

Being Walkden

Year 10 High Ropes activity - full story page 9



Dates for your diary

Friday 21st June - Year 11 Leavers assembly

Monday 24th - Friday 28th June - Year 10 Work experience.

Monday 24th June - Transition Evening

Monday 24th June - Year 8 Geography Field Trip

Thursday 27th - Friday 28th June - Year 6 Transition days

Be yourself,
always

Do what
matters most

Show you
care

Succeed
together

A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents and carers

The last two weeks of exams for Year 11 have been intense, but today is the last day that all of Year 11 will be in the academy full time. From next week, students will only attend for either the pre-exam revision sessions or the exams themselves. There are only a handful of exams left and the end feels like it's in sight. I want to commend all of our Year 11 students for their focus and effort during this exam period. They have been so resilient to all the pressures and approached each day with determination and positivity. The whole school community is behind them every step of the way and we wish them all the best for some great results in the summer.

It's a busy period for Year 10 too as they complete their end of year assessments in class and in the week beginning 24th June, they begin their week-long work experience. This year, almost every single student has secured a placement which will enable them to develop skills and knowledge only possible in the workplace. This is an invaluable part of their personal development, which supports their future career planning and success. Good luck!

I hope you enjoy reading the highlights in this newsletter - there's a lot going on, every single day and it's great to see the outstanding engagement of our students with all the opportunities on offer to them.

Matt Hacker
Principal



Noticeboard

Attendance Matters

As we move closer to the end of the school year, we all need to do our best to push for 100% attendance.

Attendance is the foundation of success – you can't achieve anything if you're not there to do it

Breakfast Club

Reminder that breakfast club is between 8am-8.25am Please ensure students arrive in plenty of time to get breakfast and sit down to eat this comfortably before lessons start at 8.30am

Photo Consent

If you have not already, please can you update your consents on the Arbor App. This helps us to know who has permission for images to be shared on our social media, newsletter and our website. We love to share photos of our students on school trips, in extra curricular activities and in lessons.

Arbor

You will have received a helpful video this week showing you how to submit homework on Arbor. Moving forward further videos will be shared with tips and tricks, to make the transition to Arbor a little easier.

Year 11

Some of our Year 11's have finished school officially on Friday 14th June.

The week beginning 17th June, students should study independently at home and attend school only for their scheduled masterclasses and exams. Please note that the exam boards have designated 26th June as a contingency day which means that all Year 11 students should be available to attend on this date should there be an issue with any of their examinations.

We are all very excited to then welcome Year 11's back on Friday 21st June for the Leavers assembly. This will be a brilliant opportunity for students and staff to reminisce and reflect on their 5 year journey at Walkden and for us to wish them well for the future. Year 11 students can arrive at school from 8.40am (please no earlier) and in full school uniform. They will be provided with a special breakfast and may wish to have a school shirt signed by their peers and staff. It is important that students bring a spare shirt to be signed as they must attend the final assembly in perfect uniform, not wearing the shirt that has been signed.

Recycling Project

Here at Co-op Academy Walkden we are striving to help the environment by recycling our plastic bottles. Students have created posters and stickers for our special bins and students are consciously recycling their bottles



30 Days Wild

Along with The Wildlife Trust we are supporting children to do one wild activity every day throughout June. You get to soak up the joy of nature and you might even learn something along the way.

We signed up for free and received this Lets Go #30DaysWild Calendar.

Year 7 student Poppy has given you 30 days worth of ideas to get into the wild, why not try out some of her activities or try some new ones of your own.

For a copy of the calendar please see Ms Lee, Dr Gardner and Dr Kaloo

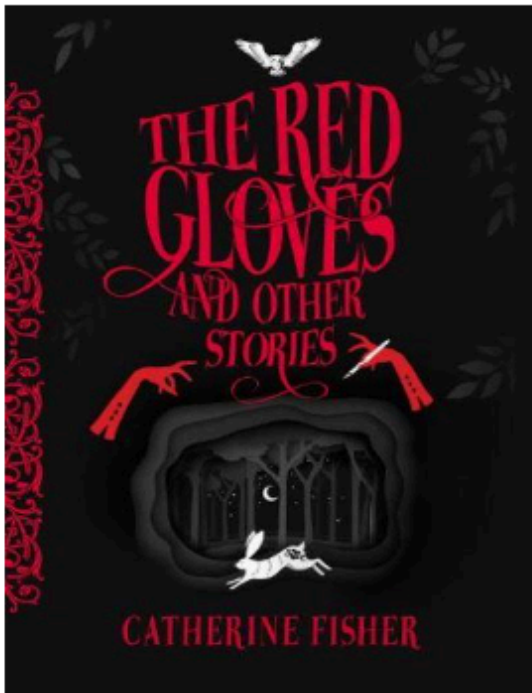


Why not join your local ParkRun, this is a free community event for anyone aged over 4yrs. Under 14s must be with an adult. Take a look at where your local park run takes place and make it a new friends/family tradition <https://www.parkrun.org.uk/>

Library

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.

The Red Gloves and Other Stories by Catherine Fisher (reviewed by Zion, year 7)



This book is a collection of stories that are inspired by British myths and legends. It is a good read for people who like mild horror and suspense. My favourite character in the book is Sarah, from the title story. She is interesting and very much cares about her loved ones. The characters in each of the stories feel very real, because they are ordinary, everyday people. My favourite story is "The Red Gloves" because it is weird and holds you in suspense, but "The Changing Room" is also a story that grips you.

I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it for young people aged 7+.

Star rating:



Library

Our Student Librarians met this week to vote for the winners of the Shadders' Choice Awards as a part of the Carnegie Book Club

These students are all taking part in the Yoto Carnegie Shadowing Programme, which shadows the award for the prestigious Carnegie Medal for Writing. They have read all the books on the shortlist, taken part in group discussions and posted reviews on the official Yoto Carnegie website. They have also cast their votes for the winners of the Shadders' Choice Awards.



Meet the team.....

PE Department

At Co-op Academy Walkden we are passionate about Sports education and this is guided by our fantastic PE Teachers.

Q What do you love most about your role at Co-op Academy Walkden?

A There are so many things I love about my role at school firstly encouraging a love for physical activity that can have lifelong benefits for students. Seeing students gain confidence as they master new skills and sports is a rewarding experience. Knowing that you're making a positive impact on students' lives and seeing them develop into young adults throughout their time at Co-op Adademy Walkden. Finally spending time with the PE team and learning new things every day from great colleagues. Mr Greenwood

Q Can you tell us one reason you think Physical Education in schools is important?

A As well as the physical and mental health benefits, I believe that PE allows students to develop a set of vital life skills such as communication, leadership, confidence, resilience, teamwork. I believe that PE gave me a set of key skills to use throughout my life and helped me at school to develop confidence in myself. Mrs Hughes

Q What is something surprising that not many people would not know about you?

A I have completed 3 marathons. I also have competed as an amateur boxer! Mr Makin

Q What do you think is your biggest contribution to the Academy?

A Personally, I feel my contributions to the extra-curricular clubs and school teams have been my biggest accomplishment. I am very proud of the number of pupils we have had represent sports teams competing at local, regional and national level. Mr Tobutt

Q If you were not a Teacher, what would you be?

A A travel Blogger. Mrs Hughes

Q What's the best trip you have ever been on?

A Villarreal Football Tour 2019 - 40 boys across both Year 8 and 10 football teams; 4 days training, a couple of matches and a chance to meet first team players at the Villarreal first team complex. Plus, an evening watching Villarreal and Barcelona play out a 4-4 classic in La Liga. Great memories with a great group of pupils. Mr Tobutt

Year 10 High Ropes Adventure

Year 10 students challenged themselves last week at Haigh Hall High Ropes. The students really pushed outside of their comfort zones and showed how brave they could be. It was a brilliant 3 days.



Student Success

We are incredibly proud of one of our Student Cadets Sophia who has been selected from 300 applicants to be a part of Exercise Oak Leaf.

The Expedition Team Leader Course provides cadets an opportunity to cultivate outdoor leadership skills and develop as a specialist with the skills and subject matter knowledge to perform the duties of an Expedition Team Leader within the Army Cadet Program. Activities include navigation, a 12-day expedition, adventure training, leadership, and instructional technique. The exercise may also include Mountain Biking and Water Sports

Candidates were assessed in the following area:

- Physical Resilience
- Mental Agility
- Personal Discipline
- Social Interaction
- Team Work
- Leadership

The activities used to help facilitate the assessment were:

- Inspection of Kit
- Planning exercise
- Navigation Exercise Canoe raft building
- First Aid stand
- Climbing Wall
- Personal Presentation about themselves and why they should go to Canada

Sophia is one of only 20 cadets who will spend 4 weeks in Canada learning some key life skills and resilience. Along with Sophia and her Family, we are so very proud of the work Sophia has put in to get to this stage and we cannot wait for follow this journey with her. Please see next page for a brief interview with Sophia ahead of her upcoming adventure.



Student Success



Q What does being a Cadet mean to you?

A I enjoy cadets as it is a good opportunity for making friends and learning useful life skills like leadership, self-confidence, team working and first aid.

Q What are you looking forward to most about your trip to Canada?

A It will be tough and I look forward to challenging my abilities both mentally and physically, and hopefully making some lifelong friends along the way.

Q How do you use the skills you learn in Cadets, in your school/personal life?

A It's good for developing teamwork and problem solving which are both useful skills in many situations.

Q How do you manage your extracurricular activities and school life?

A Sticking to a routine helps greatly. I do lots of physical activities outside of school with my running clubs which we do as a family. It helps that I have a set routine each week and I have friends there so it's good for socialising and having fun at the same time.

Q Who would you say is your inspiration?

A I take a lot of inspiration from athletes like Jasmine Sawyers, Alex Bell, Jemma Reekie and Keely Hodgkinson, who I've had the honour of meeting at a track session.

Q Can you tell us the best piece of advice you have ever been given?

A Always do your best and let the real you shine through.

Q What 3 words would you use to describe yourself?

A Chatty, athletic, determined

Q Can you tell us something you aspire to accomplish in five to ten years?

A I'd like to go to university and continue competing in athletics at a national level

Science Project

Some of our students have been practicing their Botanist skills and have grown some cress, today at lunchtime students and staff were able to sample the delicious leaves



**Thank you all for
your continued
support,**

**Enjoy your
weekend.**

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