside of the academy



YEAR 11 PROM

We're thrilled to announce that we'll be celebrating our hardworking Year 11s on Thursday 2nd July at the stunning Saddleworth Hotel! This is always a brilliant occasion and a well earned chance for pupils to relax and make lasting memories after the exam season.

Invitations will be sent out during half term 5 via Arbor. Pupils will also have several chances to win a fully funded prom ticket by earning RISE points, attending holiday and Saturday revision sessions and maintaining excellent attendance.

More details will follow after the Easter break.

EXTRA CURRICULAR CLUBS

Together with Ms Hobbs, I'm delighted to share once again the fantastic, industry standard extracurricular clubs available to our pupils.

- Rayz All Star Cheerleading (Mondays)
- Photography Club (Tuesdays)
- Event Hair Masterclass (Thursdays)
- British Sign Language Club (Thursday)

These clubs offer pupils a unique chance to develop professional skills, guided by experts from industry. To help us continue providing such high quality opportunities, we kindly ask parents for a small contribution towards the running costs.

For more information please contact Ms Hobbs via email at chobbs@hollingworthacademy.co.uk.



ATTENDANCE

We recently worked with Life Changing Educational Consultancy, who completed an attendance audit and our academy-parent partnership was highly commended. I would like to extend my sincere thanks for your continued support in prioritising your child's attendance.



If your family is experiencing any challenges with attendance, please don't hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year so we can explore support together.

We remain in the top 25% of schools nationally for attendance, and there is a strong link between our pupils' commitment to being in the academy and their exceptional GCSE outcomes. I firmly believe in creating meaningful post-16 opportunities so pupils have real choice in their next steps and strong GCSE results are key to opening those doors.

Our current attendance target is 'Every Day Until Easter', and there's also a PS5 up for grabs, with one lucky pupil set to win it in this Thursday's end of term celebration assembly. If you would like to discuss punctuality or attendance further, please contact us via email at attendance@hollingworthacademy.co.uk.

CATEGORY	THRESHOLD ATTENDANCE	ACTUAL ATTENDANCE	WHOLE DAYS ABSENT	LEARNING HOURS LOST
EXCELLENT	100% 99%	190 DAYS 188 DAYS	0 2	0 10
GOOD	98% 97% 96%	186 DAYS 184 DAYS 182.5 DAYS	4 6 7.5	20 30 37.5
CAUSE FOR CONCERN	95% 94% 93% 92% 91%	180.5 DAYS 179 DAYS 177 DAYS 175 DAYS 173 DAYS	9.5 11 13 15 17	47.5 55 65 75 85
CRITICAL	90% 89% 88% 87% 86% <86%	171 DAYS 169 DAYS 167 DAYS 165 DAYS 163 DAYS < 163 DAYS	19 21 23 25 27 >27	95 105 115 125 135 > 135



EXCELLENT	+ 0.4 grades per subject
GOOD	+ 0.1 grades per subject
CONCERN	- 0.5 grades per subject
CRITICAL	- 0.8 grades per subject

PUNCTUALITY

Punctuality is essential for a calm, focused start to the day. Our gates close at 8:40am; pupils arriving after this will be marked late. Anyone arriving after 9:10am will not receive their morning mark, which negatively affects their overall attendance.

Even small amounts of lateness add up - being just five minutes late each day results in three days of lost learning per year, while 15 minutes late adds up to two weeks of lost learning. Strong attendance and punctuality also have a direct impact on outcomes: Pupils with near perfect attendance have almost double the odds of achieving a Grade 5 in English and Maths compared with those attending 90-95% of the time.

UNIFORM & EQUIPMENT

At Hollingworth Academy, we believe our uniform, dress, and appearance expectations help strengthen our sense of identity and belonging. Please see our updated uniform graphic for full details.

It is vital that all of our pupils attend the academy fully equipped for their day ahead. We insist that all pupils carry a school bag and we recommend a backpack style for healthy posture (although this is not essential).

ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT: School bag (rucksack/backpack style), a pencil case, 3 x black pens, 1 x green pen, 1 x pencil, a ruler, a highlighter, a pencil eraser and a scientific calculator.

DESIRABLE EQUIPMENT: A maths set (compass, protractor etc.), a reading book and a water bottle.

"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"



PLAIN BLACK FLAT SHOES

(Trainer or sports styles will not be permitted, no embellishments such as embroidery, patterns, logos, athletic style airholes or bows.)

JEWELLERY

(Pupils are only permitted to wear a wristwatch (smart watches are not permitted) and one pair of stud earrings, no more than 5mm in diameter, 3D pearl style earrings are not permitted. All other jewellery is not permitted.)

MAKEUP

(Makeup is only permitted for Y10 and Y11 pupils and must be subtle. This also applies to semi-permanent makeup such as tinted eyebrows. Fake eyelashes, false tan and artificial nails are not permitted. Should any pupil attend school wearing makeup/artificial nails/lashes they will be offered the products to remove them. Non compliance will result in further sanction.)

HAIR

(Hair should be in a naturally occurring style and colour. Should not be shorter than 01 and should not have any patterns shaved or dyed in. Bows, hair ties and headbands etc. should be black in colour and be no bigger than 5cm in diameter.)

TEACHING & LEARNING REWARDS

At Hollingworth, we believe that academic success is built on more than just grades - it is rooted in the habits, mindset and dedication our pupils bring to the classroom every single day. So far this year, staff have submitted an incredible 685 nominations celebrating pupils who have consistently gone above and beyond. Each week, nominated pupils receive a range of rewards, including RISE points, early queue passes and postcards home. Over the past three half terms, these nominations have focused on six core Teaching & Learning themes:

- **ATTITUDE TO LEARNING:** Shows a positive attitude in lessons and a genuine enthusiasm for improving and learning new things.
- **ATTITUDE TO HOMEWORK:** Approaches homework with effort and independence, taking pride in giving each task their best.
- **RESILIENCE:** Keeps going when work is challenging and uses mistakes as a chance to learn and get better.
- **PARTICIPATION:** Joins in with class discussions and activities, helping to make lessons more engaging for everyone.
- **FEEDBACK:** Listens carefully to feedback and uses it to make improvements to their work.
- **PRESENTATION:** Takes care with the presentation of their work and always aims to produce something they're proud of.



A huge well done to every one of our 685 nominees! Your hard work and dedication are setting a brilliant example and having a positive impact across our academy community. Keep striving for excellence every day.

ACADEMIC NEWS

YEAR 11

Our Year 11s are working very hard and we are immensely proud of how they are progressing. The behaviour and attitudes of our pupils have been exceptional and we are thankful for your continued support.

- Our after school revision sessions are underway. These take place every afternoon from Monday to Thursday between 3.10pm and 4pm. Our pupils are engaging brilliantly; they earn lottery tickets for a weekly £50 Amazon voucher, and there is a real buzz when the draw is made every week!
- They have completed their recent mock exams in the majority of their subjects, and are building their confidence ahead of the summer exams. You should have received your child's report which provides valuable information on their progress towards the summer exams; if you have not received this then please do get in touch.
- Next term we begin the final stage of our Year 11 journey, as well as all the current support we provide our pupils - Saturday School will also begin! Please keep your eye on your emails to find out which ones your child is required to attend.
- We would encourage you to check out the exam timetable that is available to view on the Hollingworth website. <https://hollingworthacademy.co.uk/key-information/exams-information>
- The Year 11 pupils who have earned an invite are looking forward to their end of Year 11 Prom at the Saddleworth Hotel on Thursday 2nd July 2025, and we can't wait to celebrate with them!

Please also continue to keep your eye on our social media platforms for weekly tips on how best to support your child through the coming months.

Kind regards,

Mr K Clark
Assistant Headteacher



IMPORTANT DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES

Saturday School (Selected Pupils)	Saturday 25th April onwards
Examinations Begin	Friday 1st May 2026
Contingency Day (all pupils must remain available until after this date)	Wednesday 24th June 2026
Prom (Saddleworth Hotel)	Thursday 2nd July 2026

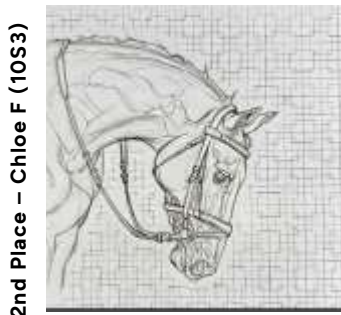
"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

YEAR OF THE HORSE COMPETITION WINNERS

At the start of this term, the Art Department launched our **Year of the Horse Competition**, inviting pupils to create their own interpretations of the theme using any traditional medium on A3 paper.

We were absolutely blown away by the creativity, skill and imagination shown across all entries. The standard of work was incredibly high and we'd like to offer a huge thank you to every pupil who took part.

A special congratulations to our winners:



We're also thrilled to share that all winning pieces will now be submitted to the **University of Sheffield's School Art Competition**; a fantastic opportunity to showcase our pupils' talent.



WINTER PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION WINNERS

Congratulations to our **Winter Photography Competition winners!**

Thank you to everyone who entered and a huge well done to our winners: **Sophia B (7S2)**, **Scarlett K (7S2)** and **Luca P (8A3)**. You've each earned 105 RISE points and your photograph will feature in our **2027 calendar**, available to pre-order on Arbor from 1st December!

Special shoutout to our runners up, who will each receive 80 RISE points: Eleanor H (8S1) and Isaac L (8O1). Look out for our upcoming Spring Photography Competition for your next chance to have your photo featured!



Sophia B (7S2)



Luca P (8A3)

Scarlett K (7S2)

YEAR 10 GCSE PHOTOGRAPHY

Inspired by the dramatic still lifes of Pieter Claesz and Guercino, our **Year 10 GCSE Photography** pupils have been experimenting with creating their own still life compositions using objects found around the department. Using careful lighting and Photoshop editing, they have recreated the rich tones, deep shadows and painterly feel of the Baroque masters - blending classic art history with modern digital skills.

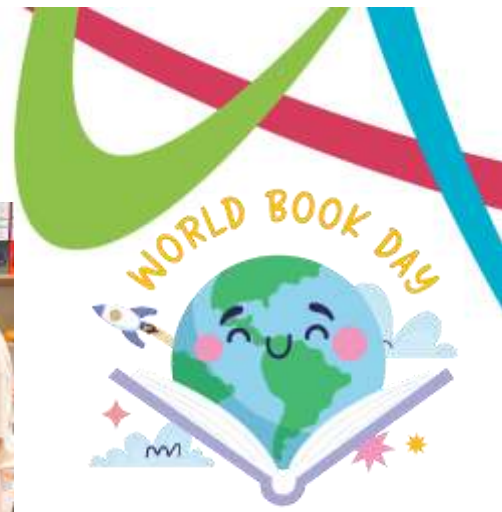


Joseph C (10P2)



Jasper T (10A2)

WORLD BOOK DAY 2026



This year's **World Book Day** was a fantastic celebration of creativity, enthusiasm and a shared love of reading across our academy community. Staff and pupils embraced the spirit of the day, making it one of our most memorable events yet.

Our staff set the tone brilliantly with their imaginative costumes. A special well done to our **Best Dressed** winners:

- **Mrs Walmsley as Harry Wormwood**
- **Mrs J Wood as The Mad Hatter**
- **The SEND Team as Where's Wally?**



Pupils also took part in a range of fun activities throughout the day. Congratulations to **7A2**, winners of **'Spot the Teacher Reading the Book'**, and to **8O2, 8S1, 9S1, 10A2 and 10O3**, winners of **'Guess the Film Based on a Book'**. As part of the celebrations, every lesson began with a special five minute reading of **The Landlady**, allowing us to reflect together on the power of storytelling and the joy of reading for pleasure.



World Book Day serves as a reminder of how transformative reading can be, it builds imagination, strengthens confidence and opens doors to new ideas and possibilities. Thank you to all staff and pupils for making the day such a success. It was a brilliant celebration of the reading culture we are proud to nurture in our academy.



SPARX READER LEADERBOARD

This term, we've been proud to celebrate the achievements of our top ten Key Stage 3 pupils on **Sparx Reader** by sharing our **Leaderboard** in the academy, with parents/carers and across social media.

Research shows that pupils who read regularly throughout school not only outperform their peers at the end of Year 11, but are also better prepared for college, work and life beyond the classroom. The more a child reads, the more confident and proficient they become - making reading an enjoyable and rewarding habit.

Please continue to encourage your child to complete their set reading each week. This simple routine supports their learning and gives them the chance to win prizes for themselves and their friends!



YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9
Molly T	Nicholas K	Skye W
Aizah Z	Amelia S	Qurat U-A
Isabella W	Emilia R	Anaya H
Cadie W	Hugo C	Elle-Mae S
Freddie H	Toby L	Marcus R
Sumayya K	Lucas O	
Tayyab H	Georgie	
Jacob M-S		
Elise C		
Olivia C		
Ali K		

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD - THE LOWRY

Last term, the English Department took twenty **KS3 pupils** to the Lowry in Salford to watch a powerful stage production of **To Kill a Mockingbird**, supporting the texts and themes studied in our schemes of learning.

The trip provided pupils with the opportunity to experience the novel brought to life on stage, deepening their understanding of key characters, themes and the historical context of the story. Pupils represented the academy brilliantly and engaged thoughtfully with the performance throughout the evening.

DEBATE MATE

Since the beginning of the academic year, Hollingworth has been running a **debating society** after school on a Tuesday, Room 205. During this, four teams of two argue for and against a point of view.

We have discussed everything from AI, social media, freedom of speech, economics and whether Christmas is better than New Year. A great way to look at new topics, think on the spot and build confidence in public speaking.



HISTORY NEWS

HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY



Our pupils took part in a special assembly to mark **Holocaust Memorial Day**, which is commemorated each year on 27th January, the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz Birkenau. The assembly helped pupils understand why we remember the six million Jewish people murdered during the Holocaust, as well as the millions of Roma and Sinti people, disabled people, Black people, LGBTQ+ people and political opponents targeted by the Nazis. They also learned that genocide did not end in 1945, with later atrocities in Cambodia, Rwanda, Bosnia and Darfur reminding us why remembrance still matters.

The assembly encouraged pupils to reflect on how prejudice begins, with words, stereotypes and discrimination, and how ordinary people, including children like Bea Green, were affected. As part of our commitment to "Never Again," pupils were invited to consider how they can challenge unkindness, stand up against prejudice and support others in their daily lives. The History Department hopes this message of responsibility and kindness continues to guide our school community.



Our four day visit to **Berlin** was an unforgettable opportunity for pupils to see history come to life. From standing at world famous landmarks to exploring museums, memorials, and sites of remembrance; each day offered powerful learning experiences that deepened our understanding of Europe's past.

Day 1: We began in Alexanderplatz before visiting the quiet reflection space of the Neue Wache War Memorial. Standing at the Brandenburg Gate helped bring our History lessons to life, making the stories of Europe's past feel real and immediate.



Day 2: Walking along Bernauer Strasse and exploring life behind the Berlin Wall at the DDR Museum helped pupils understand the human impact of division. The East Side Gallery showed how art can tell stories of hope and change, while the visit to the former Stasi Prison offered a powerful and sobering insight into life under dictatorship. We rounded off the day with a fun evening of bowling.

Day 3: Visiting Plötzensee and Sachsenhausen Memorial and Museum gave pupils deeper insight into the lives affected by injustice. At the Memorial to the Murdered Jews of Europe and the Jewish Museum, they explored stories of loss, resilience and identity. The evening ended with some downtime at the Mall of Berlin.



Final Day: Our last morning included visits to Checkpoint Charlie, the Memorial of the Uprising of 17th June 1953, and the Topography of Terror; each offering powerful lessons about resistance, dictatorship and the importance of remembering the past.

Our pupils were outstanding throughout: engaged, respectful and an absolute credit to the academy.

YEAR 7 - INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

Our Year 7 pupils have been exploring the **Industrial Revolution** and the challenges faced by factory workers. Their task was to design the perfect factory that boosts both wealth and wellbeing.

Some brilliant ideas from our young innovators!



MATHEMATICS NEWS

SPARX MATHS LEADERBOARDS

This academic year we introduced the **Sparx Maths Leaderboard**, as we really wanted to reward pupils for engaging with homework, and for doing extra work to improve their Maths skills independently. This has been a roaring success, and we have even more pupils completing homework to an even higher standard than previous years. Pupils are also being rewarded for their hard work, with shoutouts on social media, front of queue pass rewards and certificates for our top three in each year group. Well done to all pupils who have been working hard on homework, it really will make a big impact.

YEAR 7	YEAR 8	YEAR 9	YEAR 10	YEAR 11
Ally L...	Amos B...	Harvey B...	Oliver H...	Thomas W...
Madison R...	Melanie W...	Harriet S...	Anna L...	Lucy B...
Jordan C...	Aryan A...	Benjamin M...	Toby M...	Ryan A...
Ben H...	David H...	Julian L...	Mouhammad F...	Thomas C...
Caroline B...	Freddie D...	Harriet A...	Amos P...	Thomas A...
James H...	James S...	Julian A...	Samuel F...	Lucy A...
Harriet M & B...	Hayden E...	Ally H...	Lucy H...	Amos J...
Harriet B...	Harvey H...	Oliver H...	Amos L...	Lucy S...
Samuel I...	Amos A...	Oliver H...	Mou L...	Amos H...
Yasmine B...	Harvey H...	Harriet H...	Harriet H...	Amos H...

INTERNATIONAL PI DAY

On Friday 13th March, the Maths department marked **International Pi Day** with a fun competition! Pupils were challenged to recite as many digits of pi as they could memorise, and we were incredibly impressed with their efforts.

We are delighted to announce this year's winners:

- 1st Place: Molly T (7S1) – 162 digits**
- 2nd Place: Scarlett G (7S1) – 62 digits**
- 3rd Place: Yaseen I I (7O1) – 40 digits**

All participants earned RISE points for their House, and Molly took home a delicious pie for her outstanding achievement. We can't wait to see how many digits our pupils can memorise next year!



Molly T (7S1)

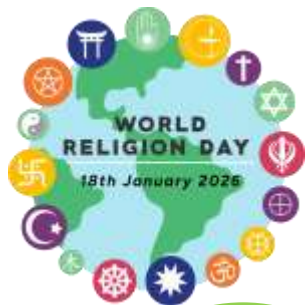
RELIGIOUS STUDIES

WORLD RELIGION DAY ASSEMBLY

The RE department led the academy assembly to mark **World Religion Day**, which took place on Sunday 18th January. The focus of the assembly was to celebrate the value of living in a multicultural and plural society and to highlight how learning about world religions can help reduce misunderstanding, stereotypes and conflict.

Pupils were reminded that we live in a world with many different beliefs and that understanding these beliefs can lead to something powerful:

- Increased respect.
- Greater empathy.
- Improved ability to live together.



As part of the assembly, pupils explored the Golden Rule, a teaching shared across many religions, and considered similarities between different belief systems. They also looked at a real-world example of faith in action; the Manchester Sikh community, who provide a weekly langar (free meal) in Piccadilly Gardens.

To encourage understanding beyond the assembly, pupils were set a World Religion Day Challenge, asking them to complete one small action that builds mutual respect, such as:

- Learning a new fact about an unfamiliar religion.
- Asking someone respectfully about a festival they celebrate.
- Showing kindness to someone outside their usual friendship group.
- Visiting the library or speaking to the RE department to learn more about world religions.



SCIENCE UPDATE

This term, **Year 7** pupils have explored a range of scientific topics, including **energy**, where they investigated the energy content of different foods and fuels while developing safe and respectful practical skills. They also studied **reproduction, particles** and the **human muscular and skeletal systems**, building a strong foundation for future learning.

Year 8 continued to show excellent curiosity and determination through hands-on work with **rocks and metals**, comparing reactions and strengthening their scientific understanding. Their studies on **breathing and respiration** included a demonstration of a lung dissection and an investigation into how exercise affects breathing rate, alongside further work on fluids that encouraged teamwork and problem solving.

Year 9 reached an important milestone as they prepared for their end of **Key Stage 3 assessment** on Thursday 26th March. Their commitment, responsibility and resilience were clear throughout and they are now well prepared and ready to begin their GCSE science content after the Easter break.



THINK FORENSICS

Our Year 10 pupils recently stepped into the shoes of crime scene investigators during an immersive workshop hosted by **Think Forensics**. To ensure a fully authentic experience, pupils donned professional PPE before entering a meticulously staged "crime scene" to begin their investigation. Throughout the session, they mastered specialised techniques including hair sample analysis, footprint casting and fingerprint lifting to gather vital evidence.

It was fantastic to see our pupils apply such high levels of teamwork, analytical precision and critical thinking as they pieced together the clues to solve the case. This hands-on event provided a brilliant insight into the real-world applications of science and potential career paths in forensic disciplines.



BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK

Our Science Department has been buzzing with excitement as we celebrated **British Science Week**, centred around the theme of **Curiosity**.

Pupils in Year 7 and Year 9 dived into the wonders of surface tension by testing how many droplets of water a single coin could hold. The results were truly surprising, with some steady hands managing to balance up to 30 drops before the "bubble" burst! To extend their thinking, pupils experimented with different coin sizes and investigated how adding dish soap altered the water's properties.

Don't worry if your child is in Year 8, they will be getting hands-on with this investigation in the coming weeks too!



MOWTIVATORS GARDENING CLUB

The **Gardening Club** welcomes all aspiring gardeners and meets every **Wednesday at 3:15pm - 4:00pm** in Room 127. It's an excellent opportunity for pupils to develop green thumbs and deepen their understanding of horticulture.



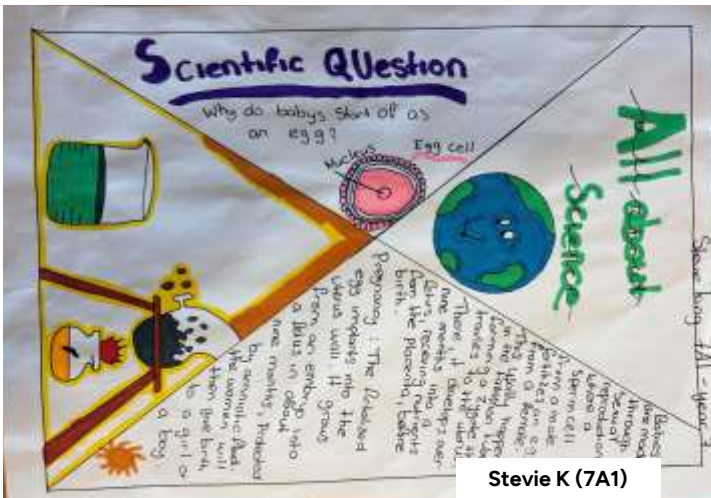
SCIENCE WEEK POSTER COMPETITION



Codie W (7S1)

A huge congratulations to all the pupils who tapped into their curiosity for our **British Science Week poster competition**. The quality of entries was truly impressive, but a special spotlight goes to **Ammarah A (9A1)**, who has been crowned our overall winner! For her incredible creativity, Ammarah has walked away with the grand prize: a build-your-own cyborg hand.

We would also like to celebrate our talented runners-up, **Codie W (7S1)** and **Stevie K (7A1)**, who have both earned extra Rise points for their fantastic efforts and scientific flair. Thank you to everyone who participated and showed us what curiosity looks like in action!



Stevie K (7A1)



Ammarah A (9A1)

ACADEMY NEWS

PUPIL REWARDS

Follow us on social media to stay up to date with our weekly pupil rewards! Each week, we share our **Pupil Shoutout** nominations, where academy staff recognise pupils for their achievements and efforts. We also celebrate our **Tutor Star of the Week**, with pupils nominated by their form tutors. A winner from each year group is chosen at random, earning a **front of the queue pass** for themselves and a friend! All winners are then entered into a draw at the end of the term for a **Star of the Week Rewards Breakfast**.



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

We are proud to celebrate the outstanding achievements of our incredible pupils. Stay connected and be the first to hear about the academy's latest exciting news by following us on social media.



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STUDENT LEADERSHIP UPDATE



Our **Student Leadership Programme** has had an exciting and successful relaunch this year. Following our assemblies in HT1 and HT6, we received applications from pupils across Years 7 – 10, and after a formal interview process, our new **Head Ambassadors** and **Senior Student Leaders** were appointed. Additional Student Leader sub-sections were then selected and celebrated in tutor time, followed by a whole school assembly.

On 5th February, each subsection held its first planning meeting, where leaders developed the questions they wanted to pose to our wider school community. Staff were also introduced to our new Smart School Council Programme, supported by training and guidance.

During the week commencing 9th February, every tutor group in Years 7 – 10 took part in their first class meeting, responding to a question devised by the Student Leaders. Engagement across the academy was excellent, and feedback from pupils and staff was overwhelmingly positive. All leaders have now received their new branded badges, and on Thursday 12th March, subsections met again, this time facilitated by our Senior Leaders, to review class meeting results and plan next steps. A special mention goes to our **Eco Leaders**, who have already secured a fantastic **£500 donation** towards the academy's reusable water bottle campaign.

We are incredibly proud of the maturity, creativity, and commitment our Student Leaders have shown so far, and we look forward to seeing their impact continue to grow throughout the year.



NEW CANOPY INSTALLED

We're pleased to share that a **new canopy** has been installed in our amphitheatre area this term.

This improvement means pupils now have a sheltered space to use during break and lunchtime, whatever the weather.



"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

PUPIL FUNDRAISING



It was wonderful to see all our tutor groups getting involved in this year's House Competition, "Design Yer Nose", for **Comic Relief**. Each group decorated their very own red nose with a theme of their choice, and the creativity on display was fantastic.

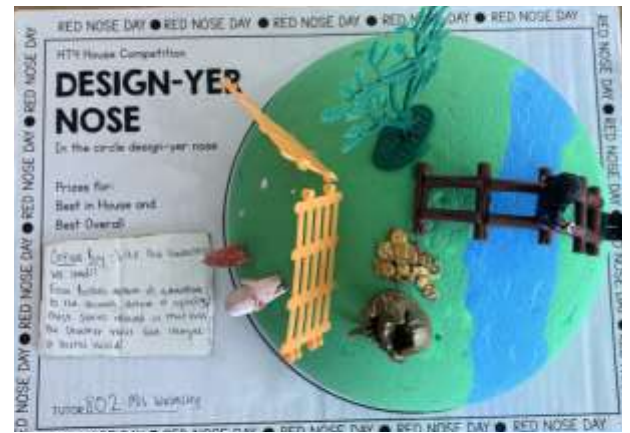
A huge congratulations to our House Winners:

- Altair – 9A2**
- Orion - 1002**
- Pegasus – 8P2**
- Sirius – 7S3**



An extra special well done to our Overall Winner: **Orion – 8O2**

In addition to the competition, staff and pupils were invited to wear red for our Comic Relief non uniform day. Thanks to your generosity, we are delighted to share that we raised **£441** for this important cause.



MAYOR'S YOUTH AWARD NOMINATIONS

We are delighted to share that **Rosithaa S (1002)** and **Chloe R (11PM)** have been nominated for the **Mayor's Youth Award**. This is a wonderful recognition of their hard work, dedication and the positive impact they make within our school community.

Rosithaa and Chloe will attend the official **awards ceremony** at Champness Hall, Rochdale, where nominees from across the borough will be celebrated. The Rochdale Youth Service's annual Mayor's Youth Awards highlight the outstanding achievements, contributions and personal development of young people throughout the Rochdale borough. Congratulations, Rosithaa and Chloe! You are fantastic role models for our academy community.



SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



The **Scholastic Book Fair** has been extended and will now be available until **Thursday 23 April 2026!**

This is a great opportunity for pupils to explore a wide range of exciting books and discover new favourites.

If your child has reserved a book, please log onto **Arbor Pay** and complete the payment by **Wednesday 22nd April**. Any books not paid for by this date will unfortunately need to be returned to Scholastic.

Thank you for your support in encouraging a love of reading!

"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

Celebrating the success and sporting moments of our pupils.

Y7 & 8 ROCHDALE INDOOR ATHLETICS COMPETITION



Jacob M-S (7O2), Jake R (7O3), Willis H (7O2), Henry S (7O2), Sean Ikenna EG (7O1) & Reo H (7P2)



Brooke A (7A1), Pearl C (7A1), Ella F (7S1) & Elsie P (7P2)



Lola W (8P2), Siena D (8P3), Temide M (8A3), Tilley D (8P2) & Evie W (8O2)



Earlier this term, our **Year 7 and Year 8 Indoor Athletics teams** took part in a competition against other Rochdale schools at Kingsway Park High School. Pupils competed in a variety of field events, including standing long jump, standing triple jump, standing high jump, indoor javelin and speed bounce, as well as a range of running events. All our pupils performed brilliantly, with the Year 8 girls achieving a fantastic result by winning silver medals. Both boys teams narrowly missed out on a podium place, finishing in a close 4th position, while our Year 7 girls secured a respectable 5th place. There will be more athletics competitions in the summer term - so watch this space! *Image Top Right: Dorian L (8A3), Ollie B (8O2), Kian T (8O1), Luca P (8O1) & Frankie C (8O1)*

GIRLS BADMINTON

The level of commitment shown by the **girls badminton team** has been outstanding. They have trained exceptionally hard each week, continually developing their techniques and improving their tactical play.

Each round of fixtures against other schools involved two singles matches and two doubles matches, with points awarded to the school winning the most games. If the games were tied, the winner was determined by the school with the highest total points scored across all four matches.

This format highlights the importance of teamwork, with every point contributing to the overall result over the two fixture nights. Looking at the scores, it's clear just how impressively all the teams performed.

KEY STAGE 4 TEAM – ROCHDALE CHAMPIONS

Played 8 schools, winning all 8 fixtures. 32 games played, won 25 games and lost 7 games.

KEY STAGE 3 - YEAR 9 TEAM – RUNNERS UP

Played 8 schools, winning 7 fixtures and losing just 1 fixture. 32 games played, won 26 games and lost 6 games.

KEY STAGE 3 - YEAR 8 TEAM – 4TH PLACE

This was a great performance as I entered two teams into the KS3 tournament, the girls were therefore playing against players a year older than themselves. Played 8 schools, winning 4 fixtures and losing 4 fixtures. 32 games played, won 16 games and lost 16 games.

YEAR 7 TEAM – ROCHDALE CHAMPIONS

Played 8 schools, winning all 8 fixtures. 32 games played, won 24 games and lost 8 games.



Lucie M (10S3), Clemence L (10O3), Daisy W (10O3), Evie R (11CB), Ruby D (11JM) & Jessica B (10O3)



Poppy C (9O1), Sophia M (9A2), Myla T-G (9A3), Arshi F (9S1), Hattie A (9P2) & Amelia L (9S2)



Isla S (8S2), Huma K (8O1), Safaa U-R (8P1), Holly W (9O1), Temide M (8A3), Lola W (8P2) & Layyah H (8S1)



Anaya K (7O1), Eva G (7O1), Aaylah H (7S2), Zainab H (7O1), Sophie H (7P2) & Vyka N (7S3)

YEARS 8 & 9 BADMINTON



Hurairah S (9S2) , Alfie S (9O2), Dylan S (9A3), Hai Dang (9O2), Zach W (9O1), Jayden T (9PT) & Theo B (9P3)



Willis H (7O2), Holly W (9O1), Alice H (9A2), Charlie H (9A2) & Nellie K (7S2)

YEAR 7 BOYS FOOTBALL

The team performed exceptionally well in the **Rochdale Schools' 6-a-side tournament** at Matthew Moss High School. After securing several impressive wins in the group stages, they unfortunately exited the competition following a tense penalty shoot-out in the semi final. Building on a fantastic unbeaten run in the Rochdale Schools' Football League during the first half of the season, our Year 7 boys entered the play offs this term. They competed in a very closely fought semi final, losing by just a single goal, but responded brilliantly by winning the 3rd and 4th place play off, securing 3rd place in the league section of the season. Our focus now turns to the Rochdale Schools' Cup competition. Having already earned a 7-5 victory against Holy Family in their quarter final match, we now await confirmation of our semi final opponents!

Jenson A (7A2), Mohammed Nayeem B (7S2),
Arnie B (7O2), Tyler C (7S3), Sean Ikenna E-G
(7O1), Reo H (7P2), Jacob M-S (7O2), Sonny R
(7A1), Jake R (7O3), George R-M (7O3)
& Archie S (7O2)

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"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

A fantastic effort from the boys secured them the Plate Winners' medals. After winning their first two matches, they faced a final opponent who had also won both of their opening games - setting up a decisive, winner takes all match. In a tightly contested fixture, the singles and doubles games ended in a 2-2 draw, leading to a countback, where all game points are added together to determine the overall winner. Thanks to their resilience and the higher number of points scored even in the games they lost, Hollingworth came out winners overall.

BOWLING

Outstanding achievements from our incredible **SEND Bowling team**. Following their impressive success at the Rochdale Schools' Competition, the team went on to compete in the Greater Manchester Tournament, where they were victorious once again!

Their win means they will now proudly **represent Greater Manchester** in the **North West Competition** taking place in May 2026. This is a remarkable accomplishment, and we are extremely proud of every member of the team. Congratulations to all our players on their hard work, determination and fantastic performances.

YEARS 9 & 10 GIRLS FOOTBALL

YEAR 9 ROCHDALE CHAMPIONS



Poppy C (901), Safaa U-R (8P1), Holly W (901), Temide M (8A3), Siena D (8P3), Layyah H (8S1), Huma K (801) & Emelia R (801)

YEAR 10 ROCHDALE CHAMPIONS



Jessica B (10O3), Clemence L (10O3), Lucie M (10S3), Daisy W (10O3), Elena D (10S3), Sophia M (9A2) & Holly W (901)

HALL OF FAME

We are proud to celebrate the fantastic sporting achievements our pupils have accomplished beyond the academy.

If you would like to share your child's sporting success, please get in touch with the academy.

The **girls football teams** have enjoyed another great season. Their passion, commitment and enthusiasm shine through in every performance. They work hard for one another, demonstrating excellent spatial awareness, fluid link-up play and the ability to create fantastic goal scoring opportunities.

The **Year 10 team**, made up of both Year 9 and Year 10 players, has impressively **maintained their four year unbeaten record**, an exceptional accomplishment! In this year's tournament, they won every match, scoring eleven goals and conceding only two. The **Year 9 team**, consisting mainly of Year 8 players alongside a small number of Year 9s, rose brilliantly to the challenge of competing against older opposition. They secured three wins, two draws and just one loss, earning a total of eleven points and ultimately winning the tournament.

TRAMPOLINING - ROCHDALE SCHOOLS' COMPETITION



Y7

Beginner (2nd): River, Lily K, Elsie P & Elsa
Intermediate (1st): Scarlett, Olivia & Maddison
Advanced (2nd): Jenson, Brooke & Amelia



Y8

Beginner (1st): Temide, Aaliyah, Eva B
Intermediate (2nd): Eleanor, Florence & Lola
Advanced (1st) - Lola, Isla & Lacie



Y9

Charlie H (9A2), Ivy B (9A2), Holly W (901),
Oliver M (9S2) & Lilly R (9P2)



Y10

Clemie L (10O3), Ava K (10P1), Jessica B (10O3),
Elena D (10S3), Poppy S (10S1), Lucie M (10S3),
Amelia W (9A3) & Myla T-G (9A3)

A huge well done to all our trampoliners! Amazing performances and resilience at the recent **Rochdale Schools' Competition!** We're so proud to share that everyone was placed either first, second or third, meaning every competitor went home with a medal!

XTEND MULTI SPORTS



Well done to our amazing **XTEND multi sports team** who won the **Panathlon Challenge Rochdale Schools' competition.** They will now go on to represent Rochdale in the county finals. A fantastic achievement, congratulations to everyone involved!

Holly W (901), Alesha D (9A2), Lucas O (8A2),
Alice H (9A2), Willis H (7O2) & Charlie H (9A2)

"EVERYONE EXCELS EVERYDAY"

PUPIL SHOUTOUTS



Congratulations to the following pupils who have been nominated for a Pupil Shoutout this term.

YEAR 7 SHOUTOUTS

- Amelia B (7O3)** Amazing effort in Art! (Miss Siddle)
- Aaylah H, Sophie H, Vyka N, Eva G, Zainab H & Anaya K (Badminton Team)** Congratulations to all the girls, they trained hard each week last half term and have just been crowned Rochdale Champions. They played eight schools over the two tournament nights and won all eight matches, undefeated champions, well done girls. (Mrs Warriner)
- Olivia L (7P2)** Made a great start to debating club, giving winning speeches! (Mr Jaffray)
- Khadijah A (7O3)** Khadijah works so hard every lesson. She is a quiet pupil who just 'gets on with it' without any fuss. She takes care with the presentation of her work and always completes homework on time. Well done! (Mrs Collier)
- Louie N (7P2)** Louie is such a polite pupil who works well every lesson, works without fuss and completes homework on time every week. Keep up the good work Louie! (Mrs Collier)
- Jake R (7O3)** Jake has shown amazing responsibility and has worked incredibly hard to revise and work towards his recent Science test - well done! (Miss Camilleri)
- Scarlett G (7S1)** In Maths, Scarlett has been doing so well, she is so focused and is consistently going above and beyond! I am so proud of you Scarlett, keep up the amazing work! Well done! (Mrs Noorgat)
- Ebony T (7P2)** Always very helpful during tutor times. (Mrs Thomas)
- Zohair M (7P1)** Brilliant character reading in English! (Miss Ogubjobi)
- Jacob MS (7O2)** Jacob you are working really hard in Maths. You are keen to answer the questions in class and always complete your homework on time. Keep up with good work! (Mrs Collier)

YEAR 8 SHOUTOUTS

- Mahek Q (8S2)** An absolutely, amazing attitude to work. The work and effort you have been putting in to your History studies has been incredible. Keep it up! (Miss Sweeney)
- Layyah H Safaa U-R, Temide M, Isla S, Lola W, Huma K & Holly W (Badminton Team)** The Year 8 girls competed really well over the two tournament nights. They were competing against most of the Year 9 teams and rose to the challenge. They finished 4th place out of 9 teams and just missed out on the bronze medal position by one point after all the points from 20 matches were added together.
- Arfah M (8S1)** Arfah is so polite and well mannered and is very supportive to other pupils in the room, which is wonderful to see. Keep being you, Arfah. (Mrs Szlatoszlavek)
- Aryan A (8A1)** Always trying his best in Science, never being afraid of putting his hand up and contributing to the class. An absolute pleasure to teach! (Mrs Smith)
- Charlie D (8O2)** Charlie has achieved some great post test results, (above his target) since he has returned to class. Keep up the great work Charlie and don't lose your focus - you are doing fabulous so far and I am very proud of you for your hard work. (Mrs Crispin)
- Jenson S (8P3)** Jenson has been trying exceptionally hard in Maths. He is always polite and kind to myself and to his peers. Very proud of you Jenson. (Mrs Crispin)
- Ethan D (8A2)** Ethan excels everyday in science. He is responsible, always doing the right thing and gives some great answers and contributions in lessons. (Mrs Camilleri)
- Temide M, Huma K, Emelia R, Siena D, Safaa UR, Layaah H (Football Team)** Congratulations to the Y8 and 9 girls football team who won the Rochdale Football Tournament on Tuesday 3rd March. They won three games, drew two games and lost one. They conducted themselves well, maintaining a great deal of possession and scored some great goals. (Mrs Warriner)
- Set 1 Girls (8X-PE4)** They set 1 girls are amazing at rugby, they listen carefully, fully implement the correct technique for each of the different tackles (smother, front and rear), fully engage each lesson and achieve so much. A real pleasure to teach. (Mrs Warriner)
- Rehan J (8S2)** Well done for your contributions to English! (Mrs Ogunjobi)

YEAR 9 SHOUTOUTS

- Rosie B (9S1)** You are a fearless rugby player, the tackles you were executing during the match play in lessons were simply outstanding. 100% commitment in grounding your opponents, great work. (Mrs Warriner)
- Arshi F, Sophia M, Poppy C, Myla T-G, Hattie A & Amelia L (Badminton Team)** Super work over the two tournament night, played nine schools - won eight and lost one. Well done for achieving silver medals and achieving the runner up positions. (Mrs Warriner)

Declan MD (9A3)	Declan has been doing so well in class, he is going above and beyond and always tries his best. Well done Declan, keep up the amazing work! (Mrs Noorgat)
Hattie A (9P2)	For always giving the best book recommendations! (Ms Saeed)
George N (9A2)	For the last two weeks George has been amazing. I have seen such a huge change in his behaviour, he is consistently focused in lesson and he always tries his best! I am so proud of him! Well done George, keep up the amazing work! (Mrs Noorgat)
Lilly W (9O2)	Great attention to detail in her work and fantastic engagement in Spanish lessons. (Ms Gallastegui)
Thomas H (9A1)	Excellent attitude to learning demonstrated in English this week! (Miss Saeed)
Poppy C & Y9 Football Team	Congratulations to the Y8 and 9 girls football team who won the Rochdale Football Tournament on Tuesday 3rd March. They won three games, drew two games and lost one. They conducted themselves well, maintaining a great deal of possession and scored some great goals. (Mrs Warriner)
Hannah W (9A3) & Harry S (9S1)	Going above and beyond in a Food Tech lesson, helping out with washing up and cleaning to ensure the class got to leave on the bell. Thank you for being such a superstar. (Mrs Doran)

YEAR 10 SHOUTOUTS

Harry HC (10P1)	Every single day you come in smiling, looking absolutely pristine! You start my day off the right way and always take the time to say "Good Morning". Thank you for always being so happy and smiley! (Mrs E Robinson)
Evie R, Ruby D, Jessica B, Daisy W, Lucie M & Clemence L (10/11 Badminton team)	Congratulations on winning the Rochdale Badminton Championships. Your hard work in training has been rewarded with a great set of results. You are undefeated champions, played 10 schools over the two nights and won all 10 fixtures. (Mrs Warriner)
Mohammad M (10A1)	Mujtaba is working with dedication and commitment during is EAL interventions. He is taking responsibility for his own learning and will ask for extra support in order to help him with his language. Keep up the good work! (Mrs Matloob)
Rosithaa S, Fahmida A, Meerab N	All three of you were an absolute pleasure and delight to have with me on Options Evening, I could not have managed without. Thank you so much for everything you did to help and allow the evening to run so successfully. You are all amazing. (Mrs Maddison)
Oscar R (10O2)	Works very well in science, great competitiveness with other pupils to be the best! (Mr Britton)
Annabel, Lukeny, Lewis, Daisy, Jessica, Elena, Mollie, Lucie, Clemie, Tom, Sammy	For being amazing, reliable Sports Leaders. They all helped to run two primary school dodgeball competitions, hosted at Hollingworth. Giving up their time after school, thank you. (Mrs Thomas)
Faye S (10S2)	For your excellent enthusiasm and effort in English! (Miss Talks)
Clemence L, Lucie M, Elena D, Jessica B, Daisy W, Sophie M & Holly W	Congratulations to all the team who had a great night at the Year 10 Football Tournament. They remain undefeated champions of Rochdale; they scored eleven goals and conceded two against them on the night. Great work everyone. (Mrs Warriner)
William M (10P1)	Well done on a great start to the Spring Term. Much improved A2L. (Mr O'Connor)
Annabel H (10A1)	Thank you for always helping me by running to the office! Those little jobs do help a lot in making lessons run smoother, so thank you! (Miss Sweeney)

YEAR 11 SHOUTOUTS

Daisy F (11JS)	Well done for showing great resilience—your hard work is paying off! (Mrs Inman)
Evie R, Ruby D, Jessica B, Daisy W, Lucie M & Clemence L	Congratulations on winning the Rochdale Badminton Championships. Your hard work in training has been rewarded with a great set of results. You are undefeated champions, played 10 schools over the two nights and won all 10 fixtures. (Mrs Warriner)
Amanda G (11CB)	Amanda is always offering to help in class and is overall a wonderful pupil to teach! (Miss Saeed)
Maddison F (11SC)	For being amazing and locking in! (Mrs Begum)
Liam S (11PM)	For doing brilliantly in his end of unit test in Biology with Mr Bremner! Well done! (Mrs Wainwright)
Sadie B (11JM)	You're such a ray of sunshine! Never lose that Sadie, never lose it! (Miss Sweeney)
Lacey J (11LR)	For being an absolutely awesome member of our class. Always focused, always determined to work hard and success. Your hard work will pay off as you deserve to get a fantastic grade. So proud of you. (Mrs Hoines)
Callum H (11KS)	Callum has worked incredibly hard all year in Science but has really stepped it up for the March mock examinations. The scores he's been achieving and answers he's giving show true dedication and hard work. Well done Callum! (Miss Camilleri)
Lillia R (11JS)	Your effort in Physics has not gone un-noticed! Your mock grade improvement has shown the hard work is paying off and I'm so proud of you. Keep it up and your results in the summer will be amazing. (Mrs Smith)
Chloe R (11PM)	For being such an inspirational young woman - she is incredible. Always gives everything 110%, tries her best at everything, and makes sure that others around her are doing their best too. (Mrs Brogan)