

# Being Walkden

14 Feb 2025

Co-op Academies  
Girls Football  
Tournament.  
See page 12 for  
more info



## Dates for your diary

Friday 14 February - Break up for half term.

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

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

Thursday 13 March - Year 9 Progress Review Evening - further details to come.

Be yourself,  
always

Do what  
matters most

Show you  
care

Succeed  
together

# A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents/carers

Half term is upon us and I know all our pupils are ready for a short break to recharge ahead of the second spring half term.

Thank you to all parents and carers for your support over the last half term, whether it be engaging with progress meetings, sharing news and ideas with us, supporting with behaviour or contributing to our charity events. All of this enables us to provide the best experience for our pupils and we're really grateful.

Some advanced notice that on the 18th March we plan to hold 2 parent forums - one during the day and one in the evening. This will be a great opportunity for any parents who would like to support our future improvement, with members of our Academy Community Council in attendance, to hear your views too. I will be sharing further information about this in a couple of weeks, so please watch this space!

Finally, we want to capture as many parent/carer views about school as possible and so the annual survey has been opened today. You can find the survey [here](#).

I would be really grateful if you would take the time to complete this short survey over the next couple of weeks.

Wishing you all a lovely half term break and we look forward to welcoming all our amazing pupils back on Monday 24th February.

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: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.

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 Revision

Revision is running all year for Year 11s, 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 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.

## Carpark Barrier

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

## Year 11 Updates

Keep an eye out for an email being sent to all Year 11 parents/carers very soon with an update regarding Year 11's final months including Prom, Leavers assembly and Leavers Hoodies.

## 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)

# Charity Work



With your help we managed to collect 390kg of clothes and shoes which we donated to Bag2School. The money we will receive for this has been added to our current total raised for Milly's Smiles which stands at £544.87

Bag2School not only help schools to raise funds, they also help the environment by reducing the amount of textiles being sent to landfill and help create jobs around the world.



## 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 Mrs Earley - Assistant Principal Attendance and Community



I have worked at Co-op Academy Walkden for nearly 10 years!

I am a teacher of French and Spanish and being with the students is definitely the best part of my role. It is the reason I came into teaching and the reason I still love being in the classroom.

When I am not teaching I lead the Attendance team and support families when young people are struggling to get into school. We genuinely want to support our students and families so if things do ever get tricky please reach out to me or a member of the team.

If you ever need to speak to a member of staff about funding of trips or events or would like to be involved in our community and charity work then I am the person to contact - please just drop me an email.

[catherine.earley@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:catherine.earley@coopacademies.co.uk)

[walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk](mailto:walk-attendance@coopacademies.co.uk)

Outside of school I love my fitness and my 2025 challenges are an open water swim and maybe even a Hyrox event!



# Spelling Bee

Co-op Academies Trust hosted a Spelling Bee from Angel Square this week, students from all academies within the trust were able to enter.

Lily and Constance represented for Walkden.

Well done to everyone involved and a special recognition goes to Co-op Academy Medlock who were the winners this year



Last week we celebrated Time to Talk Day across all of our academies and throughout the Trust.

Time to Talk Day is the nation's biggest mental health conversation. It's a day for friends, families, communities and workplaces to come together to talk, listen and change lives.



Student Ambassadors were on hand during breaktime all week to offer a listening ear and a friendly game of Jenga to any students who wanted to talk.

During PD, Students discussed Mental Health Awareness and the importance of talking to somebody if something is worrying them.



We also held a breakfast gathering for all staff before school on Time to Talk today to give our staff the chance to chat over a light breakfast.



# 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

Hoot by Carl Hiaasen

*(reviewed by a Year 10 student)*



Roy's parents move around a lot, so he's used to the new-kid routine. But his new home and school in Florida are the worst yet. Then Roy spots the running boy. Sensing an adventure, Roy follows him, which leads to a series of strange adventures. This book is a good introduction to the mystery genre, although it is aimed at a younger demographic.

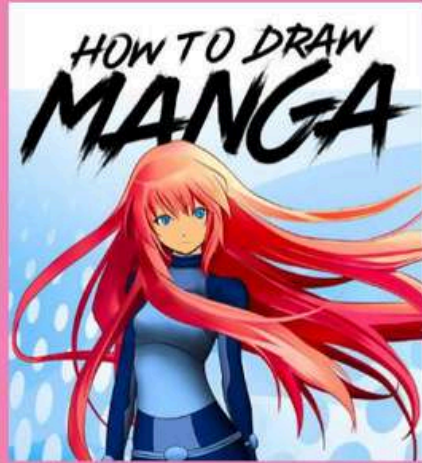
Star rating:



# Extra - Curricular Club of the Week

## Manga Drawing Club!

Wednesday lunchtime in the Academy Library.  
No need to book just pop in!



# Safer Internet Day

This week we promoted Safer Internet Day, it is so important to have a good understanding of how to keep our young people safe on the internet. Read more [here](#)



## What signs of a scam do you know?



Using strong and separate passwords

Taking caution with online purchases

What can you do to protect yourself from scams and fraud online?

Using 2SV

Look out for the signs of a scam before deciding if something online can be trusted

Talk to a trusted adult if you're unsure



If you've been the victim of a scam, report it to **ActionFraud.police.uk** or by calling **0300 123 2040**  
Or in Scotland by calling **101**

Forward suspicious emails to **report@phishing.gov.uk**

Forward suspicious texts to **7726**

Report fake adverts to the **Advertising Standards Authority**

Report fake websites to the **National Cyber Security Centre**

You can also usually report social media users or sellers on online marketplaces directly in the app

# PE Updates

We hosted the Co-op Academy Key Stage 3 6 aside girls football tournament.

Walkden were joined by Co-op Academy Swinton Co-op Academy Failsworth and Co-op Academy Bellevue

There were over 40 girls that took part in the football tournament, which was fantastic to see. All academies showed a great display of our Ways of Being throughout.

Results were:

- 1st- Co-op Swinton
- 2nd- Co-op Bellevue
- 3rd- Co-op Failsworth (2)
- 4th- Co-op Failsworth (1)
- 5th- Co-op Walkden (1)
- 6th Co-op Walkden (2)



Looking forward to the next event on 3rd March here at Walkden!





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

**Have a great half term  
break and we will see  
students on Monday 24  
Feb at 8.25am.**

**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)**