

Being Walkden

World Book day,
full story
page 3



We are incredibly proud to have been recognised as one of the top 5 in Salford for referring Young Carers for additional support.


**Gaddum
... Carers
Champion**
Co-Op Academy
Walkden
Top Referrer 2024

Dates for your diary

Thursday 28th March - Academy closes for Easter break

Monday 8th April - Year 11 Easter holiday revision sessions

Monday 15th April - Start of Summer term 8.25am

Thursday 18th April - Year 7 Progress Review 4-7pm

Tuesday 30th April - GCSE exams begin

A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parent/carer

Welcome to our latest newsletter. It's now the end of the Spring term. The clocks go forward an hour on Saturday night and we can look forward to longer days when we return after Easter. I want to wish everyone a peaceful couple of weeks, ready for our start of the Summer term on Monday 15th April.



From the first day back after Easter, we will be resetting expectations of uniform standards and it's worth reminding all of our families of some of the main reasons for having the uniform in the first place. In short, our uniform:

- is practical and smart
- is fair and makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and reduces peer pressure to dress in 'designer' fashions;
- promotes a sense of pride in the academy;
- Is good value for money;
- promotes a sense of community and belonging towards the academy;
- can assist identification of strangers on school premises

Most of our students consistently wear their uniform with pride, however there have been increasing numbers of pupils who are not wearing it correctly and this needs to be addressed immediately. The main areas of concern are inappropriate footwear (mainly trainers), inappropriate jewellery, rather than the single pair of studs and missing items such as a blazer.

Please ensure that your child has all the correct items of uniform, including plain black school shoes. We realise that some manufacturers market trainer style shoes as 'school shoes', but the easiest test is 'can they be polished' and are they an obvious shoe that cannot be mistaken for a trainer.

Wearing the right uniform is a basic expectation of attending Co-op Academy Walkden and we therefore need it to be right, rather than it becoming a focus of unnecessary attention. We will be checking on uniform standards every day, to ensure that everyone is treated fairly and of course if expectations are not being met, then we will need to issue consequences. Your support with this is greatly appreciated and as always, if you are experiencing hardship which is presenting a challenge to buying any item of uniform, we can help. Please just let us know via walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk if you'd like to discuss this.

Best wishes

Matt Hacker
Principal

Breakfast Club



Starting from Summer term
(Monday 15th April 2024)
Co-op Academy Walkden will be

offering a free bagel to every student, helping to fuel
them for a day of learning ahead.

All other breakfast items will be available to purchase
as normal.

There are many benefits to eating breakfast, it is
considered the most important meal of the day and
having breakfast available at the academy helps
students to arrive on time and gives them the chance
to enjoy breakfast whilst socialising with friends at the
start of the day.

Breakfast service is available from 8am until 8.25am

Parking

A polite reminder that
parking on-site at drop off
and pick up times is for
taxis for pupils in The
Hive only. Please use
local roads, whilst taking
care not to block
residents driveways.

GCSE Easter Revision

Please find below a link to the Easter Revision
Timetable

[Easter Revision](#)

World Book day 2024

Students had the opportunity to practise their book choice skills in the fun environment of a "book tasting café".

The library was transformed into a bustling French bistro with nibbles being served, tablecloths, napkins and tinkling piano music in the background. books however, not food, were on the menu!

Miss Shannon and the student librarians were on hand to help with book choice strategies and book chat prompts to enable pupils to choose a book based on their interests.



Our Co-op Academy Walkden staff really got into the spirit of things on World Book day, departments chose a theme and dressed up for the day.

Student success

Year 11 student Lucy gave a solo performance at the Young Musician of the Year. We are still awaiting results but regardless of where Lucy comes in the competition, we are incredibly proud.



One of our previous Co-op Academy Walkden students Thomas has been celebrated for his Olympic success making his Team GB debut at Appeldoorn, Netherlands

You can read more [here](#)



One of our Year 7 students Harrison won the "D Bailey Memorial Trophy" for winning 1st prize in the Grade 3 standard brass class at Ramsbottom Music Festival.

Well done Harrison!



Interview with Amelie

We like to celebrate the success of all students and this month we interviewed one of our Year 10 students Amelie. Amelie has achieved huge success in her swimming career, earning the position of 8th in the world with the British Olympic Trials on the horizon for April.



What does a day in the life of Amelie look like?

I wake up at 4,40am, have breakfast (porridge), and go to morning training (where I cover approximately 5km in the pool). I then come home and have my second breakfast before school, walk to school, walk home school, make a quick snack, go swimming training again (2.5 hours in the pool, sometimes the gym). I usually have Wednesday evenings and most weekends, when not competing, free for my own time to do normal teenage girl things, like shopping and time with friends.

When did you first discover a love for swimming?

My mum sent me to swimming lessons as a kid, I was then put in an academy and from there didn't stop. I had the option of continuing with dance, football, gymnastics or swimming...but I chose to follow my older sister into the swimming world, she was really good and I wanted to be like her! My sister still swims so it's a family thing!

Which 3 words would you use to describe yourself?

Determined, Upbeat, Competitive

Who is your ultimate idol? (sports or otherwise)

Michael Phelps (Most decorated swimmer ever) and Katie Ledecky (She has won seven Olympic gold medals and 21 world championship).

Do you have any interesting competition day rituals?

I have a lucky swimsuit but I can't wear it for competition anymore so it is going to be framed and put on the wall.

How do you manage your swimming schedule and school life?

It can be quite hard and I do struggle to get the balance right. I sometimes do my homework in the car on the way to training or to events. I have to dedicate a lot of time to analysing my health and nutrition and receiving feedback from professionals who work with me. I do try to keep up to speed with my school work and I know that in year 11 that will be a little bit harder.

What is the best piece of advice you have ever been given?

Do or do not, there is no try...Grandad

What is the next goal you're working towards?

It was a huge achievement to be selected for team GB. Maybe a European junior medal in July, I have qualifiers for this in April. My long term goal is the Olympics

Offsite trips

We have had multiple trips this half term....here are some of the moments we captured



Creative Spark Project



Year 9 Geography trip to Mayfield Depot



Lancashire Mining Museum



The Reach Project



Salford Schools Library Service

Science week Y7 challenge: Zeppelin balloon

Q1. What are you making?

You are creating a Zeppelin that is powered by a balloon that stretches across two poles and a rope in the middle.

Q2. What are you doing?

You will be racing your Zeppelin balloon against other competitors to see who will get the lowest time. You can win a prize if you win!



British Science Week Competition

Students were asked to create a zeppelin that was then powered by a balloon and we measured the time and distance they travelled.

Students learnt that weight and mass made a difference to how their zeppelin travelled



A NIGHT AT THE *Theatre*

Our incredible Drama, Music and Dance students put on a spectacular performance with a mash up from different West End musicals.



P.E news

Fantastic opportunity for the girls in PE to be receiving coaching from Sale Sharks coaches and players this half term. Mrs Bawden



Year 10 & 11 Rugby



Huge well done to our Year 10 'A' team, beating Ellesmere Park 3-2 in the Salford Plate Quarter Finals!

Goals came from George, Maxwell and Leyton who scored a last minute free kick to secure our place in the semi final.

National Youth Dance Company



Have a wonderful Easter break, we will be back on Monday 15th April to begin our summer term where the clocks spring forward and the days will start to get warmer and brighter.

See you all soon!

