

# Being Walkden

31 Jan 2025

Tickets are available to the Academies Trust performance, see page 7



## Dates for your diary

Monday 3 February - 28 Feb - Year 11 GCSE Spring Mock Exams Series.

Thursday 6 February - Time To Talk Day

Friday 14 February - Break up for half term.

Monday 24 Feb - Academy opens for Spring half term 2.

Thursday 6th March - Year 9 Options Evening - further details to follow

Be yourself,  
always

Do what  
matters most

Show you  
care

Succeed  
together

# A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents/carers

Welcome to the latest newsletter. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended the Year 10 progress review evening last week - it was the highest percentage engagement we have seen for many years and we hope that our hybrid approach, with half online and half face to face is working for more of you. It was great to welcome so many and we look forward to welcoming Year 9 parents for key events in the coming weeks, in support of the options process, for which there will be separate communication.



We wish all of our Year 11 students the very best of luck for the next round of mock examinations which begin next week and last for 3 weeks. This is a really important time for them as they build confidence towards the finals in May and June. I know the exam seasons can be stressful times for parents too and I want to reiterate to all that we're here to help in any way we can and to reach out to us if you feel you need any support.

I have mentioned the newly installed barrier at the car park entrance from Old Clough Lane. I can confirm that this will be operational from Monday 3rd February. This will further enhance security during the day and crucially, improve the safety for our pupils at the end of the school day. The barrier is operated from reception and any visitors will need to use the intercom to speak with reception to enter the car park. Regular drivers who need to pick children up with additional needs or disabilities, closer to the entrance, will be allowed access, but it is important that all other vehicles are parked in the surrounding streets if you need to wait for children. Please do not attempt to enter the drive from Old Clough Lane near the end of the school day as this would immediately create congestion back onto Old Clough Lane itself. Your support with this new layout will ensure that our children are able to leave more safely without having to negotiate the large number of cars that are often on site at the end of the day.



Finally I am pleased to announce that 9 of our pupils have been successful in securing places (including high profile roles) in the cast of Sweeney Todd, which is the Trust-wide production to be held in July. As with last year's production of Les Misérables, this will be a highly professional stage show which will provide an unforgettable experience for pupils, but will be an incredible show for all who see it. The show will be performed at the community theatre based at Co-op Academy Manchester and tickets are now available for sale. Further information can be found later in the newsletter.

Wishing you all a great weekend.

Matt Hacker

## Absence Logging and Attendance Information

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: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.

As a helpful reminder we wanted to share the below information that is useful to know when it comes to attendance.

The school bell is at 8.25am and students are expected to be in lessons ready to be registered by 8.30am.

Students who arrive late between 8.30am and 8.50am will be given a late mark, however this does not affect their overall attendance percentage.

Students who arrive after 9am will be given a U code (unauthorised absence) on their register which equates to a half a day of absence, this does affect their overall attendance percentage.

The day is split into two halves with a morning attendance mark and an afternoon attendance mark, students must receive both marks to be registered in school for the full day.

Please note that medical appointments and authorised absence is marked differently and to authorise one of these absences or to make us aware of any exceptional circumstances please email our attendance team with prior notice where possible [walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk)

Thank you as always for your support.

# Noticeboard

## Year 11 Exams

We have provided the GCSE Spring Mock timetable [here](#)  
Students have also now received their individual timetables.

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

Remember revision is running all year for Year 11s and this changes to match the following days exam during the mock exam series, please encourage your child to attend as many revision sessions as possible to enhance their chances of feeling confident going into the exam.

Below is the normal revision timetable which will resume after the mock exams

[Revision Timetable](#)

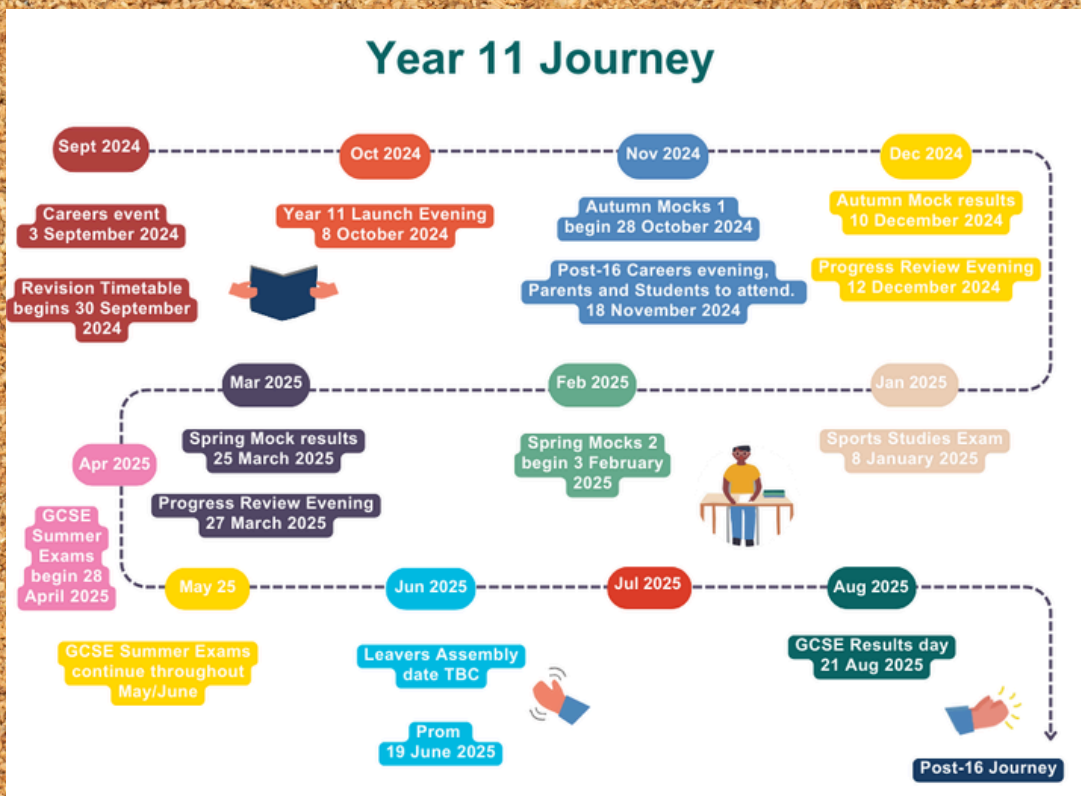
## Catering PIN numbers

All students require their catering PIN number at the till when getting breakfast and lunch. If your child is entitled to Free School Meals, they still need to use their PIN number to get the meal. please ensure your child knows their 4 digit PIN and does not share this with others. You can email [walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walkden.info@coopacademies.co.uk) for a PIN reminder.

## Year 11 Baby Photos

In preparation for Year 11 Leavers assembly later this year, please can I ask Year 11 parents/carers or students to email me a photo of them as a baby or young child. This would be used for their assembly only and not published outside of school.

Please email to [rebecca.vaughan@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:rebecca.vaughan@coopacademies.co.uk)



## Bag 2 School



We have organised a clothes and shoes collection with Bag2School in order to raise funds for the amazing charity we are supporting this year; Milly's Smiles.

As well as raising funds for Milly's Smiles, we are also helping the environment by diverting good quality unwanted textiles away from landfill.

If you have any unwanted adult's and children's clothing, shoes (tied together please), hats, belts, handbags. Please consider donating them to us and Bag2School will convert them into cash for our chosen charity. You can use any large bag; bin bag, shopping bag etc. if you don't have any, we have a supply in school so please remind students to ask for a bag at the attendance office as they leave the academy.

Bag2School will be collecting from the academy on the morning of Friday 7th February 2025. Please drop your bag/s off with Attendance Team as you enter the academy on this day.

Please refer to Mrs Earley's email that was sent out last week for more information about items they accept and do not accept.

## Milly's Smiles

Mr Tobutt will be running the London Marathon this year to raise funds for our academy's chosen charity Milly's Smiles, who help to make the journey of children newly diagnosed with cancer that little bit easier... They provide a 'Milly Bag' to every family whose child has been diagnosed with cancer and admitted to Manchester, Alder Hey, Leeds, Nottingham, Newcastle and Oxford Children's Hospitals.

If you would like to show Mr Tobutt your support and make a small donation we have included the link to his JustGiving Page here.



### Andrew's fundraiser for Milly's Smiles

Help Andrew Tobutt raise money to support Milly's Smiles



# Meet the Team

This week we would like you to get to know Mr Green, Progress Leader for Year 8 and Science Teacher

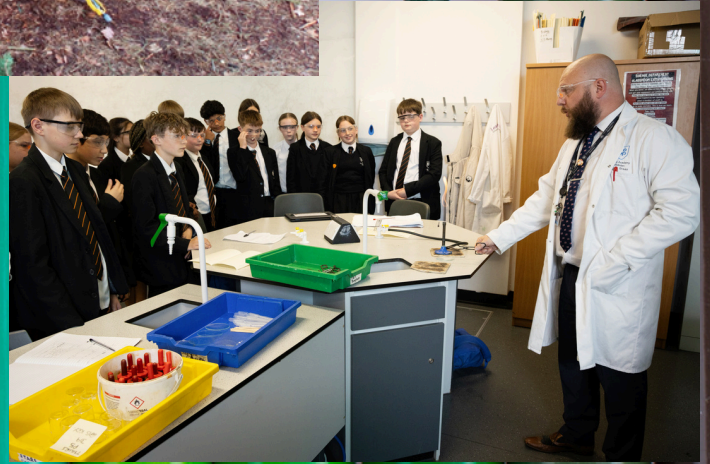


My journey to being a Progress Leader at Co-op Academy Walkden was quite long!

After finishing my Chemistry Masters degree in 2001 I wasn't quite sure what I wanted to do, so after 6 months backpacking around Australia I went back to work at my old catering job I had during my studies.... at Manchester United. Some of you will know I'm a City fan so this wasn't an obvious choice! Several years and promotions later I was the Events Manager there running concerts, Player of the Year dinners and all kinds of stuff. Since then I've been a Driving Instructor as well as lots of other stuff.

I've been teaching now for 10 years-all of them here and have been a Progress Leader for 4 of those and it's a job I absolutely love! Working with students is the best bit of my job, whether that's teaching them Science or helping them with their general schooling needs, it's a tough job but a very rewarding one... and that's before we talk about cadets!

The best bit of advice I've been given is "don't worry about the things you can't control but affect the things you can" You can't control when exams are, you can study hard to make sure you do well. You can't change the mistake you made last lesson that got you in trouble, you can make sure you learn from it so it doesn't happen again!



# Academies Trust Performance

We are delighted to announce that 9 pupils from Co-op Academy Walkden have successfully auditioned and been cast in the Trust production of Sweeney Todd, the demon barber of Fleet Street.

For more information and to book tickets please head to the article on our website [here](#)



# SWEENEY TODD

*the Demon Barber of Fleet Street*  
A Musical Thriller

## Coming July 2025

# Student Success

This week two of our Year 11 students Joe and George took part in the Salford Battle of The Bands Competition. The event was hosted by MAPAS at FutureSkills and other bands competing were MSIX and bands from Ellesmere Park High School.

We are delighted to share that Joe and George won this round of the competition and will now go on to represent Salford at the GM Music Hub Battle of the Bands in March!



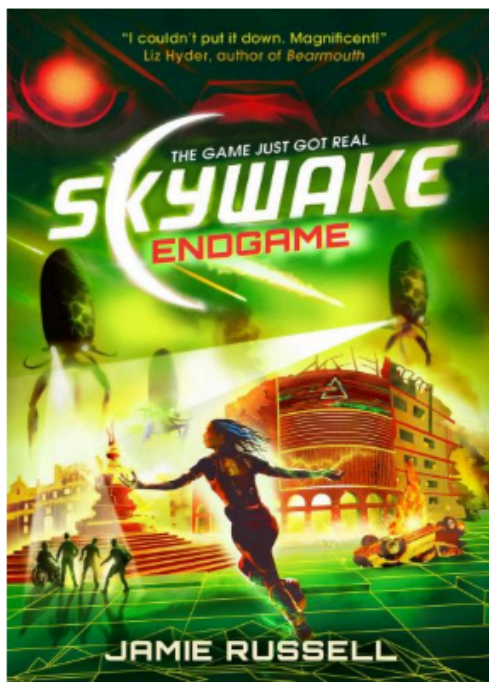
Each fortnight we will post a personal book review from one of our students. They will read the book and take the time to write a review for others to see, encouraging more students to pick up the book and give it a go.

## 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

**Skywake: Endgame** *reviewed by Joshua, Year 9)*



The incredible and thrilling final instalment of the wonderful Skywake trilogy. Four years on from the last book in the series, Casey and her teammates have landed on a very different Earth from the one they left only a few days earlier. The Red Eye aliens have taken over, leaving carnage in their wake. All the adults are in their thrall, even her brother Pete. Are Casey's powers enough to free their families and stop the Red Eyes from discovering the final piece in the puzzle?

**AMAZING - DEFINITELY BORROW ALL THREE BOOKS IN THE SERIES FROM THE SCHOOL LIBRARY!**

Star rating:



# Extra - Curricular Club of the Week

Miss Glennie will be starting Pride Club again soon, see Miss Glennie to express your interest.

## Pride Club is back!

Lunch time (day to be confirmed)

- ★ Part of the LGBTQIA+ community?
  - ★ Proud ally?
- ★ Want to attend the Co-op Academy Walkden pride club?



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always

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Succeed  
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Please give Miss Glennie your name by Monday 3rd February to register your interest in attending.

KS3 Drama Club will be moving to a new day from next week. Every Tuesday 3-3.45pm. Please speak to Mrs Bentley if you would like to join

# Half Term Activities



**Salford Community Leisure** ForHousing

## Play Streets Is back!

**Free activities for children and young people**  
*including sports, arts and crafts, games and much more.*  
All participants get a free packed lunch!

**When?**  
**Friday 21st February**  
**10am-12pm**

**Where?**  
**The Den, Unit 20 & 21 Lower Ground Floor**  
**Victoria Street, Walkden M28 3AD**

**Who's it for?**  
**Children aged 5 - 11 years**

Places are limited so please book in advance by:  
Scanning the QR Code (opposite)  
call Chloe/Alex on 07746645349 or follow link  
<https://eequ.org/book/3214>

All children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult



**Salford Community Leisure** ForHousing

## Play Streets Is back!

**Free activities for children and young people**  
*including sports, arts and crafts, games and much more.*  
All participants get a free packed lunch!

**When?**  
**Wednesday 19th February**  
**1pm-3pm**

**Where?**  
**Wharton and Cleggs Lane Church**  
**Cleggs Lane, Little Hulton M38 9RW**

**Who's it for?**  
**Children aged 5 - 11 years**

Places are limited so please book in advance by:  
Scanning the QR Code (opposite)  
call Chloe/Alex on 07746645349  
<https://eequ.org/book/7271>

All children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult



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

**Have a great  
weekend.**

**Our Newsletter needs you, if you have any  
student 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)**