

Being Walkden



Students enjoying the tulips at RHS Bridgewater, full story on page 4

Daily Reminders

Be punctual to all lessons

Uniform standards

Good manners



Be yourself,
always

Do what
matters most

Show you
care

Succeed
together

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 1st & Thursday 2nd May - Year 8, 9 and 10 school photographs

Monday 6th May - Bank holiday Academy is closed

Tuesday 7th May - GCSE External Exams begin

Thursday 9th May - 'Thanks for the Memories' Performance at RNCM Manchester

A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

It's wonderful to see the achievements of our students in and out of the classroom in this latest edition of 'Being Walkden'. It's been a great start back after the Easter break and our Year 11's are reaching their peak in preparing for the up-coming GCSE's. We wish them all the best of luck as they begin to sit their exams over the next week or two. Year 7 had their first progress review evening last week and it has been great to hear so many positive conversations about the fantastic work of so many pupils. As ever, our sincere thanks to all parents and carers for your support in helping us achieve the best progress for all pupils in school.

Outside of the classroom, there is much to celebrate, not least the Year 9 Boys 3-2 victory against St Ambrose Barlow in the Salford Schools Cup on Thursday evening this week!

Last week I spoke to all Year 7, 8 and 9 pupils to explain why we have specific expectations around uniform and particularly mobile phone use in school. The point about smartphones and our reasons for not allowing them to be used in school is a really important one. I spoke to pupils about why we, as humans, are motivated to use them, from a scientific perspective. I also talked about how damaging they can be to developing brains and the fact that the tech companies specifically tap into our vulnerabilities to drive the use of phones even more. As with everything, smartphones can be used for incredible, positive purposes, but the opposite can very much be true. More than anything though, we do not allow their use in school to preserve and protect. To preserve the important face to face social interactions that are proven to support overall development and to protect against the damaging effects, particularly on mental health, of smartphone overuse.

I also mentioned to pupils that we will be reviewing our uniform expectations this term, in preparation for September, which I will talk about separately, another time.

My best wishes for the weekend ahead.

Matt Hacker
Principal



Noticeboard

Attendance Matters

If we achieve 90% on a test, that feels like a real success. But, 90% attendance means that your child has missed a day of school every fortnight. We want to do all we can to support your child to be in school every day and ask that you support this important message from home, encouraging your child to avoid missing curriculum content through absence

PD message: Rewards update Y8

Each week there will be **attendance rewards** for your PD groups. The **PD group** with the most improved attendance from the previous week goes to:



8N 100.0%	8E 91.7%
8P 96.4%	8L 91.1%
8Y 95.2%	8K 90.4%
8M 94.6%	8W 90.4%
8D 92.5%	8A 87.7%
8C 92.4%	8O 81.0%



Well done to 8N for the most improved attendance last week, they achieved 100% attendance. This is incredible. Great work everyone. Lets see your PD group here next week!

Wellbeing

With exam season coming up, Kooth have set up sessions for parents to help support your child during exams - don't worry if the session date has already past, you can complete the form below and they will send you the recording

[Kooth exam support](#)



RUGBY CLUB

DEVELOP YOUR SHARK!
Come and train with Sale Sharks Women

Mondays, starting 22nd April
Co-op Academy Walkden

3.15pm-4.15pm

Attend 3 sessions for a Sale Sharks scrunchie!



RHS Bridgewater

Our students always enjoy helping out at RHS Bridgewater. This week they planted fruit, vegetables, and flowers.

We can't wait for our next visit to see how they have grown!

We went to see the pigs and fed them with the garden waste.

Even the rain didnt put us off.

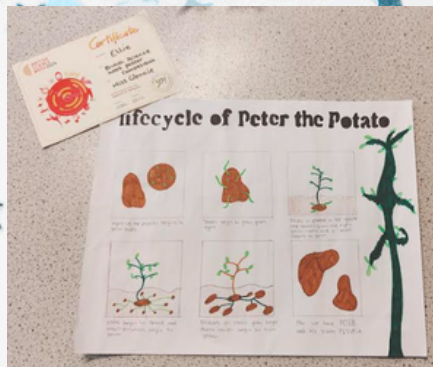


Student success

Before Easter we ran our British Science Week competition, we received some fantastic entries from Year 7-10 students.

See below the work of our 3 incredible runners up (in no particular order)

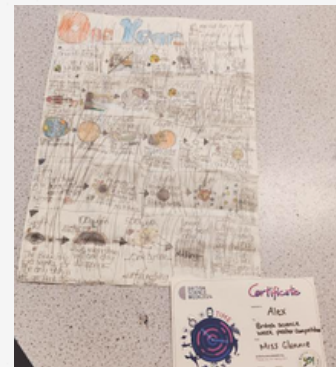
Well done and thank you to all our students who took part in the competition.



Ellie Year 10



Zion Year 7



Alex Year 8

And our Winner of British Science Week competition is ... Adam, Year 8 with the following poem



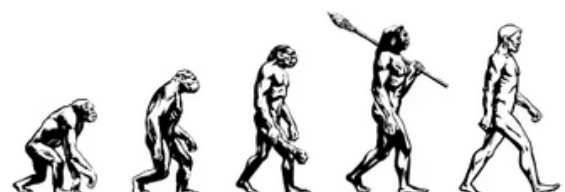
Year 8 students Tom and Theo played for Eccles rugby union Under 13's on Sunday at Trafford in the Lancs Cup Final and they won 🏆

Trafford were the favourites to win. Well done to the boys and their team!



The Evolution of Man

Oh, the evolution of man, a fascinating tale,
From humble beginnings to where we prevail.
We started as primates, swinging from trees,
Then stood on two feet, as our ancestors pleased.
With time, we developed tools and fire,
Unlocking new possibilities, reaching higher.
We painted on cave walls, expressing our art,
And learned to communicate, right from the start.
Through centuries, we built great civilizations,
Advancing in science, arts, and innovations.
From ancient empires to the Renaissance's grace,
Humanity's progress continues to amaze.
We ventured into space, reaching for the stars,
Exploring the cosmos, discovering what's afar.
And now, here we are, in the digital age,
Connected through technology, turning the page.
So let's celebrate the journey we've had,
The evolution of man, both good and bad.
For it's through our growth, we learn and thrive,
Continuing to shape the world, as we strive.



Library

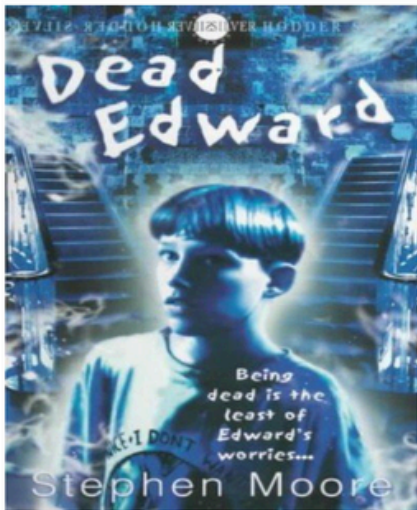
As a part of our literacy curriculum we run a Reading Ambassador club in the library at lunchtime where some of our Year 9 and Year 7 students take turns to read together. This is a brilliant opportunity for students to improve confidence and to share their love of reading and literacy.



Student book review

Dead Edward by Stephen Moore

(reviewed by Szymon, year 7)



Edward is an ordinary 14-year-old schoolboy except for one thing – he is dead. He must come to terms with being a ghost, but when he meets the other inhabitants of 13 City Road he realises being dead is the least of his worries.

Edward is a strange character but I liked him. The scenes in the book are mostly mysterious and the story kept me guessing. I recommend this book to all who like mystery and horror – especially teenagers as it is a little dark!

Star rating:



Each fortnight we will post a personal book review from one of our students. They will read the book and take the time to write a review for others to see, encouraging more students to pick up the book and give it a go.

Teaching & Learning

Here are some of the techniques we use during lessons to 'check for understanding' we encourage students to use these as a method of letting teachers know if they have understood an element of a lesson before moving on.

Students use mini whiteboards as a quick and effective way to show their understanding .

Why we do this:

- Encourages students to produce quality work with vital thinking time.
- Gives teachers the opportunity to address misconceptions, starts a conversation and enables quality discussions.
- Gives students the opportunity to show a great piece of work and to share.



Research shows the more new knowledge is used and thought about, the more easily it will be transferred into long term memory.

"Memory is the residue of thought, meaning that the more you think about something, the more likely it is that you'll remember it later."

**Daniel T Willingham,
Why Don't Students Like School**

Events

Great Big Dance Off

Our advanced dance team competed at the Northwest Great Big Dance Off in Warrington last night.

The girls were fantastic, entertaining and demonstrated fabulous dance skills. A special mention Hannah who choreographed the piece with input from the rest of the girls. The young ladies were fantastic ambassadors for our academy. Well done to Hannah, Alyssa, Thaila, Kitty, Halle, Phoebe, Chloe, Evie.



Offsite trips

Tatton Park

Some of our Hive students took a trip to Tatton Park where they were able to explore the surroundings and see some of the local wildlife.



**Thank you all
for your
continued
support, have a
great weekend!**

**If you think you have something to contribute to
the next newsletter, please email us at
walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk**