

# Being Walkden

Annual Hive Makers Market raises money for Age UK, to read more see page 5



## Dates for your diary

- Friday 20 December - break up for Christmas holidays
- Monday 6 January - First day of Spring Term
- Tuesday 7 January - Parent/Carer Drop in
- Wednesday 8 January - Year 11 trip - An Inspector Calls
- 14 January - Year 9 photos
- 17 January - Year 10 and Year 11 photos
- 23 January - Year 10 Progress Evening
- 24 January - Remaining Year 10 and Year 11 photos

# A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents and carers

We've reached the end of the Autumn Term and it's felt incredibly festive in the academy in the last week. Pupils and staff have all been enjoying the Christmas tree, festive music in social times and of course the Christmas jumper day and meal yesterday. There's a wonderful atmosphere in the academy and it leads us into what I hope will be a well deserved break over the next two weeks, for all in our community.

I want to say a huge thanks to all the parents, pupils and staff who have contributed to our Christmas Hamper appeal and 'Makers' Market'. We managed to create and distribute more than 50 hampers to families in the community along with a food delivery to AgeUK. We're really proud to be able to support in this way, but without the generosity of those who contributed, it would never be possible.

I want to wish all of you a fabulous festive period and we look forward to starting 2025 with renewed energy. We welcome all pupils back on Monday 6th January, ready to learn and succeed together.

Matt Hacker (and Santa Clause)



# Noticeboard

## Attendance

Important information on the below link for parents/carers regarding absence from school from September 2024.

[Department for Education](#)

Please contact [walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk) if you require any further information or explanation.

## Ready for school

- Arrive on time - breakfast is served from 8am and the lesson announcement is at 8.25am.
- Prepare for your day/week by checking your timetable each night to know which lessons and rooms to go to.
- Full uniform must be worn, coats to be removed upon entry to the academy.
- No energy drinks or fizzy drinks to be consumed during the academy day.
- Ready to learn with a positive attitude.  
Let's do this 2025!

## Absence Log and Communications

To report your child as absent, please use ONE of the available options below.

- You can call our Academy to report absence 0161 8501625 (Option 1).
- You can now use the 'log absence' function on your Arbor app. You can find this by going to Dashboard - Menu (three lines) - Attendance - Log Absence.

For any pre-planned absence's or appointments please email our Attendance Team [walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk) and include an attached appointment card or letter as evidence of the reason for the planned absence.

Whichever method you chose to use, please do this each day that your child is absent from school before 8.30am.

We will be turning off the Arbor In App message service for now as this is no longer required for absence logging.

For all other general queries please continue to use the academy mailbox [walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk)

## Year 11 Revision

Please use the timetables below to keep track of when revision is available for Year 11 students with upcoming GCSE's this academic year.

Please ensure Year 11's are attending all relevant sessions, these sessions have a key impact on building confidence in knowledge and improving results.

[Revision Timetable](#)

## KS3 Drama Club

Starting Monday 13th January - Drama Club with Mrs Bentley. 3pm - 3.45pm

All KS3 Students are welcome.  
See Mrs Bentley for more info.



## Photos

Year 9 will be having school photos on Tuesday 14th January and Year 10 & 11 will be split over 2 days Friday 17th and Friday 24th January, this is to accommodate lessons. There will be an email in the new year.

# Six:Teen Edition

This month we were thrilled to present the Co-op Academy Walkden version of Six:Teen Edition the Musical. We had two spectacular shows with live vocals and a live orchestra. Our audience feedback since the shows has been amazing, the whole cast and crew did themselves extremely proud and we couldn't be more proud of the performance you gave. You can find more photos from the show on our social media pages.



# Hive makers market

Last week we hosted our annual Hive Makers Markets, students were able to invite their parents/carers in to The Hive to enjoy a drink and to buy some of the handmade items the students have spent time and effort making.

Due to the generosity of our families and staff we were able to raise a massive £244, Mrs Howe has been able to spend this money on a massive amount of food supplies which have been donated to Age UK for them to distribute to those in need this Christmas.



# Year 11 mock results afternoon

We welcomed our Class of 2024 back for their GCSE Presentation Evening.

It was lovely to see so many of you and to hear about your new adventures since leaving the academy.

As Mr Hacker said last night, we are immensely proud of the young adults you have become and we wish you all the best for the future.

We hope parents/carers and students all enjoyed the evening.



# 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.

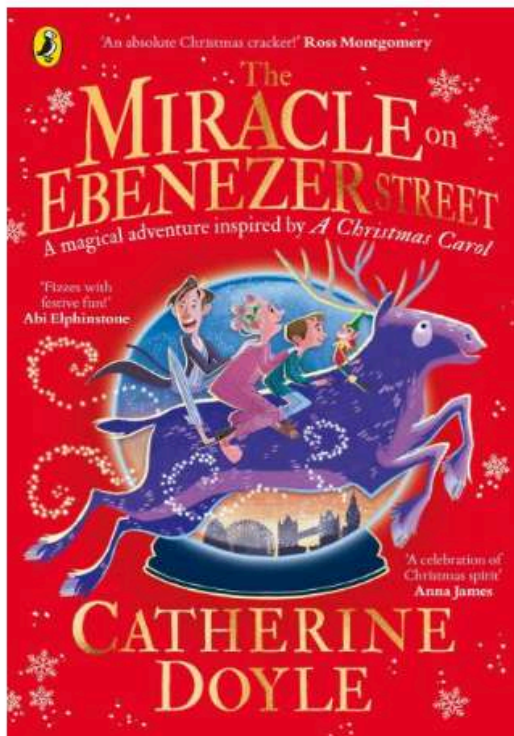
## Library Opening Times

Break	10:30 - 10:50
KS3 Lunch	12:50 - 1:20
KS4 Lunch	1:20 - 1:50
After school	2:50 - 3:30

### Student book review

## The Miracle on Ebenezer Street by Catherine Doyle

*(reviewed by Szymon, year 8)*



This book is about a boy who goes to a Christmas market and finds a magical snow globe. George and his Scrooge of a dad are then swept on a hilarious adventure of Christmas past, present and future. George was my favourite character because I like the fact that he is enthusiastic and adventurous, but the story also features an elf, a grumpy reindeer and George's mischievous nan. I enjoyed all the adventures and mysteries that George and his dad were put through.

Star rating:



# Library at Christmas

As always our student librarians have been busy during the festive period, we have had christmas book review challenges and a Christmas Lit Quiz



Winner of our Library Christmas Lit Quiz with 18/20 is - Matthew Year 8

# Pupils v Staff Fitness Challenge

Last week we held a Staff v Pupils Fitness Challenge, where students were able to pay 50p to watch their peers and teachers challenge each other

It was a wonderful event for both pupils and staff and we raised funds for our chosen academy charity Milly's Smiles which as always is very close to our hearts.

We have opened up a charity donation on Parent Pay for those who would still like to make a donation.



# Christmas Card

This year's Co-op Academy Walkden official Christmas card was designed by Year 7 student Skylar.

Skylar's beautiful design won the Christmas card competition and was chosen by our panel of judges.

Skylar's card has now been delivered to local primary schools, Care Homes, local businesses and Governors, some of our English students and Librarians took their time to write some lovely messages to the residents of the care homes.



Designed by Skylar  
Year 7 (2024)

# Christmas hamper appeal

Thanks to our wonderful student and staff donations we have managed to create more than 50 hampers which are being delivered to families in our community who will really appreciate them, as well as staple items we have managed to provide, gifts and exciting festive treats for all families too. We are so incredibly proud of all of the effort that has gone into this collection. True Christmas Spirit from all.



# Festivities this week





**Thank you as always for  
your continued support.**



**Have a great Christmas  
Break.**

**Our Newsletter needs you, if you have any  
students success stories to share or if you think  
you have something to contribute to the next  
newsletter, please email us at  
[walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk)**