

# Being Walkden

4 April 2025

Bingo and pasty success - for more see page 5



## Dates for your diary

Friday 4 April - End of Spring Term, break up for Easter Holidays

Monday 7 - Friday 11 April - Year 11 Revision Support

Tuesday 22 April - Start of Summer Term 1, school re-opens at 8am

1 May - Year 7 Progress Review

Be yourself,  
always

Do what  
matters most

Show you  
care

Succeed  
together

# A note from our Principal Mr Hacker

Dear parents/carers

I want to wish you all a lovely Easter break - I know our pupils are really looking forward to it after an intense few weeks.

We have been busy with progress review evenings, the options evening for Year 9, parent and staff forums, showcase events for the performing arts and our whole school charity event last week too. I want to thank you all for your continued support and contributions.



I want to update you on 3 items:.

1. In case you missed it, you should have received a letter regarding our stance on jewellery in school. Please familiarise yourself with our expectations and please support us in ensuring that your children adhere to our simplified approach. You can see full details of our policy [here](#).
2. I have written to you previously regarding the toilet doors. This has been a resounding success in school with pupils and staff reporting huge improvements to these areas and the general pupil experience. The final doors will be installed over Easter and we have communicated to pupils how they will access the toilets following the Easter break. Essentially there will be no change to pupils having access when they need it, but only one specific toilet block will be available during lesson times only. We know that this will further improve the pupil experience in school. As ever, we'll continue to review the situation and make changes as necessary.
3. We have needed to make a minor change to an Inset day in November 2025. The INSET will now fall on the 10th November, rather than the originally planned 28th November. Full term dates are available [here](#).

For now though, wishing you all a lovely, sunny Easter period and we look forward to welcoming all pupils back on Tuesday 22nd April.

Best wishes  
Matt Hacker

# 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

### Revision Timetable

In addition to this, we have revision support on offer during the Easter holiday see below for the timetable and please refer to the Year 11 letter sent last month.

## Easter Revision Support

| Monday 7th April | Tuesday 8th April              | Wednesday 9th April | Thursday 10th April             | Friday 11th April |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Maths            | Geography (by invitation only) | Media Studies       | Biology (Separate Science only) | PE                |
| Music            |                                | History             |                                 |                   |
| Sociology        |                                |                     |                                 |                   |
| Biology          |                                |                     |                                 |                   |
| Chemistry        |                                |                     |                                 |                   |
| Physics          |                                |                     |                                 |                   |

9am - 11.30am daily during the first week of the Easter holidays, students will enter through the main reception and sign in with a member of staff.

## 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 Updates

This week Year 11 students have been sent an email to be able to share their wishes for their Prom, students have been asked for their thoughts about colour schemes, entertainment, food options and additional extras like photobooths etc. Once we have some ideas our Prom Committee will get started with planning the event.

Parents/carers you will receive a letter next week letting you know about your child's prom invitation.

## 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

# Bee Network Buses Update



## Important changes to Bee Network child tickets

From 23 March tap and go contactless payments are being introduced across Bee Network buses and trams for full fare paying adults only.

Child tickets are not available using tap and go. Children can continue to use their current method of payment for travelling to school or leisure (e.g. cash, contactless).

At the same time, we're making it even easier to pay for child tickets on the Bee Network app.

Single child hopper tickets will be available on the app, alongside a range of other child tickets. It's the safe, cash-free way to pay for travel.

Here's our top tips for paying for child fares from 23 March:

- Download the Bee Network app to pay for a range of child tickets.
- When paying with contactless always ask the bus driver for a child ticket before tapping your card (to avoid getting charged adult fare).
- Keep your TfGM travel pass (igo card, Our Pass) separate from bank cards when you tap the card reader, to avoid your bank card being charged an adult fare.

As always, your one-stop-shop for travelling to school information is available at [www.beenetwork.com/schools](http://www.beenetwork.com/schools)

If you have any further questions or want to speak to someone, please get in touch with the Bee Network Contact Centre online or call: 0161 244 1000.

## 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.

# Charity Work

## Bingo and Pasty Family Charity Event



Huge thanks to all of the below businesses, companies and organisations who have contributed prizes for our event.



The money raised from the event will all be going to our chosen academy charity Milly's Smiles.



## 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



Our first community charity event was a huge success and we want to thank everyone involved, from staff, students, local businesses and families for their donations and getting involved. We raised an impressive £640.23 on the night and when added to our current total this is £1185.10 raised for Milly's Smiles so far this year and we are not stopping there.

# Express Yourself Showcase

The performing arts team put on a spectacular show this week, showcasing our students talents in dance, music, drama and more. We were able to invite parents and families into the audience and the show was a roaring success. 50% of the ticket sales will go to Milly's Smiles. A huge well done to everyone involved in the organisation and performance.



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

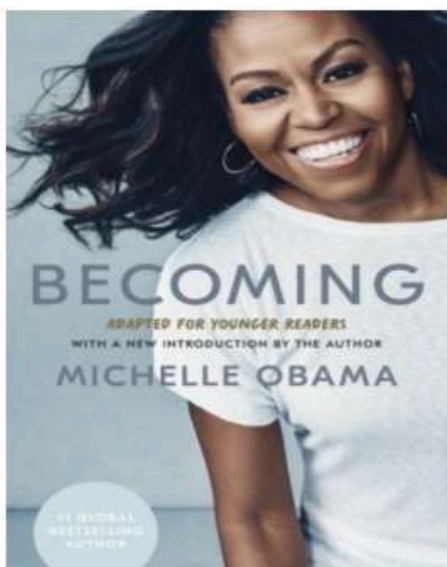
|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| Break        | 10:30 - 10:50 |
| KS3 Lunch    | 12:50 - 1:20  |
| KS4 Lunch    | 1:20 - 1:50   |
| After school | 2:50 - 3:30   |

## Student book review

### Becoming by Michelle Obama

*(reviewed by a Year 11 student)*

This book is the story of how Michelle Obama, an African-American, became a lawyer, a mother and First Lady of the United States of America.



I really enjoyed reading her story, and how she went from growing up in a working-class family to becoming a lawyer and after marriage to Barack Obama, First Lady. It made me feel motivated!

I would recommend this to anyone struggling with motivation and positive thinking about what they want to do in the future.

Star rating:



Ms Shannon and the academy librarians had a successful Book Fair last week, many students came along to look at the books and stationary and were able to buy a book or two. We are thrilled to see our young people are taking the opportunity to read and enjoy books. The Library is open daily during break and lunchtimes, students can access the library with a pass from Ms Shannon.

**SCHOLASTIC** TRAVELLING BOOKS

COME TO THE  
**BOOK FAIR**

AND EARN  
**FREE BOOKS**  
FOR OUR SCHOOL

READ THE BOOKS EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT!

**THE HUNGER GAMES**  
SUZANNE COLLINS

**CROSSING THE LINE**  
TIA FISHER

**Five Nights at Freddy's**  
RETURN TO THE PIT

**'TIL DEATH**  
BUSAYO MATULUKO

# Student Success

At Co-op Academy Walkden we love to celebrate successes, whether that be our students, staff, charity contributions and so on. This week we are celebrating students successes outside of school. If your child has anything to celebrate or be proud of, please do send us the details as we would love to be able to share more.



Year 7 student Jude, has been selected to race in the Swim England North West Summer Championships 2025 which take place at Manchester Aquatics Centre and Liverpool Aquatics Centre this month.

Jude has qualified for 3 events: 50m, 100m, and 200m breaststroke.

He is currently ranked 2nd in the North West by Swim England for 100m breaststroke. Only the fastest 24 swimmers in each event are eligible for Regionals. Jude swims for the City of Salford squad, training 4 to 5 times a week for two hours each time and has shown such dedication to his training.

This is Jude's first season with a professional club, so this is a huge achievement to be selected so early in his swimming career.



You may remember we shared some exciting news with you last month about Ellie, one of our Year 11 students who had been nominated for a Young Citizen Award for her dedication and support of younger children in sport through the Manchester United Foundation.....

We are thrilled to tell you all that our Ellie was one of the worthy winners chosen from a long list of amazing young people.

Well done Ellie, we hope you are as proud of yourself as we all are.

# Sports

Our Y7B football team secured a place in the Salford Schools Plate Final with a 3-0 victory against Albion. With the scores level at half time, Walkden went up a gear to score 3 second half goals. A cross-come-shot early in the second half from Wrigley was followed by a double from Salmon. A great achievement from our boys and they look forward to the final against Moorside Mr Bell

This Tuesday, our Year 7A Football team took part in an Elite Schools event organised by Liverpool Football Club, held at the LFC Academy. We played 8 games against schools from Merseyside and the North West; with 4 wins, 2 draws and 2 defeats from our matches. The team showed great spirit throughout the day in a what was a high standard of competition, and were a credit to the school. Well done everyone - Mr Tobutt (photos below from LFC Academy this week)

To cap a remarkable week, our Year 7A Football team then made it through to the Salford Schools' Cup final with a resounding 12-2 victory over All Hallows in their semi final 2nd leg. Already leading 8-3 after the first leg last week, 4 goals from Hulme plus 2 apiece for Quigley and Murphy and further goals from Swiatowy, Millership, Mackinnon and McNally sealed a place in the final. Still unbeaten this season - a fantastic performance from everyone involved. The final against Oasis Academy will be played on Friday 9th May at Irlam FC.

Mr Tobutt



# Easter Holidays Activities



## SALFORD EASTER DANCE CAMP

These super fun dance sessions will cover a variety of categories of dance such as set routine, solos, duos & teams. These sessions are perfect for both beginners and more experienced dancers!

**AGES 6-16**

**HAF FUNDED PLACES AVAILABLE!**

**£16 PER SESSION!**

**LOCATION**  
DUKES GATE ACADEMY  
EARLESDON CRES, LITTLE HULTON, M38 9HF

**DATES**  
7TH - 10TH APRIL  
MONDAY - THURSDAY

**TIME**  
10:00-14:00  
4 HOUR SESSIONS

FOR MORE INFO VISIT:  
[www.qualitysport.co.uk](http://www.qualitysport.co.uk)

HAF BOOKINGS FOR THIS SITE ARE TAKEN THROUGH SALFORD COUNCIL'S BOOKING SYSTEM EEQ

Department for Education  
Salford City Council

Salford Lowry Dance sessions over Easter Holidays

Kooth online support over Easter Holidays



## SALFORD EASTER SPORTS HOLIDAY CLUB!

Fun Activities for children aged 4-12 years

**07-10 APRIL 2025** **SPORTS • GAMES • FUN**

**LOCATION:** DUKESGATE ACADEMY, EARLESDON CRESCENT, M38 9HF  
**TIME:** 10am - 2pm

**HAF FUNDED PLACES AVAILABLE!**

HAF bookings for this site are taken through Salford Council's booking system EEQ

Visit the council's website for the link to book!

**Contact Us:**  
**Website:** [www.qualitysport.co.uk](http://www.qualitysport.co.uk)  
**Email:** [info@qualitysport.co.uk](mailto:info@qualitysport.co.uk)  
**Telephone:** 07507579852

Department for Education  
Ofsted raising standards improving lives  
Salford City Council

# Easter Holidays Community Activities

## Walkden Big Clean

Come and join us for a community Litter Pick.  
Let's keep Walkden beautiful together.

**Saturday 5th April 2025**

In association with Walkden in Bloom and Salford Great British Spring Clean

**Location:** Hug In A Mug, High Street Walkden, M28 3JH  
**Buses:** 36 & 37 **Time:** 10.30am

**What to Bring:**

Comfortable clothing, shoes, gloves and litter pickers. ( we can provide litter pickers and gloves but if you have your own that's great )

If you can spare 30 minutes or an hour to join in you'll be making a massive difference to our Town and environment.

Not only will you be making Walkden look beautiful but you will also have the opportunity to catch up with friends , stretch your legs and get some fresh air.

Cannot wait to see you all there

For more information please contact :  
Councillor Irfan Syed: 07765260453  
Paul Whitelegg: 07990963726



[www.walkdeninbloom.co.uk](http://www.walkdeninbloom.co.uk)

# W

## WALKDEN IN BLOOM

# JOIN US FOR A CLEAN UP

 **5TH APRIL  
10:30AM**

 **HUG IN A MUG  
HIGH ST, WALKDEN  
M28 3JH**



**Have a brilliant Easter  
Break and we will see  
everyone on Tuesday  
22<sup>nd</sup> April 2025**

**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)**