

NEWSLETTER

Headteacher's Message

Dear Parents and Carers,

Key Stage 4 mock exams are progressing well and pupils have demonstrated outstanding behaviour throughout. We are confident that pupils have gained a true experience of what it will be like to sit real GCSE examinations.

Our annual *Winter Showcase* will soon be upon us and I encourage you to buy your ticket as soon as they are available on the 2nd December, as they are sure to sell out!

Please be aware that due to our current car park arrangements the Langport Avenue back gate will be closed from Monday. Please drop off and collect your child from the front entrance.



I am incredibly proud to see so many of our pupils enthusiastically donating to this years fundraising event, the *Rotary Shoebox Scheme*. As we prepare for the Christmas break it is important that we think of those who are less fortunate than ourselves. This is a fantastic cause that we can all get behind and I am confident that we can excel the success of previous years. Read on for more information on how you can be involved in this event...

Enjoy this week's news,

Ms S. Finlay

Safeguarding Tip: Please remind your child to bring a dark coloured coat to school – it is extremely cold at present.

Dates for your Diary				
5 th December 2019	Year 10 Parents' Evening			
13 th December 2019	Coffee Morning			
16 th December 2019	Achievement Week			

School Council Feedback: Haircuts

After listening to the opinions of parents and pupils, and following our School Council consultation, we have made the decision to adjust our rule on haircut length. The minimum length will now be a number 2. The rule on extreme hairstyles, including colouring, remains the same and can be found in the pupil planner.



Weekly Attendance Best Forms				
Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
7D Whitworth & 7T Gaskell	8D Whitworth	9T Bridgewater	10T Victoria	11D Rylands%
99.1%	99.2%	100%	99.1%	99%

School Attendance = 97.2%

Head of Year Updates

Year 7 News

Operation Christmas Child is being launched as this half term's fund-raiser! This is a great opportunity for pupils to show their charitable traits and involve themselves in making someone's Christmas a memorable one. Please encourage your child to take part so that they can help to make a positive impact. Year 7 are all looking forward to attending the Christmas Disco on Tuesday, 17th December. All Year 7 pupils are eligible to attend in accordance to excellent attendance, behaviour and punctuality records.

Year 8 News

Year 8 attendance remains high with 97.5% for the week! An incredible 27% of all BfL Grades were BfL 1, which is fantastic! This week we are reviewing our standards and expectations for attitude, behaviour and attendance. A key part of the message is what outstanding attitude, behaviour and attendance looks like and how we can achieve this consistently. We can all improve for the better, and the positive impact this will have on all of our learning will be amazing!

Year 9 News

Well done to the Year 9 girls' football team who played against Manchester Health Academy beating them by 18-4! Another congratulations to the Year 9 boys' football team who played against Cedar Mount and won 5-1. The team are currently top of the FA Manchester Secondary Schools' League! Well done to 9D Rylands for achieving 100% attendance last week and 9D Palace for attaining the most BfL Grade 1s.

Year 10 News

The Year 10 pupils have made an excellent start to their mock exams this week. These are the first formal exams the pupils have taken that replicate their real exams in Year 11. Their conduct demonstrates a real maturity and focus towards their studies. Our focus for last week was growing a 'Need to Achieve' mindset which emphasises the importance of stepping up to challenges and having a belief in your own ability.

Year 11 News

Pupils have demonstrated outstanding behaviour during this period of mock exams, displaying determination and focus in their exam preparation. Please encourage your daughters and sons to remain focused as Year 11 mock exams come to an end next week. Good luck to all pupils and I look forward to seeing the rewards of your efforts on results day!

Careers News

Over half of our Year 11s have now submitted applications to college and we are getting our first pupils accepted on to their chosen courses. Well done! Pupils and Parents are reminded that the deadline for submitting applications to Miss Ford is 13th December 2019.

Fundraising: Time to support a charity!

Over the past years we have provided thousands of meals for the homeless and in need, across Manchester, with our Christmas hampers. This year we are going to help people far and wide by taking part in the *Rotary Shoebox Scheme!* Our shoe boxes will travel across Europe to some of the poorest people in countries including Ukraine, Moldova and Romania. Forms will need to decide what age bracket they would like to donate to from the below options:

- Babies up to 12 months and their mothers,
- Teenagers aged 13-18
- A family or elderly person
- Boys and girls aged 2-12

Please do not include any food, sweets, aerosols or battery operated toys. For safety - Please securely sellotape tops of liquid containers and do not put anything sharp into the boxes.

Let us work together to help a person in need have a fantastic Christmas and a happier and brighter winter!



Soleading a Little Happines



Whole School News

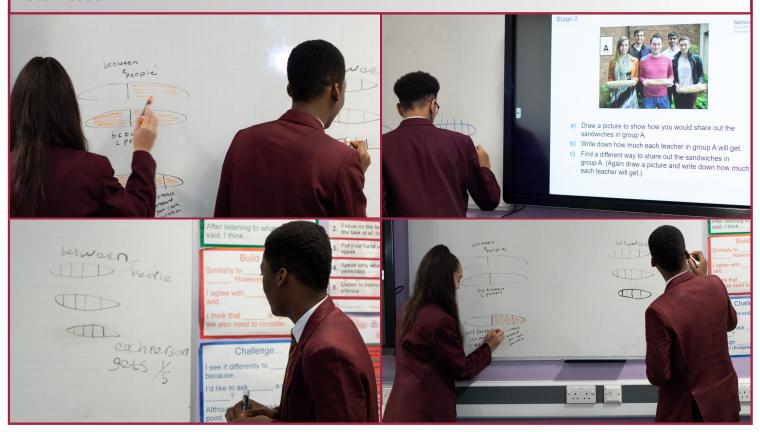
English: Well done Year 11!

Year 11 focused brilliantly in their most recent English exam on Wilfred Owens' war poem *Exposure*. The English Faculty are wishing them the best of luck in the rest of their upcoming exams. You will all do amazingly!



Mathematics: Split the sandwich!

This week in Mrs Annan's Year 8 and Year 9 classes pupils have been using a real-life context to understand fraction notation in relation to representing parts of a whole. They have generated expressions involving fractions to represent and solve problems and to reason and justify the solution of problems and equivalence of fraction expressions using visual models.



Science: Bacteria cultures!

Year 8 have been investigating the effectiveness of different disinfectants. They have cultured bacteria on agar and examined the petri-dishes again after a week. The results showed that TCP was found to kill bacteria across a larger area than mouthwash.



Humanities: Industrial Revolution: Outstanding homework!

For many in Year 7 this will have been the first time they have studied geography, and they have taken to it with real enthusiasm! Over the last few weeks they have been used ordnance survey maps for the first time, plotting grid references and working out the difference between physical and human geography. However, Samruddhi and Dianne have gone above and beyond producing games and quizzes to help with their revision. Their homework was of the highest standard! Well done Samruddhi and Dianne!



Physical Education: Year 10 Sports Studies Moderation Day

Year 10 Sport Studies Moderation Day took place this week, for their Sports Leadership Unit. Pupils planned and delivered their own sessions based upon a sporting objective. Pupils were assessed on their knowledge and ability to deliver a confident, safe session. Pupils were excellent in their deliveries, showing great professionalism and organisation within the sessions. Well done to all those involved!



Performing Arts: Winter Showcase ft. The Grinch!

Rehearsals are now well under way for this year's Winter Showcase! Tickets for the 19th December showcase are £1 each and will be available from 2nd December and be sold at break and lunchtime. We look forward to entertaining you at our annual performance!

Headteacher's Commendation

Nuur in Year 9 received a headteacher's commendation this week for demonstrating excellent citizenship by helping the catering staff at lunchtime every day.











Hospitality and Catering:
Year 10 pupils have perfected their ability to make shortcrust pastry by baking a chocolate mouse tart. Pupils learnt how to blind bake their pastry and the importance of doing so. All pupils completed the practical to a high standard as I am sure you will agree in the images.





Art and Design: Still life in Autumn...
Year 10 have been working on some stunning work during their Art exam this week. The pieces will be entered into a competition to be judged by the artist Rob Wilson.

