



NEWSLETTER

1st March 2022

Headteacher's Message

Dear parents and carers,

Here we are already at the half way point of the school year. This half term is very short with only 4 weeks until the Easter, so there is a lot to do in a short space of time.

Again, so much happened in the last week of term so please read on to find out more about these events.

We are having a major refocus on standards, particularly punctuality to school, readiness for learning (i.e. planners and equipment), and some aspects of uniform and appearance which need tightening.

I would be very grateful if you could support us by ensuring your child arrives at school by 8.30am and leaves for school with full and correct uniform, together with their planners and equipment.

Thank you for your constant support of the school.

With best wishes,

Ms S. Finlay



Ms S. Finlay
Headteacher

Safeguarding Tip: The weather is still cold and rainy. Please ensure your child comes to school with a coat everyday.

Diary Dates

Debate Mate Competition	1 st March
World Book Day	3 rd March
Year 8 Parents Evening	3 rd March
KS3 Careers Week	7 th - 11 th March



Head of Year Messages



Year 7 – Mrs Rashford *Year 7 will try to perform one random act of kindness!*

We have made it to the half way point of the year! I recently had a year group assembly about being kind. There have been a number of incidents reported to us as a year team about pupils being unpleasant. I have challenged everyone in Year 7 to perform at least one random act of kindness before we return after the break. If you want your child to attend the residential to Illam Hall, please complete the consent forms and pay the first instalment. As stated places are limited. Wishing you all a relaxing and enjoyable half-term and I look forward to welcoming back Year 7 on Monday 28th February.



Year 8 – Mr Smith *Well done for all your achievements!*

The Year 8 pupils have had a great last week before the half term holidays. 8D Palace had a trip to Old Trafford to celebrate their success in the Next Level November scheme and thoroughly enjoyed their tour of the stadium. Further successes were celebrated in our achievement assembly where we congratulated numerous prize winners including; the top five pupils with the most achievement points, the 100% attenders and the Headteacher's award for all round excellence. Well done to all those pupils who received recognition in the assembly!



Year 9 – Mr Diaz *Year 9 received lots of awards!*

Year 9 had a really positive week before we broke up for half term. Lots of awards were given out, including 100% attendance, the most achievement points and the Headteacher's award! Well done to all of our Year 9 pupils who were awarded certificates for their hard work at school. I wish all pupils and parents a restful half term and look forward to seeing more of the positive behaviour that our Year 9 pupils have been showing day in, day out.



Year 10 – Mr Chetwyn *Well done to those pupils who got achievement certificates.*

It has been another fantastic week and a fantastic half-term for Year 10! This week we spent time recognising the achievements of our peers, with lots of pupils rewarded for being the best versions of themselves! It was great to see so many pupils proudly accepting their certificates and prizes with immense pride, and so they should do. We hope to see more pupils striving to be recognised next term. It is important to ensure that we all take a well-earned rest during the half-term holiday, especially after such a challenging week in Year 10! Have a great half term Year 10.



Year 11 – Mr Hull *Well done Year 11 for all your hard work!*

The end of this half term has been action packed with the final week of mock exams, which will give our pupils and teachers a great deal of information and allow us to focus on the final weeks of teaching before the exams. I have encouraged the pupils to “bottle the feeling” and know what it feels like to experience success, or use their feelings to motivate them further. We are now in the final stages and the attitude and performance from so many of our year group has been exceptional. We really want the pupils to have a rest over the holiday period, but to continue with their revision and work. Small, manageable and regular chunks of revision are better than fewer, longer stints. We look forward to welcoming you back after the break. Work hard, be kind.



Science

Year 11 pupils learned all about electricity!

This week, Year 11 pupils are focusing on physics in their science lessons and learning all about electricity. Year 11 pupils used a Van de Graaff generator in their lessons this week. When turned on, the dome of a Van de Graaff generator becomes charged (either positive or negative.) The same charges repel each other so when the pupils touched the dome, the hairs on their head are pushed away from each other and the similarly-charged dome, making them stand straight up! Other Year 11s looked at the different elements of circuits. Thank you to Doctor Stewart, Miss Willis and Mr Garção for running these experiments!



LGBTQIA+ History Month

Pupils attended a screening of the film 'The Perks of Being a Wallflower.'

Pupils attended our second after school film screening for LGBTQIA+ History Month. They watched the film 'The Perks of Being a Wallflower', a coming of age story based on a novel by Stephen Chbosky. The film follows the story of an introverted freshman who is taken under the wings of two seniors. The film contains themes of identity, grief and childhood. 'The Perks of Being a Wallflower' also discusses themes of identity within the LGBTQIA+ community. Through this film screening, we hoped to broaden our pupils' understanding of the LGBTQIA+ community and the struggles that members of this community can experience in finding their identities. Thank you to all of the pupils who came to the screening and a big thanks to Miss Peters and Miss Horsley for organising this event.

Religious Education

Pupils wrote about what they'd do as Prime Minister

Year 7 pupils wrote manifestos in their Religious Education lessons. They thought about what they would like to prioritise if they were the Prime Minister. Well done to all of the pupils for their thoughtful and mature responses.



Performing Arts

Year 11 pupils have begun preparing their final performance unit!

This week, the Year 11 Performing Arts pupils have started their preparations for their final performance unit, in which they have to devise a piece of theatre from a given stimulus. They have begun the process by working with Manchester-based theatre company and charity '53Two', who are collaborating with them to explore initial ideas for their pieces. The first workshop was excellent, with all pupils showing enthusiasm and working with lots of energy. The group responded really well to all tasks and are looking forward to the next session!



Women in Technology

Pupils made charity keyrings for LGBTQIA+ History Month!

Celebrating LGBTQ+ History Month the English & technology faculties have come together to fundraise. The Women in Technology club have created a series of Love Heart Sweet inspired keyrings to raise money for an LGBTQ+ charity of DTA's choice.

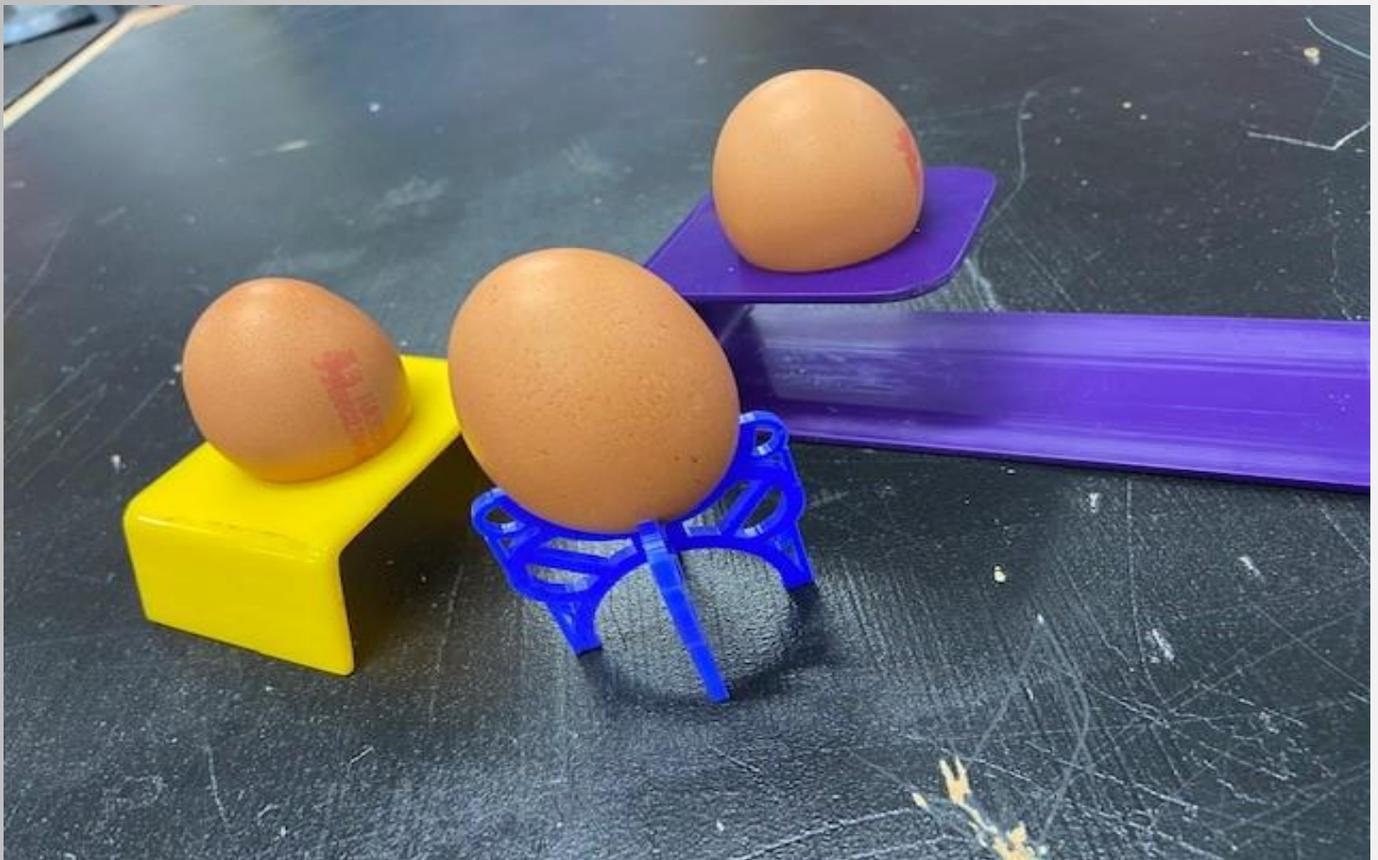
These were available to be bought on Valentine's Day and over a hundred keyrings were sold to help raise money for a fantastic cause and to celebrate LGBTQ+ history month.



Technology

Year 10 pupils worked on their polymers project!

The Year 10 pupils in Design & Technology completed their polymers project where they developed their cutting, shaping and finishing skills. Pupils made three different polymer egg cups each demonstrating a different skill: egg cup 1 was a right angled egg cup that was made using a line bender, egg cup 2 was a curved egg cup using a former and egg cup 3 was laser-cut with interlocking joints.





Debate Mate

We look forward to hosting a debating competition!

Pupils had Debate Mate after school this week and our Accelerate Programme had their session for one hour during school time.

This week at Debate Mate the motion was:

This house would only imprison violent criminals.

Pupils were extremely enthusiastic while debating this topic and it was brilliant to see how many interesting points they came up with. In the picture you can see an argument which was formed by one of our pupils.

Our second competition will be held on Tuesday 8th March. Dean Trust Ardwick will be hosting this competition and we will be having 80-100 pupils from other schools in Manchester coming to compete! If our school does well in this competition, then we have the opportunity to go and debate in an exciting venue in London. Our Accelerate Programme will have their first competition on 1st March and we look forward to seeing how they do.

My names Hasan and therefore my partners have strongly suggested that only imprison violent criminals such as gang members and terrorists. As other criminals such as ~~the~~ those that do fraud and bank illegal involvements are put into prison with violent criminals that might adopt violent traits that would lead to murders and serious consequences. We do not think that we should imprisonment every criminal ~~at~~ out there, as violent criminals mix with minor non violent criminals, ~~that~~ they would see higher violent cases in their social life. This would also lead to big money spends on prison overhead that would can be spent on victims of violent crimes and support their families



Poetry Workshop

Pupils discussed the importance of education.

Pupils attended poetry workshops during break and lunch on Thursday and Friday this week. The theme of the workshops was 'What does education mean to you?' Pupils watched a video on different children's journeys to school. This highlighted the obstacles faced by lots of children around the world who are trying to get an education. Pupils had some really thoughtful and mature discussions on the importance of education and why it is a human right. We then looked at different types of poems to decide which form to use. Pupils then used all of their ideas to get to work on their poems. Thank you to all of the pupils who attended and contributed some fantastic ideas to our discussions. The finished poems are due in on Tuesday 1st March and the Google Classroom code is **b3xherv**.

